

FEBRUARY 1992 VOL. 31, NO. 2

23 Cover story: Early-season fertilization Judicious, well-timed spring fertilization can aid in disease and weed prevention and enhance overall turfgrass quality. *Tony Koski, Ph.D.* 

COVER FEATURE



26 LM Reports: Irrigation components Today's irrigation technology gives turf managers near-psychic ability to forecast plant water requirements and compensate for dry spells. *Terry McIver* 

**34 Athletic fields: why renovate?** Last year's drought deeply affected athletic fields, especially in the Midwest. Experts from all over the country discuss how to prepare fields for summer play. *Jerry Roche* 

# **38 Hand sprayers for spot treatments**

Gene Short, sales manager for Green Garde/Division of H.D. Hudson Manufacturing in Chicago, offers suggestions for choosing, and safely using compression sprayers. *Ron Hall* 

## 40 Recruiting, hiring, tricks

'If you've got people, you can do just about anything,' says an expert on personnel. *Jerry Roche* 

# 44 Dealing with public and media

Deb Strohmaier, ChemLawn's chief public relations specialist, makes some observations specifically about dealing with public and media questions concerning the use of pesticides on lawns. *Ron Hall* 

# 44 Smart billing K-Os cash crunches

People often say, 'If I can make it through the first quarter, I'll be all right with cash flow.' There are ways, however, to minimize—or possibly eliminate your cash crunch. Ed Wandtke

# 48 Snow thrower safety tips

The biggest chance you have of injuring yourself while operating a snow thrower is by putting your hands where you shouldn't.

# **48 The marketing plan**

As the Cheshire Cat told Alice, it doesn't matter what road you take if you don't know where you want to go. *Rudd McGary, Ph.D.* 

# **52 Meeting tournament conditions**

Ed Walsh, superintendent of the Ridgewood Country Club in Paramus, N.J., learned first-hand what sort of course conditions the USGA requires for tournament play. *Terry McIver* 

# **54 Pre-emergence weed control**

Pre-emergence herbicides are primarily applied in the spring for controlling smooth and large crabgrass and goosegrass. Many, however, will control other summer annual weedy grasses such as foxtails, barnyardgrass, crowsfoot and fall panicum. *W.M. Lewis, Ph.D.* 

# **64 Potassium and grass production**

Most U.S. soils are low to marginal in soil potassium reserves and require potassium fertilization to optimize growth. *Jerry B. Sartain* 

# 68 The Poa trivialis challenge

The most significant market for Poa trivialis is as a specialty turfgrass in winter overseed blends and mixtures in the South. *Craig W. Edminster* 

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A leading entomologist says turf managers, with some simple temperature calculations, can anticipate insect problems. *Ron Hall* 

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LAWN CAREINDUS

This open letter to LM readers says everybody should play by the same rules: Either we all have to post and pre-notify or nobody should.

### 74 Packaging organic programs(?)

Developers of alternative lawn care programs say the message to clients should be agronomic, not anti-chemical. *Ron Hall* 

### **76 Dwarf grasses**

The turfgrass plant that doesn't grow as high or as quickly (and doesn't replace its leaves as quickly or often) must also possess unusual agronomic vigor to survive in home lawns or on golf courses. *Ron Hall* 

#### **78 Organic perceptions confusing**

What the green industry and the public perceive as 'organic' is not the same. We must talk the same language concerning today's fertilizer products, says Dr. Chuck Darrah. *Ron Hall* 



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