

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

LANDSCAPING

Leaving grass clippings saves vanishing landfills

MOLINE, Ill. — More than 25 states have passed or are studying legislation to change the way people discard their grass clippings and leaves, say the people at John Deere & Company. And landscape maintenance contractors can play a key role in helping keep the 16,400 landfills in the U.S. open.

"Grass clippings can be distributed across the lawn most of the time," says Bob Tracinski of Deere. He recommends that lawns be mowed frequently enough to remove only the top one-third of the grass blade.

Tracinski says that short clippings deteriorate quickly and return nutrients to the soil. He and other experts estimate that a season's worth of grass clippings is equal to one application of most commercially-available fertilizers.

Tracinski also claims that homeowners need to be educated on the relationship between clippings and thatch. "Thatch is caused by feeding a lawn too often and encouraging the roots to stay near the surface to get nutrients easily," he astutely notes. "Watering too lightly forces the roots to stay near the surface to reach the moisture."

Cities and towns have begun to consider clipping legislation because landfills are filling up rapidly. It's estimated that half of the country's landfills will be closed by the year 2000. And new landfills are being created slowly because of strict licensing procedures

that take a long time to complete.

According to studies, landscape waste accounts for nearly 20 percent of the trash in landfills.

"I've been recycling lawn debris at my home for about 10 years," Tracinski says. "In fall, I dump the chopped leaves under a row of pine trees at the back of my yard and spread them out. They blend with the fallen pine needles and produce a forest floor effect. The rest of the year, I either distribute the grass clippings or compost them."

Deere has free booklets on lawn care and composting available by writing: Recycling Booklets, 1400 Third Avenue, Moline, IL 51265. □



Landscapers need not pick up clippings, as is pictured here. It's less trouble and just as healthy to leave them—as long as too much isn't leaf isn't cut at a time.

INSURANCE

GCSAA develops a low-cost plan for underground tanks

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Increasing concern over stifling insurance premiums has led the Golf Course Superintendents Association (GCSAA) to develop a low-cost plan for underground storage tank liability insurance.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards that will be in effect this coming October will require businesses that dispense petroleum products to take increased financial responsibility for potential leakage or spill incidents and long-term pollution. That responsibility adds up

to about \$1.5 to \$2 million per tank, or premiums of \$25,000 to \$40,000 per tank—more than most golf courses can afford.

"We're going to be offering an insurance program that will allow courses to insure their underground storage tanks at extraordinarily reasonable rates," says Pat Jones, GCSAA director of communications.

"We're forming a risk-retention group among GCSAA members, allowing them to work with their golf course to determine if their club needs protection."

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POSTING & NOTIFICATION REGULATIONS

STATE	WHO?	SIZE?	WHERE?	WHEN?	CONTRACTS?	TO WHOM?
Connecticut	C, LC, GC, TS, HO	**	spec. intervals	time of app	no	central registry
Florida	**	**			no	central registry
Illinois	C, LC, TS, GC	4x5 8 1/2x11	spec. intervals, conspicuous pts. on golf courses	time of app	no	customers, neighbors, upon request
Massachusetts	C, LC	4x5	conspicuous pts.	prior to app, time of app	no	customers, upon request
Maine	C, LC, TS	4x5	spec. intervals, conspicuous pts. on golf courses	prior to app or time of app	no	upon request central registry
Minnesota					yes	
New Hampshire	C, LC, GC	8 1/2	conspicuous pts.	prior to app	no	customers, upon request
New Jersey	C, LC, TS, GC, PC		conspicuous pts.	prior to app, upon request	no	
New York	C, LC, TS	5 1/2x8 8 1/2x11 12x12	75 feet apart 100 feet apart 150 feet apart	time of app	yes	
Ohio	C, LC	4x5	conspicuous pts.	time of app	no	customers, neighbors, upon request
Rhode Island	C, LC	4x5	conspicuous pts.	prior to app, time of app	no	customers, neighbors, upon request
C = commercial applicators LC = lawn care operators		TS = tree & shrub companies GC = golf courses		HO = homeowners PC = pest control operators		
**under development				Source: Pesticide Public Policy Foundation		

PESTICIDES

New York State legislation is defeated

ALBANY, N.Y. — A state appeals court has struck down complicated regulations being battled by New York lawn care operators.

