

PEOPLE

This water lady hits the jackpot in Oregon

Color Maryann Mangucci's Cushman scooter any colors you want. Just use lots of them. Color its owner enthusiastic.

And that colorful combination has helped Mangucci become a successful businesswoman in just three years.

On any given summer day, you can see Mangucci putting around Silverton and Mount Angel, Ore., watering hanging baskets which have been placed in public areas.

The two chambers of commerce wanted to beautify their cities, so they erected the baskets and had flowers planted in them. Someone had to water the flowers, too, and Mangucci was in the right place at the right time.

It was husband Phillip's idea to purchase the 1971-model scooter; she has registered more than 800 miles in it. The scooter ("my efficient little workhorse") has a 55-gallon Cushman stainless steel tank, a pump hooked into the scooter's 12-volt battery, and a 13-foot wand made of conduit for lightness. Mangucci waters 25 hanging baskets in each city once a day—twice a day when the temperature gets over 90 degrees.

Why the brightly-painted scooter? "I wanted to be visible as well as pretty-looking," she says. "And it's worked out beautifully. I've been very successful. I've even had quite a few requests for landscape work, but I don't do that kind of work, so I refer them to my friends."

Before going into her own interiorscaping business, Mangucci spent 16 years working in a business office. "This beats it all together," she notes.

And then she's off again, in search of more baskets to water.



RESEARCH

Ohio State professors take to the road to address drought concerns of supers

Four members of the Ohio State University Agronomy Department toured areas of Ohio in mid-July to personally address drought concerns of golf course superintendents.

Participants in the tour were Ph.D.s John Street, Karl Danneberger, Harry Niemczyk and Bill Shane.

One of the final stops was at Quail Hollow Resort in Painesville, where superintendent Jim Loke assembled about a dozen superintendents from the northern Ohio area. Where the courses got their water and how it was used was a sore spot for some neighbors of golf courses.

Don Sweda, superintendent at Beechmont Country Club in Pepper Pike, said he received a crank phone call in the middle of the night from someone ordering him to stop watering. He uses water from lakes on the course to irrigate.

Jean Esposito of Hinckley Hills Golf Course in Hinckley, had her own experience which included the Cleveland Water Department, members of the local television media and crank phone calls (see related story).

Nearly all of the courses in the region ceased irrigating roughs early on, if they even had the capability to start with. Most public courses—without the large budgets of some of the private clubs—stopped watering fairways. These, too, were brown.

Danneberger noted that "the Cincinnati area was hit hard" because courses using municipal water were cut back severely.

One of the concerns expressed by the superintendents was whether this turf would recover with rainfall and green up again in the fall as conditions moderated.

Esposito, whose Hinckley Hills course has no fairway irrigation system, was optimistic after the first significant rainfall in weeks graced her course the previous weekend. "I can see some green coming back into them," she told the group—not much, but it was there.

"The grass must get some water," Danneberger noted. "Dormancy does not mean it won't die. But with this kind of year, there is stress on the grass we haven't seen in 50 years. There will be problems," he



Drought spawns controversy

The "If-I-can't-have-it-neither-can-you" mentality hit northeastern Ohio golf courses hard in July over water use. The drought conditions forced homeowner watering bans that did not include businesses—which golf courses are considered.

Though about two inches of rainfall cooled tempers in the latter part of the month, the dry heat of the first part of the month did more than brown out turf. Most superintendents around the area got more than a few headaches from neighbors.

Superintendent Jean Esposito, of Hinckley Hills Golf Course, in Hinckley, had her share of troubles. When her lakes started dropping dangerously low, she researched ways of replenishing the level since heavy rainfall seemed out of the question.

She found through a series of applications, the course could get permission to draw water legally from the City of Cleveland. The necessary steps were taken and a permit and meter were obtained. Appropriate fire marshalls approved, and the county engineers allowed the laying of $7/10$ of a mile of pipe to a nearby fire hydrant serviced by the Cleveland Water Department. "We didn't think there would be a problem," Esposito explains.

The course intended to draw about

a million gallons or "whatever they permit us to take" over 30 to 40 days, Esposito says, drawing between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

However, testing the line in daylight was necessary to check for leaks and rate of gallons per hour they could draw. The course gained approval for this, and on the morning of the test got a call from a man claiming to be with the Cleveland Water Department approving the test, but not between 4 and 6 p.m.

The test began at noon and a film crew from WJKW-TV was there by 1 p.m. The story on the course aired that evening on the news, but didn't mention the legality of what the course was doing until two-thirds of the way through the feature.

