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AS WE SEE IT

JERRY ROCHE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



'B+' from customers: room for improvement

Are your clients happy with your performance as a lawn or landscaping service? Are the members of your golf club, or the golfers who visit your course regularly, happy with its condition? Are the people who play on your athletic fields, their coaches, their spectators and their administrators happy?

Judging by a small survey we commissioned, here in Cleveland, it seems that the general public is fairly happy with its lawn and landscape services. (See page 8.)

Which means that at least one segment of the green industry, in at least one part of the world, is performing its tasks admirably. (It's too bad we didn't have enough time to also survey golfers or city softball and soccer leagues. But those could be other stories, for other months.)

Though our survey's sample was small and not geographically diverse, it pretty much affirmed what we've been hearing from our lawn/landscape readers: that they're doing their best to keep customers happy by providing the needed services in a professional and timely manner.

Given the "grade" they've earned (B+), we'd give our lawn and landscape readers a "summa cum lawn" degree from the School of Hard Knocks, if we could.

Not that everyone's perfect, mind you.

The other day, on my way home from work, I happened upon a familiar scene.

The sun was shining (for one of the few times this spring in this part of the world). The birds were chirping. The truck with the requisite flat-bed trailer was parked at the curb in front of a pretty suburban home. A guy was zipping back and forth with a mid-size walk-behind mower. All was right with the world.

On my way to work this morning, I went through the same neighborhood, past the same house.

I was appalled at the sight my wondering eyes beheld: this same professionallymowed lawn was littered with long, dark, ugly clumps of grass. What could have been the prettiest lawn in the neighborhood looked like one of the trashiest.

Don't get me wrong here: I'm not saying the lawn professional was necessarily guilty of any negligence. I'm just using this case to illustrate a point.

There certainly may have been extenuating circumstances. Maybe the guy was coming back to collect the clippings. Maybe the customer requested that he leave them. Maybe.

Or maybe, since it was a wet spring here, the guy was running behind on his route. Maybe the grass had grown unexpectedly long between mowings and he hadn't made the necessary adjustments to his schedule. Maybe he was more interested in getting on to the next lawn.

But I know this: if I were his customer and went to bed knowing that my lawn was a mess, I'd be looking around for another service the next day.

That said, I issue all our conscientious readers a well-deserved congratulations. Overall, you're doing a great job—B+ as a matter of fact.

But, in all honesty, I remind you: a B+ is not perfect. There is *always* room for improvement.



LANDSCAPE HANDSCAPE MICARPORATION - LAWN CARE MOUSTRY

JUNE 1993 VOL. 32, NO. 6

COVER FEATURE

8 Making the grade

Our mini-survey of lawn and landscape customers shows that our industry appears to grade out well in terms of knowledge, customer satisfaction and value. Jerry Roche, Terry McIver

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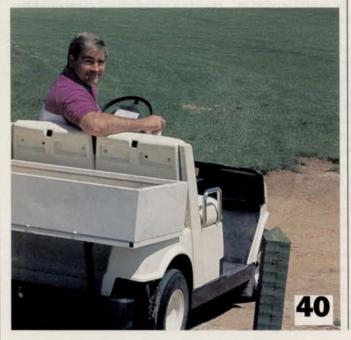
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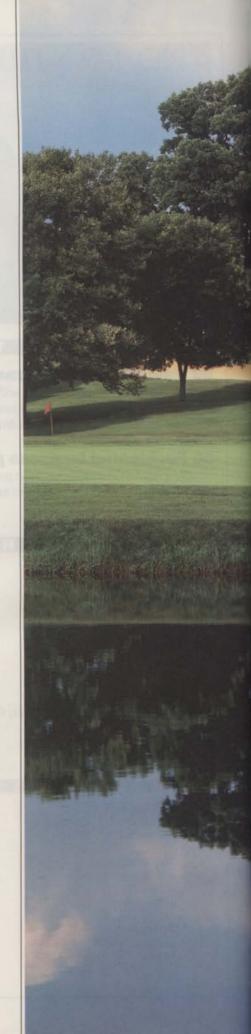
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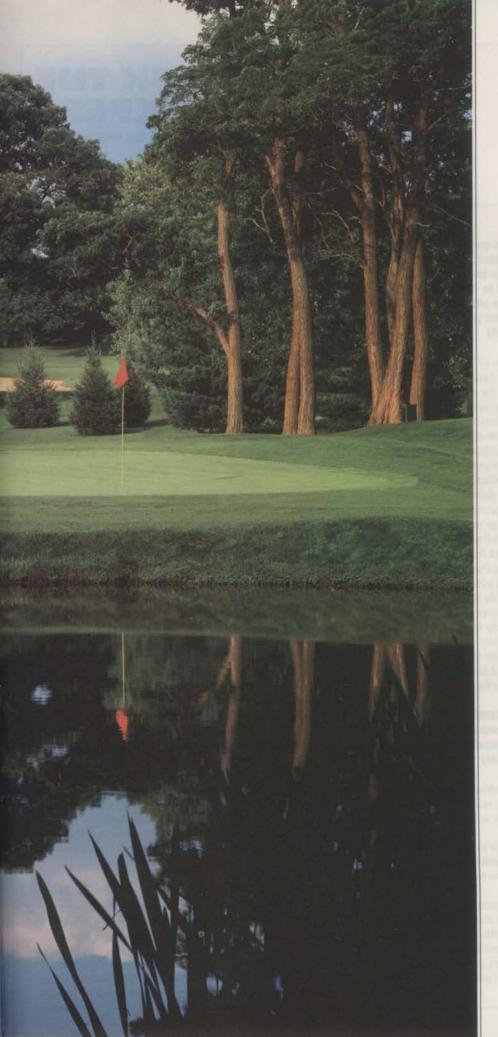
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Circle No. 126 on Reader Inquiry Card

ASK THE EXPERT

DR. BALAKRISHNA RAO

Diagnosing fungal disease

Problem: A number of spruce plants in our area are showing extensive needle drop and branch dieback. A majority of the plants have this problem, mostly on lower branches. We thought it might be due to fungal disease caused by *Cytospora*, but there are no typical symptoms of bluish-white pitching. Most plants were treated for mite and spruce gall aphid problem. This needle problem is gradually increasing. (New York)

Solution: Based on your description of the symptoms, the problem appears to be related to fungal disease. Since you were unable to observe bluish-white pitching, the problem is probably not related to canker disease caused by *Cytospora sp.*

Another disease, rhizosphaera needlecast, produces almost identical symptoms as cytospora canker. Most likely you are dealing with the needlecast disease caused by *Rhizosphaera kalkoffii*.

This fungus also spreads from lower branches upward. As the disease establishes and spreads upward, affected needles will turn yellow and then turn purple and finally defoliate. Infected two-year-old needles drop extensively in the second summer. Current-year needles may become infected in May or June, but disease doesn't become apparent until fall or the following spring. During this period the fungus produces small black fruiting bodies on the needle surface. They appear in a row along the needle length near the stomata. These can be examined using a hand lens.

Your local extension service may be able to help. Apply fungicides such as Daconil or Bordeau mixtures when new growth starts and repeat again in late June to help manage this disease. Severely affected branches may not refoliate, therefore consider providing selective pruning. Provide proper fertilizing, watering, mulching and pest management as needed to help improve plant health. Read and follow label specifications for better results.

Will dormant oils work on mites?

Problem: How good is dormant oil for controlling mites? If the problem is severe, can we apply low applications to clean them up? If so, what kinds of intervals? (Michigan)

Solution: The dormant oil is now preferably called horticultural oil, and is used during the growing season as well as dormant periods. Most dormant treatments will be done in mid-November through mid-March.

Among the mites, the two-spotted spider mite overwinters as a female in litter or mulch or other protected areas and is not nomally found on the plant. Treating the target plants during this period is of no value.

Spruce spider mite overwinters on evergreen hosts like arborvitae, juniper, hemlock and pine in the egg stage. This makes the pest very vulnerable to oil treatments. Remember that oil treatment will remove the blue color of blue spruce temporarily.