The five State Supreme Court appellate justices ruled that the New York's Department of Environmental Conservation should have conducted an environmental impact study before implementing the rules.

Laws passed in 1983 and

1987 that require posting, contracts and pre-notification remain intact.

The rejected regulations consisted of 40 pages of detailed rules. "It will be a much-simplified notification package," says Elizabeth Seme of the New York State Green Council.

"It's a relief that these regulations won't go through because there's no way that we could comply with them," says Laurie R.

Broccoli, manager of lawn and tree care at Ted Collins Associates in Victor, N.Y.

"We couldn't even understand some of the regulations" because they were poorly written, she adds.

"Most people couldn't understand them," Seme agrees. "You had to go back and read them each time" a pesticide-related business decision had to be made.

Some of the rejected re-

quirements included the posting of signs every 75 feet around a property, and tight restrictions on how companies could re-schedule applications after rain delays and similar interruptions.

The state still retains the option of appealing the ruling.

(For other regulations affecting LCOs, as of January, 1990, see chart above.)

—Jim Guyette □

TANKS from page 8

Jones estimates the group coverage will cost less than 20 per cent of what they might pay for a commercial policy, with no deductible.

"We have to offer it to our members because they can't find it anywhere else," says Jones. "It's a reasonable premium rate compared to being thrown in with petroleum companies, convenience stores and gas stations." □

SEED

Turfseed industry seeking commitments

PORTLAND, Ore. — The seed industry is readying its defense against anti-field burning legislation. A final showdown on the issue is expected late this year.

Dr. Bill Meyer, director of research for Turfseed and Tee-2-Green and president of the Oregon Seed Trade Association, recently updated members on the is-

sue, outlining how the association will work for fair legislation. He also stressed the need for moral and financial support from seed producers.

"Our actions on this issue," predicts Meyer, "will determine the outcome of issues related to chemical use, dust problems and groundwater concerns, to

name just a few."

A Political Action Committee (PAC) has been formed to accept donations to finance lobbying efforts. In a written message to seed company members, the association suggests donations of between \$5000 and \$7500 to finance the pro-field burning campaign.

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Dr. William Meyer: "We cannot bury our heads and hope somebody else will take care of our industry."

One initiative would level an immediate ban on burning. Another calls for a virtual ban on burning by 1995, at which time burnable acreage would be reduced to 50,000 acres. Exceptions would exist to go beyond the limitations of propane flaming in cases of using appropriate emission control technologies.

According to Meyer, such propaning standards are unreachable with current technology.

"There is no question that we must find alternatives to open burning," insists Meyer. "However, we must have enough time to test alternatives to field burning."

Meyer says the industry proposal, which would allow for 160,000 acres of field burning for eight years, "must be presented to the public and decision makers as the most appropriate public policy choice." □

Fresa clover is alternative to mowing in Southwest locales

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — Southwesterners have an alternative to mowing: fresa strawberry clover, a groundcover developed in the New Mexico State University Agricultural Experiment Station breeding program.

According to Dr. Arden A. Baltensperger, a person could get away with mowing fresa as little as twice a year. More frequent mowing, however, will keep the clover more uniform and looking good.

The NMSU crop scientist not only developed fresa, which was released in 1983, but also has it planted in his own yard.

Fresa can be planted by itself in low traffic areas, or mixed in with other grasses. It is not for everyone, he cautions, as the clover will not take wear and tear from children as well as many grass lawns will.

An attractive ground cover, fresa stays green about 10 months of the year. It has pink flowers and resembles strawberries, Baltensperger says, although there have been problems with bees on the fresa at his home.

