

New Florida course for 'working public'

DeBARY, Fla.—The DeBary Plantation golf facility opens this April in DeBary, Fla., to provide much-needed relief for the area's dearth of golf courses.

An 18-hole layout with up to 1,440 home sites outlining the course, it will be public.

"The DeBary ownership wants to provide a club for the working public," says superintendent Mike Kenovich (see "Florida's Best" story, this issue). "Being centrally located, this is going to be a course the people will flock to."

Course construction began on January 16, 1989. Planting began in late June and was completed by the first of August. The course was sprigged with hybrid bermudagrass: 328 for the tees, Tifway dwarf for the greens.

"We wanted a fine-bladed grass we could work with in case we hold tournaments," explains Kenovich. "The roughs were planted with 419 bermuda,

which is a little denser, coarser," he adds.

The DeBary Plantation is composed of three types of sandy soil: red fine, gray organic and sugar sand. "We put the gray organic where we thought it would be dry, and the sugar sand in wetter areas. Red fine is used in choice areas, such as greens, tees fairways and other heavy play areas."

In some areas, soil pH was a low 4.7. Approximately two tons per acre of dolomite lime was used to raise the pH to the 6.5 range.

Fairway topdressing is a 90-10 mix of Department of Transportation sand and Florida peat. The greens mix is an 80-20 combination. At work below the course are nearly three miles of irrigation pipe, 11 miles of wiring and five miles of insulator pipe. □

The course was originally slated for a February debut, but Kenovich wanted extra time to complete road paving and other final preparations. □

PESTICIDES

Cancellation of pesticides concerns horticulturalists

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Almost one-half of all current pesticide registrations are being cancelled by the Environmental Protection Agency because the registrants did not pay the annual \$425 maintenance fee in 1989. This announcement was made at a symposium on minor crop use pesticide registration that was attended by top EPA, USDA and other government officials, along with pesticide manufacturers.

Out of about 45,000 pesticide registrations for all uses, almost 20,000 are being lost, the EPA said. (Most of the products, however, had no recent commercial production.)

The government and pesticide industry speakers

at the symposium, co-sponsored by the American Association of Nurserymen, observed that this loss was just the beginning. Chemical companies are most likely to drop even more registrations, especially those with limited commercial use, as testing costs and administrative burdens of maintaining multiple registrations increase.

The AAN has testified before Congress urging a modification of pesticide re-registration requirements to take into account low-volume users such as the environmental horticulture industry. In addition, AAN has met with USDA officials to stress the industry's concerns about "minor use" pesticides. □

SHORT CUTS

NOTHING TRIVIAL...Can-Am Golf Enterprises and Hurdzan Design Group combined with "Trivial Pursuit" co-developer Chris Haney to complete Devil's Pulpit Golf Course north of Ontario, Canada. The course is already being touted as one of the top five in that country, and a sister course, Devils Links, will start construction this spring. Devil's Pulpit memberships were sold out before ground was even broken.

THE CONCRETE JUNGLE...Researchers have found a new way to eliminate weeds that force their way through cracks in urban pavements like streets and sidewalks. It's a plastic rope containing herbicides which has been jointly developed by Batelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories and R.M. Engineered Products. It is hoped to last for up to 20 years. According to an article in *Business Week*, a large-scale test will be made on taxiways and runways at Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

ON LINE...The Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio, is the only college in the United States to have a complete "Slice" computer system. "There's nothing out there finer than 'Slice,' and we have as much technology at OSU/ATI as many of the major landscape companies in the country," says associate horticulture professor **Kent Hammond**. The system was donated by Thornton Computer Management Systems of Maineville, Ohio. The college joins more than 200 landscape companies in the U.S. and Canada to have installed the system.

THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE...The Garden Council's first national television commercial will appear this month. It features **Bob Thompson**, host of PBS-TV's "Victory Garden." Thompson reminds viewers that retail nurseries, garden centers and landscape professionals are the best sources of information for landscaping and garden activities.

RATING THE ROADSIDES...LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT says congratulations to **Loyd Corrado**, **Jim Duke** and **Wayne Muri**, winners of National Roadside Vegetation Management Association awards. Corrado, maintenance supervisor for Kansas City, Mo., won the municipality/city agency category. Duke, resource manager for Pitkin County Land Management, Aspen, Colo., won the county highway/road agency category. Muri, chief engineer for the Missouri Highway and Transportation Dept., won the state/federal agency category.