The honey locust spider mite overwinters as mature females in bark and bud crevices. Here again, a horticultural oil application should work well.

Another mite species vulnerable to "dormant" season sprays is the southern red mite. With proper coverage, this pest can be managed with oil treatments. If the infestation is severe, a second application may be beneficial. Because conditions for evaporation are poor during winter, the potential for phytotoxicity increases. Therefore, monitor pest activity in spring and reapply 2 percent oil as needed.

Remember that brands of oils from different vendors may not be the same. The quality of the oil dictates the effectiveness and/or potential phytotoxicity problems.

Pine dieback caused by disease, insects

Problem: Some of our clients' pines are showing dieback of six to eight feet terminal growth. Some of these have tunnels and frass when broken and examined and others have no dieback. We find a lot of resin droplets on twigs and at the base of needles. (Virginia)

Solution: This problem appears to be related to an insect as well as a disease. The twigs showing small tunnelling and frass are most likely caused by pine tip moth infestation. Affected terminals may show slight bending with discolored needles. This often mimics phenoxy herbicide injury and/or a disease called diplodia tip blight caused by *Diplodia sp*.

Pine tip moths generally have one to two generations in the Midwest and four to six in the South and Western U.S. In your area, you may find this pest on Scotch, mugho, Monterey, loblolly and most other two- and three-needle pines. Apply Orthene or Cygon in middle to late April and again in mid-June when moths are active.

The twigs showing terminal dieback without the tunneling may be affected by the diplodia tip blight disease caused by *Diplodia sp.* With a 10x hand lens, look for small black fruiting bodies, primarily at the base of the needles. Fruiting bodies may also be found on scales of two-year-old cones. This fungus mimics pine tip moth symptoms from a distance. Selectively prune affected plant parts and cones where feasible. Preferably prune when dry, and disinfect pruning tools between cuts in Lysol, diluted Clorox or rubbing alcohol to prevent further fungus spread. Apply fungicides such as Bordeaux mixture or Cleary's 3336 to help minimize disease incidence. Fungicide treatment should be made as new growth starts and before needles emerge from the sheath. Provide two to three more applications at 7- to 10-day intervals, depending upon any rainy periods.

Dr. Balakrishna Rao is Manager of Research and Technical Development for the Davey Tree Co., Kent, Ohio.

Mail questions to "Ask the Expert," LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, 7500 Old Oak Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44130. Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear in the magazine.

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19 of 20 Cleveland, Ohio, homeowners rate their lawn or landscape service as

'excellent.'

■ The nation's lawn care and landscape services are generally pleasing their customers, according to a mini-survey commissioned by Landscape Manage-Ment magazine.

Our telephone survey questioned 62 homeowners in selected areas of Cleveland, Ohio. Neighborhoods with higher per capita earnings were chosen for the survey, on the perception that people living in those neighborhoods are more likely to contract a lawn or landscape service.

Twenty of the respondents who subscribe to either a lawn care or landscape service were the basis for most of the indepth questions. And, though the survey base was small and not geographically diverse, overall trends become immediately apparent.

Nine of the 20 subscribers gave their services a grade of "A" for excellent. An additional 10 gave grades of "B," or good, for overall service.

Finding a service—Referrals have always been (and probably always will be) an important source of business for lawn/land-scape service companies. Fifty-five percent of those getting services said the company they used was recommended by their neighbor.

Direct mail also had an effect on our respondents: 35 percent contracted a service after receiving a brochure or coupon in the mail. Only one respondent made the call

after spotting a company's truck on the street.

About two-thirds of the homeowners who subscribe to a lawn/landscape service said that it is because they do not have enough time to do it themselves. About one-fifth of the respondents said they realized that professionals can do a better job than what they could do.

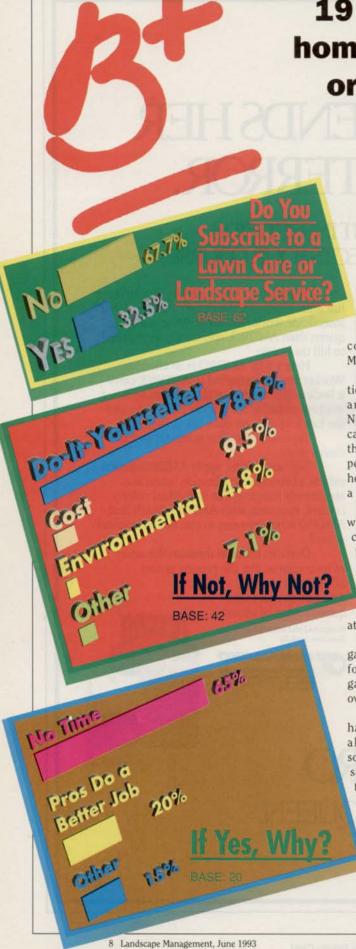
Grading out—The perception among lawn care and landscape businesses is that customers are very demanding of timely service, especially with the first signs of spring. This creates a spring rush that usually entails long hours on the job. Yet, among the qualities surveyed, timeliness is the most admired by customers. A full 60 percent of those surveyed gave a grade of "A" for excellent in the "timely" category. An additional 35 percent gave a "B."

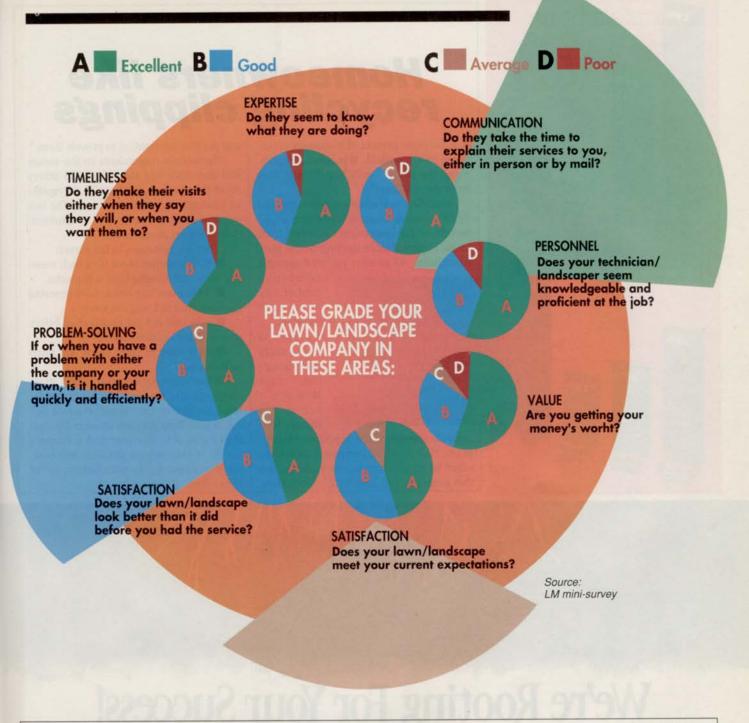
Professional lawn/landscape companies also rated fairly high in:

- · expertise.
- communication with customers.
 - problem-solving and
- creating a lawn that is better than before the customer started the service.

Overall, lawn/landscape companies did well in every category, although 10 percent of the respondents gave them Ds in "personnel" and "value."

Why, why not?—Six of the 20 respondents said they started the service because the yard was too difficult to take care of





themselves, though there was a wide disparity on other reasons for starting the service.

One respondent claimed his yard had "no major problems—I just wanted to make sure there were none (in the future)." Another "wanted a professional so I would not ruin it."

Of the 67.7 percent of the homes not receiving professional lawn/landscape care, 78.6 claimed to be "do-it-your-selfers." Just 4.8 percent—two of 42—claimed that environmental concerns were what kept them from starting such a service.