In field tests, fresa compared favorably to other clovers for winter color and general appearance. Importantly, it had a lower growing height and plant height

than other strawberry clovers. In making selections for fresa during breeding, low plant height had been a primary consideration, Baltensperger says. Fresa needs about as much or more water as bermudagrass, but doesn't need any nitrogen fertilization, Baltensperger adds.

He points out that fresa strawberry clover is a legume, which means it can fix nitrogen from the soil. To enhance this nitrogen fixing capability, some phosphorus might need to

be applied to fresa. The nitrogen fixing properties of fresa make it valuable in a mix, because it can provide nitrogen to other grasses, the scientist says.

In field tests, researchers found the general appearance of dormant bluegrass and bermudagrass was improved by having fresa in the stand.

Although fresa has not been tested outside of the Southwest, Baltensperger notes some interest in the clover in France and in the Netherlands. □



Dick Holschu (left) and Bill Culpepper: DowElanco to be a market leader in providing industry with new technology.

INDUSTRY

Resources spur DowElanco

CLEVELAND — Focusing on the customer and the health of the green industry is the emerging philosophy of DowElanco, Inc.

Representatives of the chemical giant, forged by the recent merger of Dow Chemical and Eli Lilly, say the company has learned from corporate America's inability to match foreign competition in the 1980s.

"The lesson is not lost on DowElanco," says commercial director Bill Culpepper. "We need to be more focused on the customer. We need to know what they need and then do it."

Culpepper and general manager Dick Holschu tell LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT that DowElanco will "do it"

through educational programs and by creating four divisions within the company. They are: turf and ornamentals; industrial insecticide; vegetation management; and marketing of technical chemistry. Each division will have a sales and marketing staff.

"The combining of our technology is going to allow us to be a leader in providing new technology to the market," adds Holschu. "We know that bigger is not necessarily better, but we now have the critical mass of sales dollars and dollars to reinvest into the discovery of new technology. Our goal is to use this to become a full-blown partner in the markets that we serve." □

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Southern pests moving north?

VALLEY FORGE, Pa. — Some pests traditionally considered a problem only in the South may become headaches for northern landscape managers too, says Dr. Pat Cobb, an Auburn University entomologist.

Spittlebugs, fire ants, mole crickets and green June beetles may pose a future threat to cool-season turf, says Cobb—but not right away.

"Some insect pests are on the move, and why this is we're not sure. One factor is that we lost the residual insecticides out of the soil," Cobb told landscapers at the Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Association's annual meeting. "Another reason is that all across the United States, especially in the South, we're growing better grass, and insect pests are attracted to the greenest, most lush turf."



Dr. Pat Cobb

Mole crickets, the most damaging southern insect, are beginning to make an impact in the north. Entomologists in southern Illinois and New Jersey have reported identifying more northern mole crickets in the past two years than all years previous, Cobb says.

They're difficult to control because they can go as deep as eight feet, move

quickly (perhaps several feet a night) and they fly twice a year.

"I don't know whether you'll have a mole cricket problem or not," says Cobb, "but there's no question that mole crickets are on the move. And when you have them you'll know it."

The green June beetle is "easy to kill but difficult to control" because the beetle flies for a longer period of time, extending the period it lays eggs. The lowest insecticide rates will wipe out the grubs, adds Cobb.

The two-line spittlebug used to be found only along the coast from Maine to Florida, says Cobb, but it too has begun moving inland. It has been found in the northern part of states bordering the Gulf of Mexico and Oklahoma. It is most dangerous in its immature stage and needs a lot of moisture to survive.

"I can't say what the extent of the problem will be," says Cobb, "but the insect is distributed in the eastern part of the country. So the potential is there for it to spread, as we've seen it spread in the South."

The best way to control the spittlebug is to de-thatch, thereby disrupting the environment for its development, adds Cobb.

Fire ants have been reported in southern Tennessee. In the South, "they're a problem, but not something we haven't learned to manage," she says.

"Fire ants survive real well in interiorscapes. They survive well in greenhouses and other protected container stock. So that's why it's important for you to be aware that we have had some reports from this area of fire ants brought in by nursery stock," says Cobb. □



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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.

