

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

ASSOCIATIONS

Research a key to keeping the green industry green

NATIONAL REPORT —

Major organizations within the green industry are realizing how important research money has become.

On one hand, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) recently contributed \$25,000 to the USGA/GCSAA Turfgrass Research Committee. On the other hand, the American Society of Nurserymen (AAN) has told the House and Senate Appropriations Committee that more money must be made available for agricultural research programs.

The GCSAA's money will support ongoing scientific work on new turfgrass varieties that would require less water and be more disease resistant.

GCSAA President Dennis D. Lyon made this observation at the annual USGA/Golf Writers Association of America banquet held during the U.S. Open in Rochester, N.Y.

William H. Bengeyfield, national director of the USGA Green Section, noted that more than \$2.8 million has been distributed by the committee since 1983. "We thank GCSAA for the research funding they provide, and we appreciate the time people like (GCSAA vice president) Jerry Faubel, Lyon and (executive director) John Schilling contribute to the committee."

"GCSAA sincerely sup-



Chinese interns look over seed samples at Jacklin Seed in Post Falls, Ida., where research is a continuing project.

ports the USGA turfgrass research project." said Lyon. "We look forward to working together with the USGA on other projects in

the future."

AAN representatives, appearing in Washington, D.C. recently, cited a report by the U.S. Department of

Agriculture and Economic Research Service. The report estimated 1987 grower cash receipts from environmental horticulture crops at \$4.3 billion.

"Due in part to this continuing rate of growth," said Duane Jelinek, AAN director of horticultural research, "tremendous potential exists for increased job opportunities as well as positive impacts on the environment."

However, the AAN said it is aware of federal deficit woes, and insisted it doesn't want a handout.

"We have restricted our recommendation to maintaining the integrity of research programs which are absolutely vital to the nursery industry," said Ben Bolusky, AAN's director of government affairs.

Of greatest concern to the association is continued funding for its plant science research programs, the cooperative state research service and extension services. □

GOLF

Designers should respect nature, Dye says

CHICAGO — Today's golf course designers face many new challenges, thanks to heightened concerns about environmental preservation, says Pete Dye, president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA).

Dye says designers must

comply more with standards relative to wetland preservation, use of freshwater supplies and the impact of pesticides on groundwater. And while he supports such standards, he believes the approval process can defer a project for years, and hold up the nec-

essary permits until issues can be studied completely.

For that reason, Dye says ASGCA members are working to identify the problem areas and propose positive alternatives.

"The ASGCA Foundation, for instance, recently

continued on page 11

DESIGN from page 8

commissioned a study by Dr. Martin Petrovic of Cornell University on the effects of nitrates on groundwater." That report was to be available in May.

Dye believes more concrete data is required to support the idea that properly maintained facilities embellish, rather than destroy the environment.

"No issue has raised the level of consciousness higher than the subject of wetland and marshland boundaries," says Dye. "Thus, integrating wetlands into the framework of a Master Plan without jeopardizing the natural habitat or course playability has become a major challenge to golf course architects."

Dye says wetlands have become a high priority of regulatory agencies. That concern and subsequent public hearings have resulted in a slower permit procurement process.

"Wetlands have been reduced to less than 99 million acres from the 215 that existed in 17th century America," says Dye. "So it is imperative we protect a valuable natural resource." □

NEXT MONTH:

Bio-control of turf pests

TREES

Universal Studios gets a giant

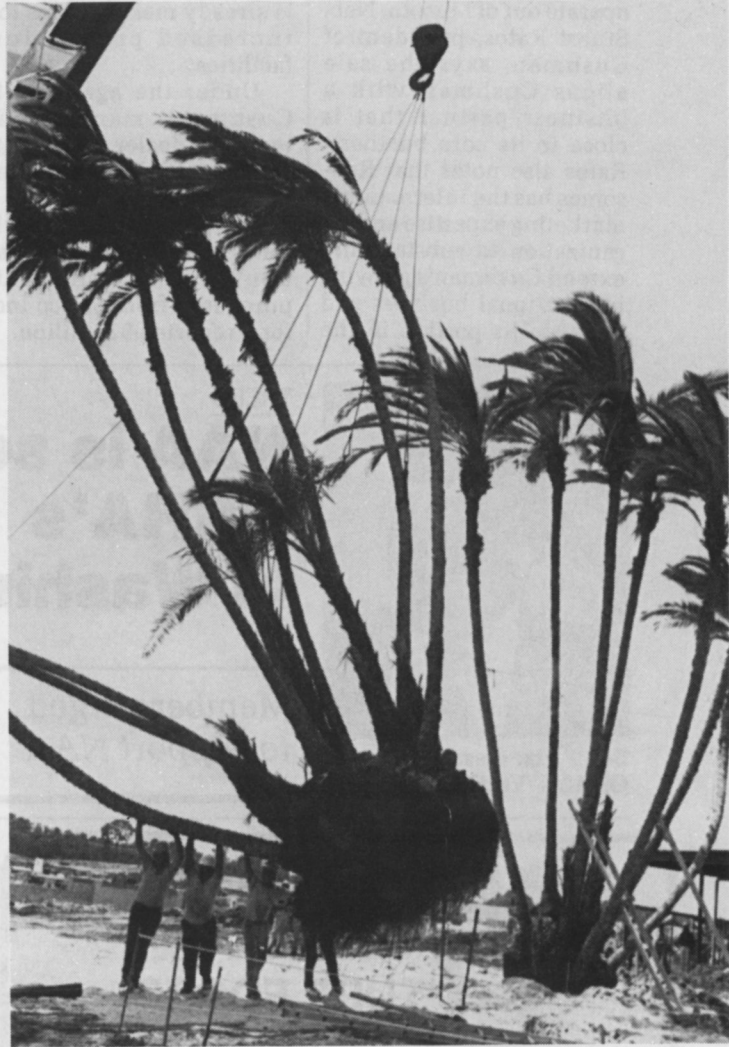
ORLANDO, Fla. — An extraordinary project came Ed Yates's way recently: uproot, transport and replant a 38-foot Phoenix reclinata palm tree.

Yates's Lakeshore Tree Moving was contracted by Universal Studios to move the tree from an area nursery to the movie company's soon-to-be-completed Orlando lot. Developer Marshall Cohn had purchased the nursery land, and was looking for ways to clear it for a condominium complex.

Moving the 43-year-old tree 13 miles required a lot of planning. "We had some small problems, but we solved them as they came up," says Yates. "We started by going up into the tree with a sky reach to clean it. We then dug a 12-inch trench around the ball, and filled the trench with sawdust. We cut the ball in two halves with chain saws and cross-cut saws."

The police escort would not be available for two days, during which time the tree ball was insulated and received constant watering. Yates says replanting the two halves exactly as they had originally been took about two hours

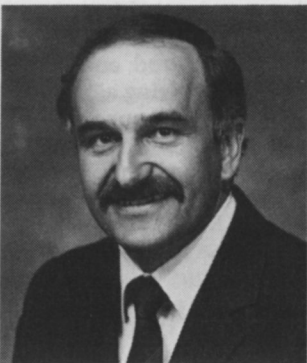
Universal Studios/Florida opens in May, 1990. □



Workers support a lower trunk as one half of a 38-foot highpalm tree is positioned at Universal Studios in Florida.

INDUSTRY

Ransomes consummates Cushman buy; also purchases Salsco line of products



Adam: Cushman, Ryan and Brouwer will continue to be run independently.



Rafos: Partnership will enhance Ransomes' domestic and international markets.

JOHNSON CREEK, Wisc. — Landscape managers will still be able to purchase Cushman equipment from their usual distributors despite a major deal in which product lines changed hands last month.

Ransomes PLC added to its influence on the turf equipment market by first purchasing products previously marketed by Salsco Inc. Then, it purchased Cushman from OMC Lincoln for a reported \$150 million.

The Cushman group includes Cushman turf vehicles and mowers, Ryan aerators and sod cutters, and Brouwer mowers, vacuums and sod harvesting equipment. The group will be run as an independent entity under the Ransomes America umbrella.

"Cushman will operate as before," says Helmut Adam, president of Ransomes America. "It is a well-run company with a good name. We are not going to change something