The three responses in the "other"

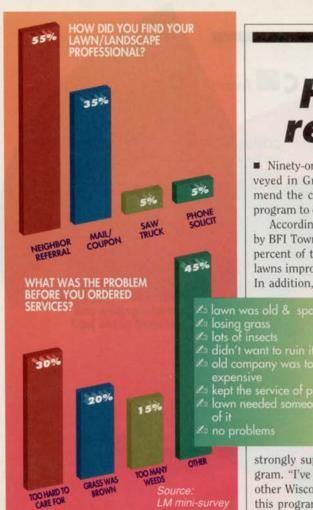
One of the respondents voiced this complaint: 'We had it one year, and spent money on something we could have done ourselves, cheaper and with fewer problems.'

category were: "My son does it like a pro;" "We live in the country and do not like a manicured lawn;" "We had it one year, and spent money on something we could have done ourselves, cheaper and with fewer problems."

-Jerry Roche, Terry McIver

NOTE: This survey was not designed to measure the market saturation of lawn/landscape services in any particular area. It is based on random phone calls within <u>selected</u> neighborhoods.— Ed.

more on page 12



Homeowners like recycling clippings

■ Ninety-one percent of homeowners surveyed in Greenfield, Wis. would recommend the city's "Don't-Bag-It" lawn care program to others.

According to the survey, commissioned by BFI Town & Country Waste Service, 57 percent of the respondents also said their lawns improved since starting on the plan. In addition, 42 percent reported saving a

> combined total of nine hours each mowing.

"This is extremely encouraging," says Mayor James Besson, who

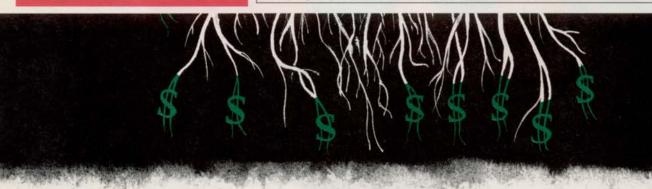
strongly supported the experimental program. "I've received numerous calls from other Wisconsin community leaders about this program, and now I have instructive, and positive information to provide them."

Thirty-three respondents to the survey said they have told more than 355 others about the program. Of those 33, 32 reported passing on positive comments. The one negative comment came from a homeowner who prefers to compost.

Other key responses to the survey:

- 42% said they saved time each mowing; 47% said mowing time is the same.
- 14% mow less often; 63% reported the frequency as being the same.
- 55% who did not mulch at all before now mulch all of their lawns.
- 82% watered their lawns less often or the same.

In exchange for recycling their grass clippings and for meeting other guidelines, the survey participants received free use of new Toro Recycler mowers through distributor R.L. Ryerson; and a season's supply of slow-release fertilizer manufactured by Howard Johnson's Enterprises of Milwaukee.



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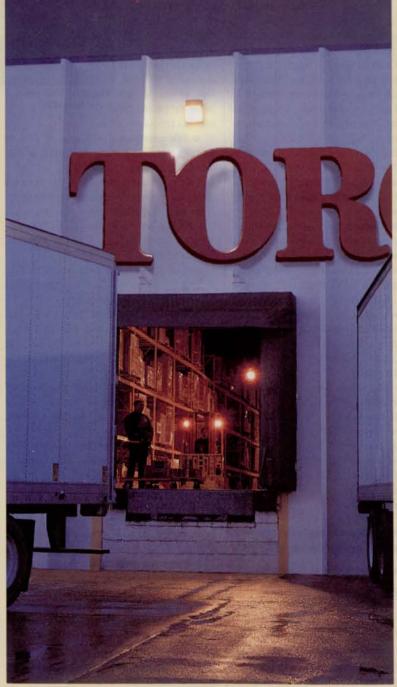
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Sales, service with a

Do a better job, and everyone associated with the organization will profit financially and personally.

by James E. Guvette

■ While some green industry professionals may be reluctant to view themselves as sales people, those who encourage employees to hone their sales and communication skills will see the benefits reflected on the bottom line.

Being sales- and service-oriented creates a marked contrast to competitors who may have a surly attitude toward customers or a non-service "order-taking" mindset among the sales staff.

"Everyone in the company is in sales, in one way or another," says Phil Fogarty, president of Crowley Lawn Service in Cleveland, Ohio.

Even a line-level worker on a truck has an important role to play in the marketing effort. "If he goes up to the customer and looks shabby and doesn't know what he's talking about, it affects the sale," Fogarty explains.

Fogarty enlisted a nationally-known sales consultant. Dr. Hal Becker, to conduct a marketing seminar for Crowley's staffers. Later, Becker was tapped to conduct a similar session for the Ohio Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.

"The application of common-sense sales techniques can lead to sales success," says Becker. The personal relationships built up between customers and employees are the driving forces behind sales success, he adds.



Dr. Hal Becker: Play the numbers game.

"The better the relationship, the better the chance that a sale will be made. With few exceptions, people buy from someone they trust and like."

Building up a bond of trust and likability involves several factors:

• Be honest.

"Treating customers fairly develops credibility," says Becker.

Fogarty notes that exaggerating service quality or pitching a price that's too low can backfire. "Our industry has learned that creating an over-expectation in the customer's mind just creates a high turnover," he says.

"It isn't even a moral issue—it's stupid to be dishonest," Fogarty stresses. A disappointed customer, he believes, will take his or her business elsewhere, and then extra effort is needed just to replace that account.

At Crowley headquarters, a sign reads: "If we don't take care of our customer, somebody else will."

• Be organized. "Develop a system so that you know when you called a customer and what was discussed during the conversation," Becker suggests. "Be consistent about following up with both current and potential customers. Keep up with the paperwork and cooperate with the sales support staff."

A daily calendar/organizer is standard issue at Crowley. "They all have organizers on their desks and I encourage them to carry them with them," Fogarty explains. Employees have a daily diary form on which sales and production information is recorded. But "any box with index cards will do the job," Becker notes.

• Be persistent. "Play the numbers game," says Becker, "The more prospects you contact, the more sales you make. Be resourceful by developing leads and creating new sales opportunities."

'With few exceptions, people buy from someone they trust and like."

-Dr. Hal Becker

Fogarty encourages his employees to initiate relationships with the neighbors of existing customers. If they like what they see in the yard next door, they're more likely to sign up.

Because estimates are made during the

dav. "nine times out of ten, we don't see customer." Fogarty observes. He insists that each estimate be clear and easy to read. And, of course, the Fogarty: Sell lawn follow-up phone call later is a crucial sales tool.



care benefits.

 Ask questions. Another sign at Crowlev contains this Becker quote: "Selling is asking, not telling; listening, not talking."

"We can learn a lot about the person's needs by what they ask us," says Fogarty. Then they listen some more. "Anyone who's had inferior service in the past is happy to have someone to listen" to the reasons, Fogarty attests.

And don't interrupt. "Listeners will still be writing orders while talkers talk themselves right out of a sale," Becker warns.

• Push the benefits. "Too many salespeople just talk features, but you must describe benefits," says Becker, "Simply put, a feature is what it does, a benefit is what's in it for the customer."

"We're selling the benefits of lawn care," Fogarty says: convenience, knowledge that the job's done right, and having a green, environmentally friendly lawn.

• Be service-oriented. Good service drives customer satisfaction and retention. "Always ask what the customer wants and listen to what he or she says," Becker advises.

"It's just being Johnny-on-the-spot," Fogarty adds. "If your price is competitive, the person has to realize that you are the best value."

• Don't win arguments. Becker says it's good to "remember not to win the battle at the risk of losing the war."

If customers have a complaint, ask what they want us to do, says Fogarty. "As long as it's within reason, we'll do what they want to resolve the problem." Most people are reasonable, he adds, and request smaller favors than might be expected.

-James E. Guyette is a freelance writer specializing in the green industry. He is based in South Euclid, Ohio.



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If you'd like to give TEMPO a shot, contact Miles Inc., Specialty Products, Box 4913, Kansas City, MO 64120. (800) 842-8020.







Avoiding summer burnout



by E.T. Wandtke

I arrived at the office on Monday at 7 o'clock. It was already 82 degrees outside, and the weatherman was predicting a high of 95.

