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## greenskeeper

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## EVENTS

### MAY

**15: North Carolina Turf and Landscape Field Day**, N.C. State University Turf Field Center, Raleigh, N.C. Contact: C.H. Peacock, or R.H. White, Box 7620, NCSU, Raleigh, NC 27695-7620; (919) 737-7615.

**18-19: Certification testing for landscape contractors**, Valencia Community College, Orlando, Fla. Contact: Florida Nursery Growers Assn., 5401 Kirkman Rd., Suite 650, Orlando, FL 32819; (407) 345-8137.

**18-21: Intl. Society of Arboriculture, Western Chapter Conference and Trade Show**, Modesto, Calif. Contact: Allen Lagarbo, 801 11th St., Modesto, CA 95353; (209) 577-5344.

### JUNE

**5-6: IPM Workshop, "Incorporating Biological Controls"**. Contact: The Ball Institute, (708) 231-3600.

**6-7: Florida Ornamental Growers Association Seminar and Trade Show**, Altamonte Springs, Fla. Contact: Barbara C. Poole, exec. secretary, P.O. Box 7560, Sun City, FL 33586-7560; (904) 463-7666.

**12: Lofts Field Day**, Lofts Research Farm, Chimney Rock Road, Martinsville, N.J. Contact: Marie Pompei, (908) 560-1590.

**19: Lofts Field Day**, Lofts Research Farm, Wilmington, Ohio. Contact: David Goodwin, (513) 382-1127.

### GOLF

## NGF issues critique of 'Forbes' article

JUPITER, Fla. — National Golf Foundation President/CEO Joseph Beditz has responded to a *Forbes* magazine article which was critical of NGF growth figures.

According to Beditz, *Forbes's* Dec. 24, 1990 article, "Extrapolation Madness," erred in its comments on golf industry sales, golf development failures and the growth of demand for the game. According to Beditz:

- No more than 10 to 20 golf courses a year go out of business. That's 0.1 percent.

- Rounds played—not number of golfers—is the primary indicator of demand.

- During the 1980s, the golf industry enjoyed one of its most prosperous decades ever, with sales on average increasing 10 percent per year.

"We have to guard against those who will misinterpret normal adjust-

ments in our industry and its growth cycles," says Beditz.

The *New York Times* followed up on the *Forbes* article. A *Times* article noted that, though the need remains in the U.S. for new golf courses, construction of real estate developments that feature golf courses has slowed. According to the *Times*, "some golf course developers fear that they are going through the same cycle as hotel and office developers—a rush to build followed by a glut and a crash."

The NGF (which predicts 150 to 200 new courses this year) believes that municipalities must pick up the slack by building more public courses, says NGF director of communications Bill Birbaum.

The primary purpose of the NGF, headquartered here, is to encourage the growth of golf in the United States. □