Less than a half-hour after the film crew left, Hinckley Hills received another call from someone claiming to be with the water department, accusing the course of abusing its use of the meter and asking them to return it.

Doubting the person's word, she called the man she had been dealing with at the department and found the claims were false.

At the end of July, Hinckley Hills got approval to draw water 24 hours a day and it will continue to draw "until we reach our limits or they tell us to stop," Esposito says.



Harry Niemczyk



Karl Danneberger



John Street

tion, albeit a slow one. The disease, Niemczyk said, takes about three years of applications to become a serious control tool on grubs because it has to establish. Granular insecticides and "praying for

rain" were also suggested.

Concerns about water quality also arose. Shane noted there was a "potential for water quality to drop with pesticides from adjacent farmland running into streams" after a significant rainfall. Shane recommended sampling water sources after rainfall for quality readings.

A couple other recommendations coming out of the meeting were to use slow release fertilizers and to not broadcast-apply herbicides to control clover that was popping up at the time. "But why would you want to kill it?" Esposito quipped. "It's the only thing that's green."

understated.

The best estimates at the time were that 20 to 25 percent of the lawn turf around the state was "dead with no recovery," Street said. "If these conditions continue through July and August, it's anybody's guess what will happen." (They didn't.)

Concerns on how the drought would affect other areas such as pest management also cropped up. Sweda's browned-out roughs were infested with Japanese beetles. With no irrigation to water in insecticides, he was looking for a solution.

Niemczyk, an entomologist, suggested milky spore disease as a solu-

Dobie receives McLaren Award

Frank Dobie has received the Mal McLaren Award from the Northern Ohio Golf Course Superintendents Association, the oldest such group in the country.

The award, named in honor of the late superintendent of Canterbury and Oakwood Country Clubs and 1952 GCSAA president, was established 10 years ago by Don Sweda, superintendent at Beechmont Country Club, and his brother George, the golf writer for the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*. McLaren was an innovator in his 50



years as a superintendent, helping to advance the profession and its technology from the primitive toward today's standards. He served as a mentor to both Swedas when they worked summers at Oakwood, inspiring them to their chosen careers.

Dobie has been a superintendent nearly 30 years. He is the Sharon (Ohio) Golf Club's first and only superintendent and general manager, since 1964.

A product of Penn State's turf program, Dobie is active in numerous industry groups, and is at least partially responsible for the growth of the Musser Tournament and its beneficiary, the Musser Turf Foundation, of which he is the president.

Because of the special nature of the Swedas' relationship with McLaren and his tremendous contributions to the industry, they sought to keep the award from being an annual award, making it all the more meaningful.

The first—and only other—recipient was John Spodnik of Westfield Country Club in 1980.

"My first reaction is it's an honor to be given an award from my peers," Dobie said. "It's a reminder of people like John Spodnik, Mal McLaren, Bob Williams and Colin Smith and what they did for me when I was starting out: advice, counsel; there were no secrets.

"They're not the minority either.

continued on page 14

The majority of the industry is like that. I wanted to be like that, taking what I've been given and returning it to the industry; the time, efforts and skills so others can benefit. It's necessary for the continued growth and *esprit de corps* we have.

"I always viewed Mal as a groundbreaker," Dobie recalled. "That's the kind of environment that's been in this area for years," dating back to the early years of the local and national association, with such figures as Col. John Morley, president of GCSAA for the first six years of its existence.

"Whatever I've done here in the area," Dobie explained, "is consistent with what's been done here for 50 years. This award represents many people that are just as deserving. This is an acknowledgment of everybody."

CONFERENCES

Here comes the Landscape Expo!

Thousands of landscape professionals will convene in the Nashville (Tenn.) Convention Center on the weekend of Oct. 22-24 to attend the third annual Landscape Exposition. Billed as "the green industry's most far-reaching



Landscape Exposition

event," the Landscape Expo will offer an informative, economical and enjoyable weekend experience for professionals from landscape and grounds care facilities.

The Landscape Expo exhibit floor will be packed with displays of the latest in lawn care products, chemicals, fertilizers, seed, irrigation systems, power equipment, accessories and more. Among the major manufacturers to be represented are: Cushman, Deere, Yamaha, Toyota, Snapper, Grasshopper, Monsanto, HMC, Chevron, Northrup King, Rinco, Buckner Irrigation, Elanco, Hoechst-Roussel, Hydra Mac, Befco and Teledyne Total Power.