My truck would not turn over. Frustrated, I went back into the office to call the mechanic. My plan was to have him come over with tow truck and tools. While waiting in the office, I received two phone calls from employees who said they would not be in.

And so, I knew, it would be a long week.

■ Many of us have been faced with similar situations. Typically, they result from five symptoms: high temperatures; overworked employees; long days; employee turnover; and equipment failure.

The key is to spot the symptoms before they occur, and prevent problems.

Keeping productivity up—Productivity during extremely hot days typically

falls, but it can be recovered.

Two tips to remember when you are faced with hot, unpleasant temperatures:

1) Provide your employees enough water to replenish lost fluids. A large cooler like those used by football teams is ideal. Water on site will reduce the need for your mobile workers to stop for a drink, and thus increase their efficiency.

2) Provide fruit for your employees to snack on. One banana can supply many of the essential nutrients needed for peak performance. Fruit while in transit will replenish sugar the body needs faster than cookies, candy and doughnuts.

Overtime and turnover—Turnover starts when employees work excessive overtime many weeks in a row.

However, workers in this industry typically know that overtime is unavoidable. So they pace themselves for a 10-hour day instead of an 8-hour shift. This can actually lead to a *decrease* in efficiency during the 8-hour shift. To prevent this, you may need to plan in advance to hire additional help.

Planning what needs to be done in a given week helps you organize your crews efficiently and productively. After the plan has been drawn up, delegate weekly responsibilities to crew chiefs. This will motivate them to work harder, since they have a goal. In return, managers will have more time to concentrate on office work.

Should you hire more help? A few more employees might help smooth out your work week. Part-timers can revitalize the crew and reduce overtime.

Let key employees have a week off during the summer. It's an excellent reward that will allow you to evaluate crew efficiency.

Reasonable expectations—Employee turnover results from being "overworked and underpaid," and from a lack of desire to work (the unavoidable quitters).

To help minimize turnover, establish realistic expectations each week, and reward the crew when the job is done.

Incentives should be simple and quick, like daily attendance, weekly production efficiency, and safety/maintenance contests. Keep employees' minds off the weather and focused on the work.

Don't be a stranger—Keep the channels of communication open.

A simple greeting can go along way. Respect and positive feedback can keep morale high and keep employees excited.

Reducing equipment failure— Equipment breakdown is the stress factor that's easiest to avoid.

Cleaning and maintaining equipment will not only save you the hassle of breakdown, but will also increase the life of your equipment.

Much of this maintenance may take as little as 5 or 10 minutes a day. Simply checking to make sure everything is clean and all fluid levels are correct can save money in the long run.

—Ed Wandtke is a principle in Wandtke & Associates, 2586 Oakstone Dr., Columbus, OH 43231; (800) 966-3546.

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LM REPORTS

Tree maintenance is an integral part of landscape work

Pruners, injectors, mist blowers and aerial lifts—vital in the tool arsenal of those entrusted with tree care.

■ For most landscape operations, tree care plays a vital role in the appearance of the final product.

Though some golf course superintendents prefer to contract tree care, most have their crews "do it themselves." The same holds true for park and school landscape maintenance departments. And LM research shows that more and more lawn/landscape businessmen recognize tree care as being a viable add-on service.

Last month, LM sent a questionnaire to suppliers of tree maintenance equipment—specifically, manufacturers of tree pruners, tree injectors, mist blowers and aerial lifts.

LITERATURE

Fanno Saw Works is a leading manufacturer of pruning saws and accessories. Its 8-page brochure details folding pruning saws, pole saws, special purpose saws and accessories.

Circle No. 300 on Reader Inquiry Card

A 52-page product catalog from **Husqvarna** highlights a wide range of forestry equipment, including saws and power cutters.

Circle No. 301 on Reader Inquiry Card

Forestry Suppliers Inc. has a 532-page Agricultural Catalog that includes mist blowers, tree injectors, pruning equipment and tree climbing equipment, and other tree maintenance tools.

Circle No. 302 in Reader Inquiry Card

AERIAL LIFTS

Ameriquip says its Eagle 44 lift is "unique, convenient and easy to operate."

Integrally mounted, heavy duty, quick-adjust outriggers stabilize the entire lift, not just the trailer. The unit provides improved stability, Ameriquip says, even on uneven terrain.

The trailer-mounted Eagle 44 keeps your truck available for other jobs. And the positive, internal bucket leveling enhances its operation. The easy-entry bucket levels automatically through the entire range of motion.



Ameriquip Eagle 44

Another entry in the Eagle line, the T-40, has a 40-foot working height and 23-foot side reach. It has 360-degree continuour rotation and full feathering controls.

Circle No. 303 on Reader Inquiry Card



Aerial Lift of Connecticut

The AL-60 from **Aerial Lift of Connecticut** will reach a working height of 60 feet. It has a 43-foot-plus side reach at a working height of 31 feet and a 50-foot horizontal side reach.

Other Aerial Lifts are the AL-50 and AL-52 which, the company says, have continuous rotation and lower boom over-center feature so manuevering around wires is done with ease.

Aerial Lift products have positive bucket leveling, an insulated work platform, 135-degree articulated lower boom and 215-degree upper boom.

Aerial Lift products meet the

most current 1990 ANSI A92.2 standards.

Circle No. 304 on Reader Inquiry Card

PRUNERS

No need to worry about climbing ladders to remove branches and limbs. **Echo Incorporated's** new SRS-2100 Aggressor makes quick work of removing 4½-inch diameter limbs up to 14 feet in the air.

Powered by a 21.2 cc engine, it removes limbs quickly, easily and safely, all through the reciprocating action of an exclusively-designed blade. The Aggressor has a 71-inch heavy duty shaft that houses a four-strand cable drive.

The 11.3-lb. Aggressor is evenly balanced for easy operation.

Circle No. 305 on Reader Inquiry Card

The Model D Power Pruner is the only portable, tele-



Technic Power Pruner

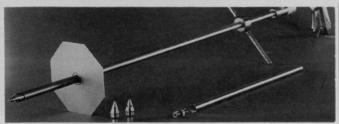
scoping pruner available, says manufacturer **Technic Tool**. The insulated unit is designed for pruning near high-voltage sources. It is certified to withstand 100,000 volts per foot of length for five minutes.

The Power Pruner is lightweight and qeuipped with a unique driveshaft that extends from 7 to 11 feet. It also has an auto oiling system.

Circle No. 306 on Reader Inquiry Card

Stanley's PR 40 gives you heavy duty cutting power right from your tree trimming vehicle or bucket truck. Its lightweight head design

TREE INJECTION EQUIPMENT



Rootfeeder #201-RF

The Green Garde Rootfeeder #201-RF, for use with the JD-9C high pressure spray gun, is a ruggedly-build soil injector.

It has a chrome-plated adjustable handle and foot plate. The basic unit is designed for pressure root feeding from 2 to 10 inches deep. Though a two-hole tip is included, other tips are

You may also purchase 18- and 36-inch extensions for ground probing and other placement applications.

Circle No. 307 on Reader Inquiry Card

The Lesco Fertijector is for injecting fertilizer granules and soil conditioners into the rootzones of trees and shrubs.

The unit features simple push/pull operation. Its hopper's capacity is 10 lbs. It can inject from one teaspoon to ¼ lb. of granular product up to 10 inches into the soil.

The Fertijector provides dustless application, and is clog-proof because the material flows from the hopper, not through the rod.

Circle No. 308 on Reader Inquiry Card

Arborchem's tree injector is for use with injectable tree growth regulators, pesticides, and some fertilizers and nutrients. Its independent cylinder operation allows single or multiple precision operations.

The Arborchem injector is a completely self-contained portable unit with no moving parts.

It is powered by CO2 cartridges, and easily adaptable for trunk or soil injection. It can be custom fabricated to meet the Arborchem injector needs of the user.



Circle No. 309 on Reader Inquiry Card

PRUNERS (cont.)

makes it easy to handle, and full power on both the closing and opening of the jaw make it fast and safe to operate. A unique safety feature is the built-in hand guard which, if removed, de-activates the tool.