LAWN CARE

Spring is time to start looking out for lyme disease

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Officials at Lawn Doctor headquarters in Matawan, N.J. are expecting "the problem of lyme disease to increase in the 1990s," according to information disseminated at the company's annual franchisee seminar here.

"The peak period of lyme disease incidence (May-June-July) coordinates with people's outdoor activity," notes Bill Davis of Lawn Doctor. "And northeastern states have shown a high concentration of the disease." Davis says that New York Medical College found one county with 1200 confirmed cases of lyme disease. Research showed that 65 percent of the cases had picked up the disease from infected ticks in their own lawn.

Symptoms of the disease

come in three "phases:"

Phase I: bulls-eye rash

Phase II: chills and fever, headaches, fatigue, pain and swelling in joints

Phase III: irreversible arthritis, cardiac damage, facial paralysis, nerve damage.

Here are hints that Davis

gave to franchisees on minimizing the disease:

- instruct homeowners to keep lawns mowed and raked, underbrush clean;

- tell them to locate bird feeders away from the house;

- have them inspect children and pets for ticks;

- stay away from wooded areas;

- when making chemical applications, keep pant legs tucked in boots or socks;

- spray lawns with Dursban 50 WSP or Dursban granules for flea and tick control. □

LAWN CARE

State groups will organize with help from the PLCAA

INDIANAPOLIS — Lawn care operators representing 19 states are taking steps to form statewide associations.

Detailed organizational meetings are set to begin this month, according to Robert E. Andrews of the Indiana State Lawn Care Association. He is spearheading the efforts, which are sponsored by Monsanto and the Professional Lawn Care Association of America.

Preliminary seminars were

planned here in December, and Andrews was pleased with the anticipated turnout. "If we could have had six or seven states we'd be pleased, but we have 19," he said.

Interested representatives hail from Tennessee, Oklahoma, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas, Montana, New Jersey, Colorado, Nebraska, Massachusetts, Connecticut, North Dakota, Florida, Iowa and Idaho. □



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SEED

Amigo dwarf tall fescue gets PVP

GOLDEN VALLEY, Minn. — Amigo dwarf tall fescue has been granted Plant Variety Protection (PVP) by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Northrup King's Medalist Turf Division entered the new grass plant (code 5HF) in the National Tall Fescue Turfgrass Trials. It, according to Northrup King, was rated in the top 10 percentile.

Characteristics said to be unique to Amigo are a fine-textured, low-growing plant and excellent color.

Buyers can expect to see Amigo available in the fall of 1990. Northrup King says it expects to have an adequate supply for the sod grower and lawn care industries. □

For more information, contact Northrup King, 7500 Olson Memorial Highway, Golden Valley, MN 55427; (800 328-2425). □



The Toro Company is the founding sponsor of the Shrine Gardens at the PGA/World Golf Hall of Fame. The well-manicured gardens are dedicated to golf course superintendents.

GOLF

Garden honors golf supers

PINEHURST, N.C. — Shrine Gardens has been established here to recognize the golf course superintendent's service and contributions to the game of golf.

The beautifully landscaped gardens, located

near the entrance to the Professional Golfers' Association World Golf Hall of Fame shrine building, includes a plaque that dedicates the gardens to golf course superintendents around the world. The project was publicly dedicated on Nov. 2, 1989.

The Shrine Gardens project is an effort to provide golf course superintendents with much deserved recognition, according to Mike Hoffman, director of

marketing of commercial products at the Toro Company. Toro is the the founding sponsor.

"Golf course superintendents are key members of the golfing industry. They have made and continue to make major contributions to the game," says Hoffman. "It is our hope that they will receive the recognition in this special Hall of Fame that they have earned through hard work, expertise, and dedication to the game." □



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SEED

New bluegrass variety gets raves from the Univ. of Idaho for quality and practicality

WORLEY, Idaho — A new Kentucky bluegrass combines quality with practicality, according to the University of Idaho.