"The Landscape Expo brings the many diverse groups within the landscape industry together under one roof," says show manager Becky Lerew, "giving them the opportunity to meet with their peers and also see the newest and most advanced products and equipment.

"Plus, the Landscape Expo seminars offer them the chance to update

their business management skills and learn of new solutions to technical and regulatory problems that face the entire industry."

The Expo has been carefully planned to be convenient to attend. The fall timing means that they can afford to spend a few days away from their businesses, and are ready to plan purchases for the coming season. The show's weekend dates make it easy to bring the family and combine business with pleasure. Nashville is a terrific spot for family entertainment, with attractions that include the Grand Ole Opry and Andrew Jackson's Hermitage, shopping, dining and nightlife.

Special discount coupons will be mailed to everyone who pre-registers for the Expo, and special in-hall entertainment, prizes and giveaways will add excitement to the show.

The Convention Center is easily accessible from major highways. Attendees can choose from a wide variety of accommodations ranging from first-class hotels to KOA Campgrounds. Specially discounted travel hotel rates are available through Travel Planners, the official travel agency of the Landscape Exposition.

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INDUSTRY

Pesticide groups solve problem—together

A pro-pesticide and an anti-pesticide group recently set a precedent by actually sitting down and talking to each other instead of facing off against one

another. Involved were members of the Professional Pesticide Users of Connecticut and the Connecticut Clean Water Coalition, an environmental group.

The result of their meetings, which covered the concerns and interests of both sides, was a jointly-sponsored bill which was passed by state legislature.

Two sections of the bill specifically affect pesticide application.

First, a central registry will be created for people wanting prior notification of applications within 100 yards of abutting property.

Secondly, section 1(c) states: "Any person making an outdoor application of a pesticide...shall at the time of such application post a sign notifying the public of the application." Yes, that means homeowners, too.

This inclusion seems partially a result of a study conducted by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station on the amount of pesticides applied and by whom. The study, published last October, notes that while agriculture uses about 33 percent and industrial, commercial and government use about 6 percent, homeowners account for 61 percent of the pesticides applied in the state.

It should be noted that the Connecticut EPA puts that figure at 26 percent for homeowners and the U.S. EPA puts it at 7 percent for "home and garden."

The co-chairperson of the state general assembly, Rep. Mary M. Mushinsky, lauded the unity by presenting the bill's sponsors with a bottle of champagne at the public hearing.

NATIVES

Native wildflowers a way to save \$\$\$

A study of wildflower mixtures on the market by the National Wildflower Research Center concluded that native species in the mixtures were more successful than non-natives.

"One of the most significant results is that in the first year the majority of species that flower successfully are indigenous," the study states. "They out-perform non-natives by a three-to-one ratio."

The trend continues in the second year as well, and by the third year "100 percent of the species that flower are indigenous," the study concluded.

Natives are better adapted to environmental, climate and soil conditions in a given area and usually survive with little or no maintenance once established. Selecting mixtures containing higher ratios of natives, though more expensive initially, will save on irrigation and maintenance costs in the long term.

INDUSTRY

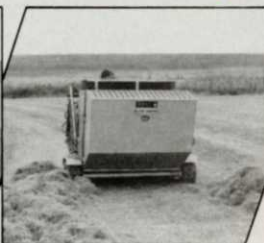
Consultant warns of anti-chemical warfare

Industry consultant Alan Caruba warned attendees of the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association mid-year meeting of a "deluge of heavily financed, sophisticated environmentalist propaganda."

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NEWS from page 16

Speaking to the CSMA Pesticide Division, Caruba noted that pest control industries "produce chemicals which protect billions of dollars of crops, billions of dollars of property and millions of Americans from (numerous) diseases and health threats. But you're not telling the public that."

Caruba criticized chemical manufacturers for not taking on the "toxic terrorists" trying to eliminate many of the chemical tools the industry employs. "You're going to fail in your battle with the toxic terrorists," he warned. "When will the pesticide manufacturers effectively begin to respond with a program of public information, education and relations of its own?"

INDUSTRY

Bridging the Pacific helps business at Jacklin and Briggs

Doing business in the Far East is becoming *de rigeur* with two companies serving the green industry—Jacklin Seed and Briggs & Stratton.

A four-person delegation from the People's Republic of China toured seed production facilities at Post Falls, Idaho-based Jacklin Seed earlier this year.

The Chinese are looking for ways to best spend \$47 million on seed conditioning equipment and improved seed during the next 20 years.