The PR 40, which can cut limbs up to 21/4 inches, extends 84 inches.

> Circle No. 310 on Reader Inquiry Card



Stanley PR40

Tree Technology Systems has a full line of nationally-labelled insecticides, fungicides and fertilizers in new leakproof Arbor-X microinjectors.

The feeder tip of the ArborX injector and the feeder section are welded to the barrel. A special O-ring seals the plunger in both the shipping and pressurized position. The used injectors are returned to the factory for secure disposal.

Circle No. 311 on Reader Inquiry Card

The Mauget micro-injection process is the oldest and most widely-used system in tree care.

With the Mauget method, trees can be injected with either fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides or antibiotics. It can be used on trees growing in urban or metropolitan settings where the trees frequently have limited or restricted root systems.

Mauget also provides professional product training at various sites across the country.

> Circle No. 312 on Reader Inquiry Card



Mauget system in use

MIST BLOWERS

The gasoline powered backpack mist blower was developed by Solo more than 30 years ago. Its Mistblower Port 423 remains on the cutting edge of technology with a height range of up to 26 feet or a horizontal range of up to 32 feet.

The Port 423 is powered by a 5 hp two-cycle Solo engine. The liquid formula is fed through a four-position adjustable dosage sleeve at the nozzle. By using different nozzles, the spray system can be adjusted wider or narrower or be deflected for treatment from underneath.

Accessories include a twin nozzle, a dusting kit, a booster pump and a ULV-dosage selector.

Circle No. 313 on Reader Inquiry Card

The Porta-Pak from H.D. Hudson is a motorized back-carried sprayer that applies concentrated pesticides in minute droplets at ultra-low dosage rates.

Its effective range is more than 50 feet horizontally and more than 40 feet vertically. It treats up to 7.5 acres with one pesticide tank

Hudson Porta-Pak

The Porta-Pak features

a strong tubular metal frame that weighs 45.5 lbs. loaded. Adjustable straps have wide shoulder pads and the contoured backrest is padded with foam.

Circle No. 314 on Reader Inquiry Card



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It's simple. Fewer hydraulic lines mean fewer chances of leaks or failures. That's why the John Deere 2243 Professional Greens Mower is the logical choice for work on your most precious ground—your greens.

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In addition to reducing

hydraulic lines, the transaxle delivers quick machine response and built-in dynamic braking on slopes.

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of the same old lines

compaction and you begin to see how the John Deere 2243 separates itself from the rest. For the name of your nearest distributor, or free literature, call 1-800-544-2122.

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956, Moline, IL 61265.



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RRIGATION:

an athletic field necessity

by Ray Flood

■ Turf that provides athletes with a safe, playable surface must also look good. That can be difficult, especially

with unfavorable weather, heavy play and tight budgets.

Irrigation should be an integral part of the basic field design. Even before the turf options are discussed, two questions should be answered: "Is water available?" and "How will watering be handled?"

Each athletic field has specific factors that must be considered in determining irrigation needs:

rtypical weather patterns,

The Ten (Plus One)

A T a

Flow and psi. Determine these figures for the water source.

I

Sprinkler head layout. Based on water availability, what type of head pattern and spacing best supplies water?

1111

Labels. Label the sprinkler head arc and gpm (gallons of water which pass through the sprinkler head per minute). The arc describes the spray pattern and will indicate the height to which water is thrown and the distance of flow.

TITT

Zoning. Group heads into zones. The main water source supplies a set amount of gpm, for example 50 gpm. Each sprinkler head uses a set amount of gpm, for example 10 gpm. In this example, the maximum number of heads that could operate on a zone would be five (50 gpm + 10 gpm = 5).

MV

Main line. Locate the system's main line. It always contains water under pressure and should be positioned to feed water most efficiently through lateral lines to the sprinkler head locations.

V

Valves. Spot them. Each zone off the main line has a valve between the main line piping and the piping that leads to the heads within that zone. A controller with a clock is used to trigger the valves. The controller could be mechanical, with dials and physical switches to trigger as the clock physically rotates, or electric, using electrical impulses to trigger activity.

WI

Lateral piping. Locate the lines that extend outward from the valves to the sprinkler heads. These lines usually use smaller pipe than the main line, becoming progressively smaller as they extend from the main line. Because water is released from the system at each sprinkler head, less pipe diameter is needed to transport the remaining water to the next head. Using progressively smaller pipe reduces system costs.

IUW

Friction loss. Calculate the amount of pressure that is lost to friction as the water works its way through the piping to the last head in the zone. Water pressure affects sprinkler head performance.

MIII

More labels. Label all the components on the design and prepare a legend to identify them.

IDX

Water schedule. Determine how quickly the field's soil absorbs water. Water should be delivered at, or slightly below, the soil's capacity to absorb it. Too much water at one time will either puddle or run off.

Turf water use is reflected by evapotranspiration (ET) rates. ET is the amount of evaporation caused by weather factors, combined with the transpiration rate of the specific grasses. Irrigation makes water available to the turf to make up for this water loss.

X

Material. Determine how much material to purchase in order to install the system. It's most efficient to install inground sprinkler systems before field construction. Installing later means you disrupt the soil profile and established turf, which may lead to uneven settling.



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network of independent dealers.

Circle No. 136 on Reader Inquiry Card



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> Randy Willis, CGM Grounds Supervisor NW Missouri State University



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✓ soil type and absorption/drainage capacity,

desired turf varieties,

✓ type and frequency of sports activities and

desired quality level.

The "Ten-Plus-One Commandments of Design" (as taught at the University of Maryland by the Professional School of Irrigation from Chantilly, Va.) lay the groundwork for installing a workable, in-ground sprinkler system or the basic considerations for an aboveground system.

Lay out the design on paper for accuracy.

Whichever in-ground system is installed, get a copy of the design ("as built" is the term designers use) to keep on hand in case of problems. Make sure at least one person on staff has a working knowledge of the system.

Whether installing a new inground system or upgrading an older one, take time to evaluate suppliers. Select a company that has the ability to analyze specific needs, design a

Irrigation test during reconstruction of Rosenblatt Stadium, Omaha, Neb. Determine how quickly the field's soil absorbs water. Water should be delivered at, or slightly below, the soil's capacity to absorb it.



...have controllers connected to a computer. Valves are operated by radio waves from the computer to radio antennae hooked to the controllers in the field. The controllers in the field.

trollers in the field. The computer's clock is the only one needed.

...are especially beneficial in multiple-field operations in which the onetime major investment is quickly paid back by the reduced hours spent on irrigation operation.

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computer to adjust scheduling according to information supplied on variable conditions. Information can be gathered and typed in manually or fed to the computer from in-ground sensors located at strategic places in the fields.

-R.F.

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suitable system within budget restraints, and provide the back-up service required. When considering system options, examine both long-range and short-term cost-toefficiency ratios. Irrigation systems should make turf maintenance easier and more effective—not add to the turf manager's workload.

—The author is commercial sales representative for Turf Equipment and Supply Co., Baltimore, Md., and an active member of the Sports Turf Managers Association.

ABOVE-GROUND SYSTEMS

■ If an in-ground system is too costly, steps *Plus 1-1-2-3-7-9-10* will help in pre-planning an above-ground system.

Options include:

- a manual system with a network of above-ground hoses and impact heads;
 - travelling sprinklers; or
- a semi-automatic system using a retractable tripod-based sprinkler head run off 11/2- to 2-inch hose.

For in-ground installations, manufacturers offer heads designed for athletic field safety. When properly installed, these heads become a non-factor during play. The valves for athletic field irrigation should be positioned off to the side of the field for further safety.

 A basic in-ground sprinkler system could be manually operated. Gate valves—which are similar to the water outlet valves outside a home—on the main and lateral lines give immediate on-off response.

- To cut costs, quick-connect valves can be used in lieu of sprinkler heads, with a limited number of heads purchased to move from zone to zone for watering.
- A typical electronic system would use all electronic controllers to operate the system on a prearranged schedule with a manual override. Electronic systems nearly always operate with valves that remain closed unless electronically opened to prevent systems from turning on during electrical outages.
- Another mid-range system operates using hydraulics, with an electronic controller and tiny tubes of water channeled to and from each valve.