The variety Alene has a medium/dark genetic color and improved disease resistance compared to the common types of grass generally grown, according to a press release from Seeds West and Seeds Inc. "Alene may also be the answer to homeowners and others who need a low-maintenance lawn because it develops a durable, attractive, drought-resistance turf," the press release notes.

In tests, 71 percent of Alene seedlings emerged in 10

days or less, providing quick ground cover in areas that would normally be subject to erosion.

"In 40 days after planting, Alene can be expected to produce 12 tillers for each seedling compared to seven for other popular varieties," the press release notes. "Alene is a vigorous variety and compares well to such varieties as Baron, but will spread as much as 45 percent faster, according to data submitted for the patent application."

For more information, contact Seed West, P.O. Box 113, Rockford WA 99030 or Seeds Inc., Rt. 2, Box 28, Worley, ID 83876. □

Picking a turfgrass is a key

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Turfgrass researchers at the University of California Riverside are advocating a new philosophy in selecting and irrigating turf that will significantly increase water conservation and reduce irrigation costs.

Based on the results of a four-year study published in a recent issue of *California Agriculture*, UCR investigators say that it is now an obsolete practice to select one grass and one irrigation schedule for an entire area, such as a golf course, park or home lawn.

"In areas receiving little or no wear, there is no need for irrigation regimes that support recuperative ability from heavy foot traffic," observes Dr. Vic Gibeault.



Musser receives promo donation

CLEVELAND — The H.B. Musser International Turfgrass Foundation recently received a donation from Lesco, Inc. that represented the latter's redemption of Certified Blue Tags through Turf-Seed Inc.'s Blue Tag promotion program. Above, Lesco vice chairman Robert Burkhardt (left) presents MITF president Frank Dobie with a check for the donation. Dobie is superintendent at The Sharon Club in Sharon Center, Ohio.

"We have shown that irrigation water can drop to 20 percent of normal for these grasses, and they still look green, have a uniform appearance and give adequate

ground cover in non-use areas.

To conserve water, turf types and irrigation schedules should vary and be determined by use patterns.

One half of the 1.4 million acres of turf used on golf courses, parks and home lawns must be maintained with optimum irrigation water for grass to recuperate from wear and tear. The other 50 percent of the turf receives minimal foot traffic because it is located near clubhouses, along fairways or in remote places of the park or lawn.

This is the first time researchers have identified which grasses respond well to severe irrigation cut-backs in California.

Bermudagrasses and seashore pasaplum performed best in the UCR study. Two species of saltbrush, buffalograss, and two varieties of Phalaris also gave comparatively good cover and quality under irrigation stress in low-traffic areas.

"Most people just understand the amenity value of turf," Gibeault continues.

Water scarcity in California led to the search for attractive grasses with low water needs. □

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ATHLETIC TURF

Baseball fields in U.S., Canada cited by STMA

HOUSTON — The Baseball Diamond of the Year awards were announced earlier this year with ballparks in Canada, Florida and Minnesota winning top honors.

The Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA's) professional baseball award was given to Mike Regan, head groundskeeper at Labatt Park, home of the London (Ontario, Canada) Tigers of the Class AA Eastern League.

The college baseball award was presented to Jerry Brown, head athletic groundskeeper for Barry University's Buccaneer Field in Miami Shores, Fla.

The winning diamond for schools, municipalities and parks is Legion Field in Marshall, Minn. The award was presented to Mark Altman, facility consultant to

the Marshall Parks and Recreation Department.

Four major league groundskeepers (one for each major league division) served as judges: Jim Anglea of the Texas Rangers, Pete Flynn of the New York Mets, Harry Gill of the Milwaukee Brewers and Steve Wightman of the San Diego Padres.

The awards were presented at the annual meeting of the STMA here. They are given each year on the basis of excellence in maintaining outstanding, safe, professional-quality baseball facilities. Co-sponsors are Beam Clay, the STMA and *Golf & Sports Turf* magazine. □

LITERATURE

Service guru has new book

MINNEAPOLIS, Mn. — Service guru Ron Zemke, who was keynote speaker at the 1988 Professional Lawn Care Association of America conference in

New Orleans, has a new book on the market.