Because of serious erosion problems, the People's Republic is in need of reclamation seed to stabilize soils. Jacklin Seed made arrangements to test turfgrass and reclamation seed in six locations in China next year.

International marketing is not new to Jacklin. The seed company has been working with China for about four years and also exports seed to about 25 countries.

Briggs & Stratton is making inroads into the huge Chinese market by developing a gasoline engine-powered mini-car.

According to the company, the car was developed in response to China's seventh "Five Year National Plan." The company introduced the car at the International Internal Combustion Engine Expo in Shanghai, April 7-12.

A 16 hp Model 32 single-cylinder cast-iron engine powers the car, which features a French-made Gateau body. The type of engine previously was used in tractors and mowing equipment.

B&S and Chongqing Puling Machinery Works will manufacture the

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engines under a joint venture agreement for the car and other potential Chinese applications. In addition to the 16 hp engine, the venture group, called Puling-Briggs & Stratton Engine Corp., will build a 10 hp model as well.

The Chinese mini-car will travel at speeds up to 35 miles per hour. It is intended for short-distance use on the new roads China is building to link cities and suburban and rural areas. Other applications could be as a taxi or delivery vehicle.

LANDSCAPING

Round house solves maintenance woes

How far will a man go to "get around" maintaining his property? Apparently the full 360 degrees.

That's the case with Ronald Farrell, 55, a commercial fisherman in South Dayton, New York, who decided he'd rather spend his time and money tracking Lake Erie walleye than maintaining his house. He designed and built this circular home in six months by stacking 16-inch lengths of Tamarac wood and mortaring them in place. The walls are eight feet high and support a waterproof roof that is topped by 10 inches of topsoil and seeded with a legume and



Ronald Farrell's round house in South Dayton, NY was inexpensive to build and is easy to maintain.

wildflower mixture.

The house, which rests on his seven acre lot, is exceptionally energy-efficient, cost about as much as a pickup truck and, except for a triannual haircut with an Echo trimmer, is virtually maintenance free.

"More than that, I think it tells the younger fellas that for next to nothing you can have yourself a nice home without the big banks and the big mortgage payments," said Farrell. "If you got the spirit, the get-up-and-go, you can do it."

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Compound controls unwanted tall fescue

A new compound developed through research at Iowa State University selectively controls tall fescue in a number of established grasses.

The compound, chlorsulfuron, is a product of E.I. Du Pont de Nemours marketed by Lesco as Lesco TFC. The dispersible granular herbicide is labeled for established Kentucky bluegrass, fine fescue, bentgrass, bahiagrass and Bermudagrass.

Tests on annual bluegrass tolerance were inconclusive, in one instance showing tolerance, and in another showing damage, according to Nick Christians, Ph.D., Iowa State. The product will kill perennial ryegrass.

The compound was originally tested as a low-use-rate broadleaf weed controller. But it also discolored tall fescue contaminating Kentucky bluegrass plots, leading to tests to control tall fescue by Christians and D.J. Laroque at Iowa State in 1982 and 1983.

Greenhouse trials showed chlorsulfuron's effect on tall fescue was slow, taking four weeks to show signs of damage, eight for complete kill. The compound was also effective in fall



uses even when the tall fescue went into dormancy.

PRODUCTS

Carpet produces lightweight sod

Fast Grass, Inc. is trying to take some of the backache out of laying sod.

The Oxnard, Calif., company purchased the rights to manufacture and distribute a jute and hemp carpet in-laid with grass seed at the factory. When rolled out on plastic and watered, the carpet produces a saleable stand of turf in about 45 days. Without dirt.

The carpet, developed and tested successfully in Europe, weighs about 70 pounds in a four- by 100-foot roll. When the turf is grown, the roll is cut into 25-foot sections for easy handling by one person. This is considerably less burdensome than the average roll of conventional sod.

Because of this, the owners of Fast Grass—Doug Cowle and Evan Melby—are hoping to sell the product to sod farmers, landscapers and even homeowners. They see a day when the homeowner can go into the supermarket, buy a 50-square-foot roll and grow it themselves to replace dead spots. The carpet could also have a home on golf courses and in areas requiring erosion control.

The two men estimate the cost of the carpet will be about the same as dirt-grown sod, but that the carpet can lead to savings in labor and water costs. Large harvesting equipment won't be needed, and less water is

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used since the plastic underlay keeps more moisture in the root area.

In addition to the four-foot-wide roll, the carpet also comes in 12-foot-wide rolls. Possible spinoffs for the carpet include flower and vegetable seed worked into the fabric.