-R.F.

Stump cutter maintenance

Preventive maintenance helps keep them productive, expert Brad Yochheim says.

by James E. Guyette

■ When operating a stump cutter, you need to pay extra attention to preventive maintenance.

"A stump cutter is a very powerful and productive machine when used properly," explains Brad Yochheim of Rayco Inc., Wooster, Ohio. "However, when improperly operated, a stump cutter can prove dangerous to the operators as well as onlookers."

Stump cutters need a detailed inspection program before and during operation. "Make sure all necessary guards are in their proper places and functioning correctly," Yochheim urges. "Use extra guards such as plywood or canvas curtains when operating near houses, windows, roadsides and other public places."

The stump and surrounding areas should be clear of rocks, metal objects and utility lines. If you are unsure about utility lines, call the utility company to locate the lines for you, or you could end up paying any repair bills.

Engine hints—"The engine is the most expensive part of the machine to replace, so religious maintenance on it will be very beneficial in the long run," says Yochheim.

Check and clean the **air filter** at least once a day because of the dusty environment the engine is exposed to.

"The air filter should be taken out and tapped on the sides to get rid of the dirt. It should not be blown out with an air hose."

The engine **cooling fins** should be cleaned at least once a week (to prevent build-up of dirt, wood chips and other debris with an air hose.

"It is very important that the engine's oil be checked and changed as recommended by each manufacturer," says Yochheim. "Be sure not to skimp on engine oil quality."

Check and heed your manual's advice on the break-in time needed for the oil and filters on a new machine.

"The **spark plugs** should be checked periodically and re-gapped when necessary. Wisconsin recommends that you replace the plugs after every 350 hours of operation; Kohler recommends 100 hours," Yochheim says.

On all engines, the **fuel** tank should be drained once a month to get rid of debris and

DOs, DON'TS

/ Watch for people not in safety zone.

/ Wear all proper safety gear.

Make sure all guards are in place properly.

✓ Use extra guards in populated areas.✓ Inspect stump and area for rocks,

Inspect stump and area for rocks metal, etc.

/ Use air hose to clean engine fins weekly.

√ Check, replace oil frequently.

√ Replace, gap spark plugs when needed.

/ Drain fuel tank monthly.

/ Check hydraulic oil daily.

/ Grease bearings daily.

√ Grease pivot points often.

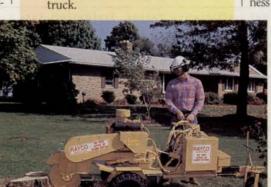
Check V-belts, sheaves, chains, sprockets.

/ Check teeth almost hourly.

√ Secure trailer hitch properly.

DON'T:

- x Walk near turning cutter wheel.
- x Grind near unverified utility lines.
- x Use an air hose to clean air filter.
- x Skimp on oil quality.
- x Use air-type grease gun.
- x Gnaw at stump with dull teeth.
- x Haul stump cutter with undersized truck.



sediment, and reduce sludge build-up. Each day, the **fuel line** should be checked to insure that it is not kinked or cut. Replace the **fuel filter** accordingly.

Hydraulic systems—Be sure the hydraulic system oil level is checked daily. A low oil level will result in sluggish hydraulic cylinder performance. "The hydraulic oil should be changed once a year, every 500 hours, or sooner, if it is noticeably dirty or smells burnt," Yochheim says. On a newer hydrostatic drive, the oil filter should be

changed once a month and the oil should be changed once a year.

The **hydraulic oil filter** should be replaced after a 10-hour break-in period and every 250 hours thereafter.

All bearings, such as the cutter wheel bearings and jackshaft bearings, should be greased with a hand-held grease gun daily. "An air-type grease gun should not be used so as *not* to blow the seals out of the bearings," Yochheim notes.

Belts, etc.—All of the **pivot pins** (cylinder ends, king pins, hinge pins, etc.) should be greased once a week or after 10 hours of operation.

Belt guards, chain guards and rubber curtains should all be checked daily for loose belts or worn parts.

"The drive system on your stump cutter is composed of V-belts and/or a steel roller chain—or, on newer models, a polychain," Yochheim explains. "A faulty drive system will result in loss of power and productivity."

The stump cutter's **V-belts** should be checked daily for tension. Yochheim says that you should be able to depress one belt thickness in the center of the belt span when the

belt is engaged. Check the manual for adjustment tips.

"If the belts are constantly screaming—or loss of power is experienced—the **sheaves** on the end of the belt drive should be checked for wear," he advises. "Usually, the sheave at the engine shaft will wear first." Also, make sure there's no debris on the sheaves or belt path.

The steel roller chain or polychain should be checked periodically for proper tension and wear. The chain housing should be thoroughly cleaned of wood chips, dirt and other debris. Check for sprocket wear, too.

Yochheim says that a steel roller chain needs proper lubrication to function efficiently. The most important part of using a polychain is making sure that it is correctly aligned on the sprockets, or it will wear out sooner.

A stump cutter's **teeth** are the biggest wear item, says Yochheim. "These should be inspected for wear or damage almost every hour," he says.

—James E. Guyette is a freelance writer who specializes in the green industry. He is based in South Euclid, Ohio.



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Linda Wolff Reed, extreme right, uses ALCA members to demonstrate how great teams can be different because people are different.

Building a team:Maybe the most important thing you'll ever have to do

People who complement each other and know how to work together make a great team.

• "You must create the magic that makes a team work," says Linda Wolff Reed, an organizational development consultant based in Portland, Ore.

"Every employee must know the company's mission," she says. "The company's goal is the common goal. There is no other agenda. But don't get so over-committed to accomplishing the goal—the end result—that you don't focus on the process.

"I look at a team as the entire company. If the employee sees him or herself as working for one person, the team concept won't work," she says.

Communicating with employees is the first step in building a winning team. "It's the first step in creating trust," Reed continues. "Eighty percent of communications is listening."

She says the key to establishing trust is DWYSYWD: "Do What You Say You Will Do:' your actions must follow your words."

Reed suggests you ask employees for written responses to these questions:

1) If you could change two things in this company, what would they be?

- **2)** Do you really think the company listens to you? How?
- **3)** What two things do you like most about the company?
- **4)** What resources are here that we're not using?
 - 5) How are we at recognition?
 - 6) What should the company do this year?

"Not a lot will change in the first year, except that you'll build trust," says Reed. "Tell your people what you learned, how you're going to accomplish it, and what role they will play. And putting it into writing to your employees makes you accountable.

"As people see targets developing, the trust is created. But they will hold you accountable, and it is not fun."

Finding leaders is the next step in creating a winning team.

"In any given situation, anyone can be a leader," Reed notes. "Leadership qualities have been over-emphasized. In a team, the pieces all fit, so you must first find out people's strengths."

Look past what

might be negative conations, or instincts, in a team player, she says. Look to the positive. "When you're building on strengths, there are no weaknesses."

According to Reed, there are four forces that drive the actions of employees:

- 1) The instinct to probe, to ask why. This kind of employee might always be argumentative, but he or she is also an answer-finder.
- **2)** The instinct to **pattern**, a person who is driven to completion. Though this kind of employee won't deviate from a pattern, he or she sees the "big picture."
- **3)** The instinct to **innovate**; to ask "what if." Though this type of employee might be entirely too impulsive, you can depend on him or her in a crisis.
- **4)** The instinct to be **physically demonstrative**. While this employee might be noncommunicative, he or she can show you how to more efficiently perform physical tasks.

"The respecting of differences is the way to accomplish trust and strengthen one another," Reed observes. "Respecting differences is the most difficult thing we have to do as human beings. Our society is very individualistic. So if the leader is unwilling to respect differences, no one else on the team will."

What happens with a good team? Synergy—the sum of all the talents you have assembled is greater than its parts. And that should be the goal of your teambuilding process.