Zemke, author of *Service America!*, has written *Service Wisdom*, a collection of his writings designed to be a service resource. He and Dick Schaaf also wrote *The Service Edge: 101 Companies that Profit from Customer Care*, which builds on his original work.

For more information on any of the publications, contact Zemke's company, Performance Research Associates, at (612) 338-8523 or New American Library Books at (212) 397-8132. □

CONFERENCES

Turf course to be offered in Davis

DAVIS, Calif. — "Turfgrass Management for Professionals," focusing on current techniques and research results, will be held here April 12-13. The course is sponsored by the University of California Extension-Davis. Ten hours of pest control advisors (PCA)

and 1.5 hours of certified golf course superintendents courses have been applied for.

The curriculum should be of interest to golf course superintendents, park and recreation site managers, horticultural consultants, pest control advisors and other professional turf and landscape managers.

To receive program details, write or call University Extension, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; (916) 757-8899. □

Next month:

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- Annual listing of "Top 50" landscape contractors in the U.S.
- Guide to Irrigation Installation
- Flowers for your golf course

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CONVENTIONS

Barbara Mandrell to visit Expo '90

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Country rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Mandrell, one of the nation's most popular and dynamic performers, will entertain visitors to the International Lawn, Garden & Power Equipment Expo here this summer.

Mandrell has received nine People's Choice Awards, including six consecutive as "Favorite All-Around Female Entertainer." The petite songstress is a show business veteran of 29 years with such hits as "Midnight Oil" and "If Loving You Is Wrong (I Don't Want to Be Right)."

Her concert is scheduled for Monday, July 30 at the Commonwealth Convention Center in downtown Louisville. The "Expo Evening Starring Barbara Mandrell" will include a buffet dinner. Cash bars will open



Barbara Mandrell

at 6 p.m. and Mandrell will perform at 8 p.m. Free transportation will be provided between several convention hotels and the dinner show.

Tickets cost \$30 each for dinner and the show. They may be ordered through the Expo advance registration brochure, which will be available in April by calling (800) 558-8767.

The ILPGE Expo '90 for dealers, distributors and others involved in the landscape industry will be held July 29-31. □

ATHLETIC TURF

Penn State coach gives turf managers new name

VALLEY FORGE, Pa. — Athletic turf managers in search of a title need look no further, thanks to retired Penn State University soccer coach Walter Bahr.

Bahr, father of two National Football League placekickers, surveyed attendees at the Eastern Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference, asking what to call the audience. He decided on "SOLMAD," the acronym for "Superintendent Of Landscape Management And Development."

"I always thought you just had a guy out there who cuts the grass that you called 'Charlie' or something like that," he admitted.

Bahr offered a coach's perspective on turf management, saying that his first choice of surface as a coach and player is natural turf. His least favorite surface is Astro turf.

"My objection to Astro turf is that it always hurt. Even to walk on it hurt you," said Bahr. "When we used to have to play a game on Astro turf we never practiced on it the day before because you'd always wind up getting a couple of kids hurt before a game."

Bahr said he agrees totally with former Philadelphia Phillies slugger Richie Allen who quipped, "If horses won't eat it, I don't want to play on it."

Bahr said he'd rather have a dirt field void of grass than to play on the synthetic Astro turf surface. "So anything a 'SOLMAD' does to take care of the field is okay with me."

Santa Anita turf too fast?

The new turf track recently installed at the Santa Anita race track is causing consternation among managers there. The hybrid Bermuda grass with an interlocking mesh element is resulting in faster times. Should records posted on the new track replace old records, or be given a new category? Ray Rogers, general manager for the Oak Tree group of horses, trainer Bruce Headley and racing expert Jim Quinn are in favor of new categories. Cliff Goodrich, president of Santa Anita, is not. Goodrich says the track has been changed before, and new times were always compared with existing times. Jockeys say the horses don't seem to get as tired on the new turf.

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