

GREEN INDUSTRY SHOWCASE

Golf course industry gets new bentgrass

Lofts Seed Inc. has added Southshore creeping bentgrass to its line of turfgrass varieties.

Southshore became available this fall for use on golf course greens, tees and fairways.

It was developed through a breeding program of Dr. Richard Hurley, Lofts' research director, in cooperation with Rutgers University. Hurley and Dr. C. R. Funk of Rutgers University collected its derivative plants from old putting greens located in New Jersey, New York, California, Arizona and Pennsylvania.

An attempt was made to identify putting greens in old, established golf courses that had been subjected to many years of wear, close mowing, disease, heat and moisture stress.

From the original highly tolerant collection, further selection was based on

attractiveness, disease resistance, moderate aggressiveness, upright growth, medium-bright green leaf color and medium-



fine leaf texture that produces less grain.

In university trials, Southshore is displaying excellent resistance to brown patch and producing a very desirable medium-bright green color with excellent overall turf quality.

Next year, it will be included in National Turfgrass Evaluation Program tests.

Southshore can be used alone on putting greens, or in combination with other improved bentgrass varieties for fairway and tee overseeding.

It is being used on golf courses in various parts of the country, sometimes as a blend. Pine Valley has seeded its new nine holes with Southshore.

"It's been doing very well for us," says Lofts turfgrass agronomist John DeMatteo. "Its overall quality on golf courses is great."

DeMatteo says that Southshore is in the same "elite" category as some of the other newer bentgrasses.

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SHOWCASE PRODUCT REVIEW

New software version for lawn maintenance

L-W Software says that a significantly improved version of "Clip" lawn maintenance software was released last month. The new version, 4.0, has been tested by seven different-sized lawn maintenance companies for more than six months. The company says the program greatly increases management productivity.

According to L-W, all companies that tested the software agreed that the new version is an unprecedented success. The Clip software has gone through two substantially improved versions, each the result of ongoing customer/programmer interaction. The new version will retail for the same price as its predecessor: \$695 for up to 125 customers and \$1190 for the unlimited (up to 99,999 customers) package.

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Monitor trucks daily, accurately, affordably

The Vehicle Monitoring System company in Orlando announces a low cost Electronic Monitoring System to help keep accurate records of the coming and going of trucks and company cars.

The Time Keeper is described as a low cost, solid state vehicle monitoring system that monitors daily vehicle movements including daily start time, number of and duration of stops, and ending time for each day. The unit installs on any vehicle, has no moving parts and does not require a personal computer.

It consists of three parts: the recording unit is placed in the vehicle; a memory module is plugged into the recording unit, and one reader unit in the office extracts the recorded information from the memory module in seconds.

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In-tank mounting system accommodates 4 sensors

Flowline's "Smart Trak" is an in-tank mounting system which enables a user to install and adjust up to four Flowline sensors, of any technology, to any depth, along the entire length of track. Smart Trak is made entirely of 20 percent glass-filled polypropylene and is available in two, four or six foot lengths.

Each Smart Trak section may be cut to any length.

Smart Trak mounts vertically, through the top wall of the tank, installed with a two-inch NPT fitting or to the side wall of the tank, installed with Flowline's side mount bracket. Smart Trak is mixer compatible, with velocities up to 1.5 fps.

Each kit includes everything necessary to install one sensor, less the fitting and conduit termination.

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