Reed made her observations at the Associated Landscape Contractors of America's annual conference last November in Indianapolis.

-Jerry Roche

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-Linda Wolff Reed

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HANG TEN

TECH

Fertilizing woody landscape plants

Proper technique and fertilizer selection are parts of PHC over which arborists have more control than any other service except tree pruning and surgery.

by Trevor F. Vidic The Davey Tree Expert Co.

Maintaining woody plants in artificial ecosystems such as landscapes is a manipulative science.

Landscape soil usually does not contain the natural nutrients that are found in most wild plant communities. Arborists can use fertilizers to replace these essential elements, which plants need for optimum growth.

Providing nutrients for plants' roots and surrounding soil is probably the most important Plant Health Care (PHC) treatment arborists provide. The Davey Tree Expert Co. and the International Society of Arboriculture are among the industry organizations that endorse and employ PHC. Its strategy focuses on maintaining healthy, vital plants to enhance plants' natural defense systems, minimizing pesticide use.

The best way to promote plant health is proper site and plant selection, planting techniques and cultural maintenance. The right tree in the right soil with a good mulch, watering and fertilization program will function and grow with minimum pest problems.

The ISA notes that woody plant fertilization can increase growth, reduce pest susceptibility, and sometimes help reverse declining health. Fertilizer misuse, however, may not benefit woody

plants at all, and in some cases it actually damages them.

Large, over-mature trees may not need fertilization, for example, and over-application of soluble nitrogen may trigger unnecessary growth that is susceptible to insect and disease attack. Over-fertilized trees often need more pruning at shorter intervals to control or direct vigorous growth that the plant's root system may not be able to sustain. High salt, high nitrogen tree fertilizers also can induce plasmolysis (water loss from root cells) and decrease mycorrhizal populations, the association between roots and certain fungi that improves absorption.

Why nutrients?—Good fertilizers and application technique, while promoting the growth plants need to survive, should also provide nutrients that are necessary for the plant to maintain its structure and function.

All organisms require at least 16 essential elements. Of the 16, bonded carbon, hydrogen and oxygen are the energy-yielding carbohydrates or "tree food" derived from photosynthesis. The other 13 elements are absorbed from the soil as cations and anions.

A fertilizer itself in the soil is not a nutrient. Instead, it is a group of essential elements that will be used as nutrients through the interaction of the plant and soil. Fertilizing a tree is not the same as "energizing" a tree; fertilization simply provides some of the essential elements to the soil that the tree takes in for its own energy system,

An important aspect of woody plant fertilization is the method used to deliver essential elements to the root system. According to Dr. Roger Funk of the Davey Institute, the most limiting factor



nutrients that are necessary for the plant to maintain its structure and function.

The entire area within, to several feet beyond, the drip line should be fertilized. (Photo courtesy Davey Tree Expert Co.)

in fertilizer uptake is water availability. The ISA has studies on mature trees that demonstrate optimal response to fertilization in areas with relatively high soil moisture levels.

In addition to water, application frequency depends on type of material used, the soil profile, plant species and periods of root growth. With these variables taken into account—balanced by the economic realities of arborists being able to apply an appropriate material in a wide range of soil environments and climates during growing and dormant seasons—Dr. Funk developed a complete, slow-release, low-salt fertilizer that is applied with the liquid injection method.

Liquid injection—Of the five general

continued on page 34

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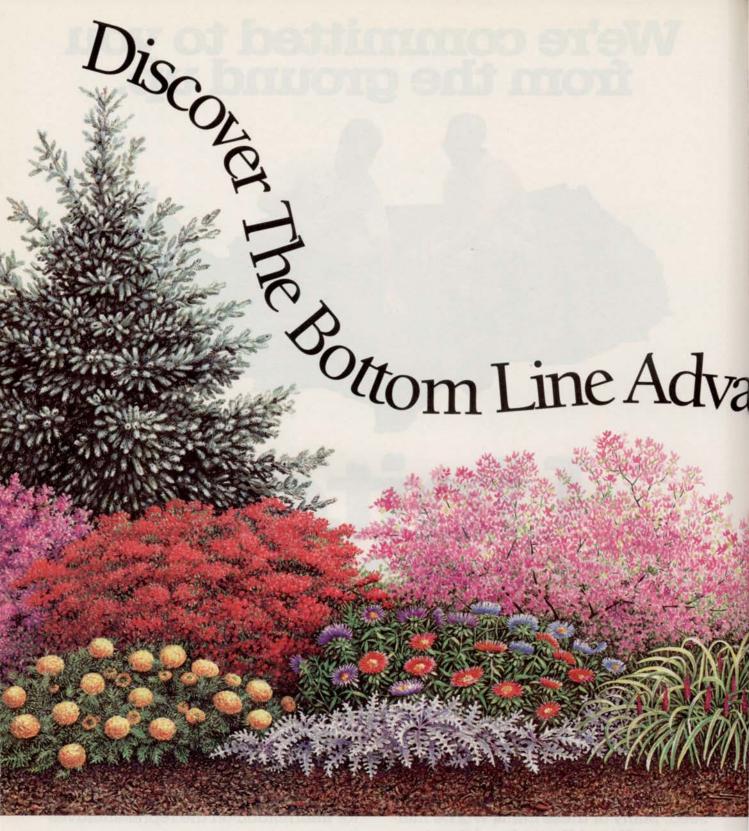
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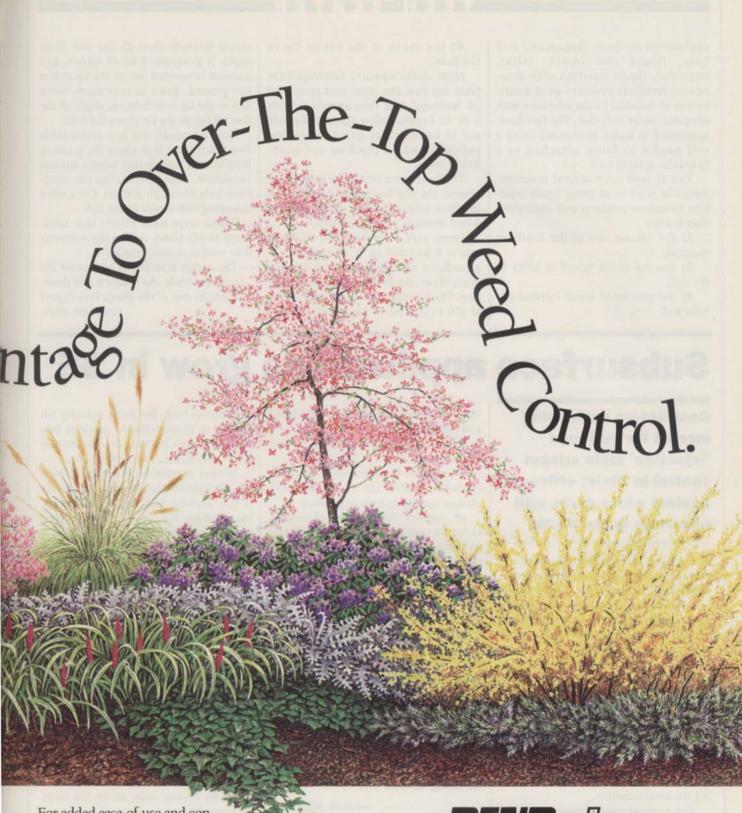
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application methods (broadcast, drill hole, liquid soil inject, foliar, implants), liquid injection with slow-release fertilizer provides good distribution of material to the rootzone with adequate water included. The fertilizer, suspended in water, is injected using a soil needle or lance attached to a hydraulic sprayer unit.

You should keep several measurements in mind when using liquid injection to ensure uniform and consistent distribution:

- 1) the release rate of the fertilizer material;
- 2) spacing of the injection holes in the soil;
- **3)** the amount of liquid injected per hole; and

4) the depth of the needle tip in the hole.

Most contemporary arboriculture texts say that the ideal root system of an "average" tree runs anywhere from 3 to 12 inches below the soil surface out to two or three times the canopy radius beyond the trunk on well-established trees.