Fast Grass on its plastic liner after 22 days exhibits a good stand of turf.

GOLF

Do the little things really matter?

Do the little things really matter?

Dan Hein, a regional director for American Golf Corp. in the Long Beach, Calif., area, asked this question at the GCSAA conference earlier this year. Yes, he answered. "These items are easily accomplished within your current budget."

So what can be done? To start with, economize, Hein stresses.

- Eliminate or reduce time-consuming tasks such as trimming grass around trees and spray heads. He suggests chemical control to kill or regulate the plants' growth.

- To reduce wear areas, try to keep carts off fairways and on roughs or cart paths away from greens.

- Leveling irrigation heads, Hein says, will also speed up mowing.

- A fertigation system is a way to eliminate manual applications of fertilizer.

- Use water sensors to streamline use of irrigation water, using only when necessary. Preventive maintenance on equipment will also save money, he says. A thorough wash and post-operative maintenance should be standard.

- Properly training operators and then organizing the maintenance area also help.

And then, "put the money saved back into the course," Hein says. American golf goes by the concept of clean and green, Hein notes. "Use cleansers and paint to keep the course looking good."

Keeping ballwashers rust-free, painted and with a fresh towel is one

way, he believes. Also, little things like clean walkways with plant borders, 150-yard markers and even contouring roughs improve appearance, "little extras to bring back the golfers."

CHEMICALS

PBI/Gordon recalls Teremec fungicide

PBI/Gordon is recalling all stocks of the fungicide Teremec SP (chloroneb) following receipt of a recall notice from the manufacturer/formulator.

The company's press release said, "In view of the recent phytotoxicity problem which has developed with some of the chloroneb fungicide that was formulated by Drexel, we recommend that you advise all your customers and (end users) to not use or sell this product until the full scope of this situation can be determined. We will keep you advised."

PBI/Gordon is making arrangements with distributors for returns of all Teremec SP, broken or unbroken, for credit.

Courses affected by contamination range from Atlanta, Ga. up the Atlantic seaboard into southern New York and as far west as Denver.

At press time, PBI/Gordon was investigating the situation and planned to release a statement in late August.

ACADEMIA

Hort departments starting to recruit

The Department of Horticulture at Virginia Polytechnic Institute recently began a recruiting program to draw prospective students into its horticulture program.

The program is spearheaded by department head and professor Thomas A. Fretz and professor Paul Smeal.

The two are appealing to current horticulturists who know people with an interest in plants, horticulture and/or botanical science. Names of prospective students will be sent to Smeal at VPI so that the department can follow up by sending information regarding the program and the school.

This information includes a brochure produced by the department which gives information about the university, brief explanations of horticulture and career opportunities in horticulture.

Continued on page 26

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Smeal notes that the opportunities for horticulturists are excellent since about five to 10 positions are available for every graduate.

DEALERS

Deere distributors now selling seed

Turf-Seed Inc. of Hubbard, Ore., has entered into an agreement with the John Deere Golf & Turf Group to provide proprietary turf cultivars for sale by the 50 Deere distributors in the U.S. and Canada.

"Providing turf seed is another way we intend to provide our distributors and customers with products and services that help superintendents increase productivity and maintain high standards of turf quality," says Ken Edwards, manager of golf and turf products at Deere.

Turf-Seed president Bill Rose says that Bill Meyer, Ph.D., and Crystal Rose Fricker will research new varieties for Deere's distribution. "We appreciate the opportunity to work closely with a quality-conscious organization like John Deere," Rose says.

LITERATURE

New newsletter serves landscapers

In-site is a new bi-monthly newsletter written specifically for landscape management executives. It takes a practical "how-to" approach to the science of landscape management.

The editorial staff of the newsletter includes experts in many of the landscape design and management disciplines including horticulture, architecture, agronomy, urban forestry, arboriculture and advanced business management.

To receive a complimentary issue of *In-site*, send a post card with your name, title, company name and address to: *In-site* editor, 24380 N. Highway 45, Vernon Hills, IL 60061 or call (312) 634-8888.



Gravely International

Runners competing in the Gravely International Five-Mile Run start a course that winds through scenic backroads in rural North Carolina and ends up here—the headquarters of Gravely International, manufacturer of outdoor power equipment. The race was a highlight of the festivities that surrounded the Third Annual Gravely Open House, held at Gravely's Clemmons, N.C., headquarters at the end of May. Runners from as far away as California competed.

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