

Superintendents to honor three

LAWRENCE, Kans. - Dr. Noel Jackson, Dr. Eliot Roberts and W. Bruce Matthews will be honored by the GCSAA next month with 1991 Distinguished Service Awards.

Jackson is plant pathologist at the University of Rhode Island; Roberts executive director of The Lawn Institute and Matthews a course architect.

The trio will be presented its awards at the opening session of the 62nd International Golf Course Conference and Show in Las Vegas, Nev., Feb. 5-12.

Jackson's research work

and fungicide evaluations have contributed a wealth of information on turf patch diseases. Roberts, who is retiring soon, has spent 28 years as a turf management teacher, researcher and administrators. Matthews has been a member of the GCSAA for 56 years.

Many of the 40 educational sessions scheduled at the conference will stress the superintendent's environmental protector role.

New for this year's conference is an in-depth Environmental Management Program (EMP) developed by the GCSAA that allows

superintendents an opportunity to gain specialized instruction in environmental areas.

Three EMP seminars will be initiated this year: "Protection of Water Resources," "Scouting, Sampling and Monitoring Golf Course Pests" and "Underground Storage Tank Selection and Installation."

More than 13,000 turf professionals are expected to attend the show, the biggest in the turf and landscape industry. For more information on attending, call (800) 472-7878 or (913) 841-2240. □



Dr. Noel Jackson

GOLF

California ranks first among states ripe for development

JUPITER, Fla. — More Californians may be teeing up the little pill, based on a recent National Golf Foundation survey which shows that state offers the most opportunity for golf course development.

Nine California counties are mentioned as being ripe for development, out of a 50-county/20-state total.

"This list is only a beginning, not a conclusion," says NGF President Joe Beditz, "but it names the first places I'd look to invest my own money in the golf course business."

Next in line after California are Florida, Georgia

and Virginia, each with five counties listed.

According to the NGF, the list reflects expanded methods of identifying more exactly where courses are likely to be needed, based on income and age demographics, population density, growth and migration patterns. Those factors were compared with golf supply—existing facilities or those in planning or under construction.

Rick Norton, in charge of NGF Consulting, says opportunity is one thing, actual development another.

"Actual investment decisions," notes Norton,

"would require additional study of specific market conditions, site constraints, environmental permitting, land costs, availability of financing and other potential limiting factors." □



Dr. Eliot Roberts

GOVERNMENT

Legislators admit turfgrass benefits

WASHINGTON — Congress has finally admitted that turfgrass is beneficial to the environment.

According to the 1990 Farm Bill, "tree plantings and groundcovers such as turfgrass sod can aid in reducing carbon dioxide emissions, mitigating the heat island effect, and reducing energy consumption..."

The American Sod Producers Association believes its own lobbying efforts were instrumental in the statement.

"ASPAs successful efforts in providing direct scientific evidence to demonstrate that turfgrass can be

as effective as trees in environmental improvement programs will continue," the organization says.

"There exists very solid science," says ASPA executive director Doug Fender, "to support the environmental benefits of turf. We gave information based on studies by Tom Watschke, Harry Niemczyk, Marty Petrovic and James Beard."

Fender said congressmen complimented ASPA for "turning lights on in people's minds."

The Farm Bill provides nearly \$21 million for urban and community tree and turf planting and improvements in fiscal 1991. □