The entire area within, to several feet beyond, the drip line should be fertilized. Injection holes should be spaced at about 3-foot intervals in a grid pattern.

Davey uses Arbor-Green 30-10-7 at a rate of 6 lbs./1000 sq. ft. of rootzone (in accordance with 1988 National Arborist Association standards) with one application. The hydraulic sprayer is maintained at 150 to 200 psi to force fertilizer ele-

ments laterally through the soil. Hole depth is generally 8 to 12 inches, and material is injected just as the tip enters the ground, down to maximum depth and as the tip is withdrawn, shutting the flow off before the tip clears the hole.

Davey's needle tip is a replaceable four-holed point that ejects the pressure fluid in an X pattern that further ensures consistent, even distribution per injection hole through almost the entire absorbing root profile in the soil.

These steps help ensure that landscape woody plants receive the nutrients they need to remain healthy.

—The author is technical advisor for the Davey Institute, the research and development arm of the Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio.

Subsurface applications grow in SE

Contractors developing market for 'slit' and 'injection' mole cricket control in Dixie; efficacy against white grubs still uncertain in the North.

■ For a turf insecticide to be effective, it must contact the insect. Often only a small amount ever does—particularly products aimed at soil-inhabiting pests. This is true even after irrigation moves enough insecticide to the target area to solve an insect problem.

That's why researchers continue to investigate putting pesticides just below the soil surface, primarily for mole crickets in the South and white grubs in the North.

Equipment that either slices the soil and drops granules into the slits, or that injects liquids under high pressure through the turfgrass canopy, is receiving the most attention.

The concept isn't entirely new. But it's been within the last 10 years that entomologists like Auburn's Dr. Pat Cobb have been testing subsurface application against turfgrass insect pests in the United States. Dr. Pat Vittum at Massachusetts and Dr. Rick Brandenburg at North Carolina State (and probably others) continue subsurface work on turf plots in 1993.

They're evaluating both equipment and insecticides.

Research so far strongly suggests that the target placement of pesticides:

- reduces the amount of pesticide needed to control the insect pest, with obvious savings in time and money.
- reduces the exposure of insecticides to applicator, bystander and wildlife since the material is being placed below the turfgrass canopy.
- reduces the potential for chemical drift or runoff.

"It was apparent from the outset that the concept was solid, that if you incorporated these pesticides on close centers, you could reduce the rate because you are slicing them in."

- Bob Wicker

Misleading term—Robert Wicker is one of a growing number of contract applicators in the Southeast who use "slit application" for mole cricket control, mostly on bermudagrass golf course fairways, but also on athletic fields.

"To describe what we do as subsurface placement or incorporation is prob-

ably misleading. We don't actually till the soil or incorporate the pesticide into the soil," says Wicker, Environmental Turf Control, Inc., Jacksonville, Fla.

Wicker started experimenting with slit applications about four years ago. He is now working with Canaan Industries, Inc., Dothan, Ala., on its granular applicator/overseeder.

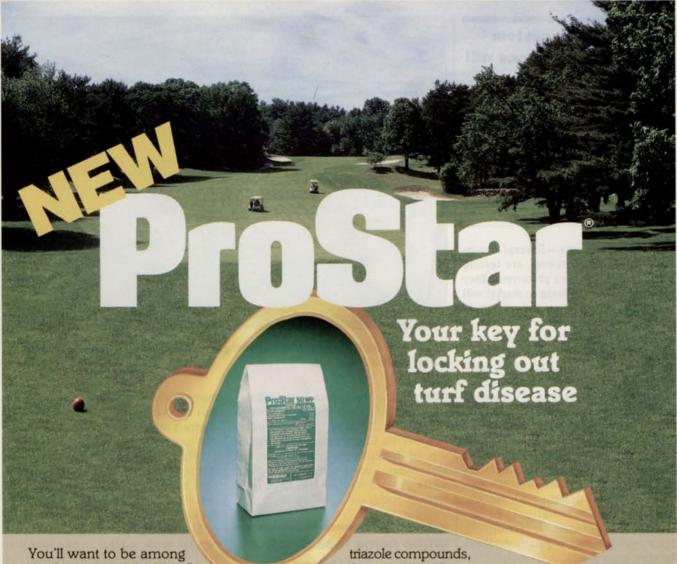
"It was apparent from the outset that the concept was solid, that if you incorporated these pesticides on close centers, you could reduce the rate because you are slicing them in," says Wicker. His company treated 3,500 to 4,000 acres of turf last year, most of it using Mocap 10G insecticide. The slit applications provide excellent mole cricket control using 50 to 75 percent of the label rate, he says.

Best results occur when the material is deposited in slits 1/2 to 1 inch deep. "In essence, we wedge the soil open and it closes right behind us," says Wicker.

The unit his company uses is pulled by a tractor. It's sizable. It treats a swath 84 inches wide, much too large for home lawns.

In fact, designing a subsurface unit small and maneuverable enough for home lawns is a tall order. "The lawn care industry wants to treat 1,000 square feet a minute and the subsurface equipment can't do that. A lot of the industry would have to change its thinking," says one industry insider.

continued on page 36



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IMPORTANT: Please remember always to read and follow carefully all label directions when applying any chemical Registration Pending The market for custom chemical applications will grow, but only if the equipment and chemical manufacturers cooperate to match specific equipment designs with specific pesticides and formulations.

New technology—Several equipment companies, however, are testing walk-behind subsurface prototypes. They know the units they bring to market will have to be easy to transport, simple to operate and cover lots of ground fast.

"I think we get a call a month from equipment manufacturers about subsurface applications," says Mike Shaw, pesticide product development manager at DowElanco. That company's Dursban insecticide now includes label directions for sub-surface mole crickets. Shaw believes the market for custom chemical applications will grow, but only to the extent that equipment and chemical manufacturers cooperate to match specific equipment designs with specific pesticides and formulations. So far, industry has focused on retrofitting equipment that was orginally designed for other purposes.

But, that has an up side too. Ken Lewis of the Rhone Poulenc Ag Company says equipment that can be used for several different tasks such as for slit applications and overseeding is more versatile and, therefore, may be more afforable for turggrass managers.

More work needed—"The dispensing and metering mechanisms of this equipment are undergoing the greatest amount of development," says Lewis, who is a senior field research and development representative and does subsurface research for RP.

Another area where industry might have some work to do before subsurface applications become more commonplace is regulatory.

For example, this spring Ciba's Triumph insecticide label was finally amended to allow it to be applied with non-conventional equipment under the 24C state "local need" exemptions.

"In other words, there's nothing on our federal label that would keep us



Bob Wicker says the colter/spring arrangement won't damage sprinkler heads during application.

from going to the various states and asking for a 24C if we choose to re-open that door," says Dr. Douglas Houseworth, Ciba's manager of technical support. Injecting the insecticide on test plots several years ago gave excellent white grub control at less than label rates, he points out.

While some insecticides are already labeled for slit applications for mole crickets, others apparently still need label revisions to allow subsurface applications. Turfgrass managers, of course, must follow label directions.

While some insecticides are already labeled for slit applications for mole crickets, others apparently still need label revisions to allow subsurface applications. Turfgrass managers, of course, must follow label directions.

The future—The continuing spread of mole crickets throughout the Southeast—from coastal North Carolina to Texas—will likely drive interest in slit or injection applications, believe

many Sunbelt turfgrass managers. Many golf courses there have the budget to contract for this service, or to buy their own units.

"My concern is that it's so easy with this technology to treat areas that don't need treating, making applications wall to wall rather than mapping," says Dr. Pat Cobb.

The use of slit or injector technology for grub control in the North is still being evaluated with cautious enthusiasm.

"We're making progress, but there are still some questions that must be addressed," says Massachusett's Vittum, who is putting out several test plots for grubs again in 1993.

-Ron Hall

For more information:

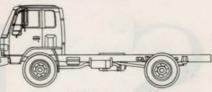
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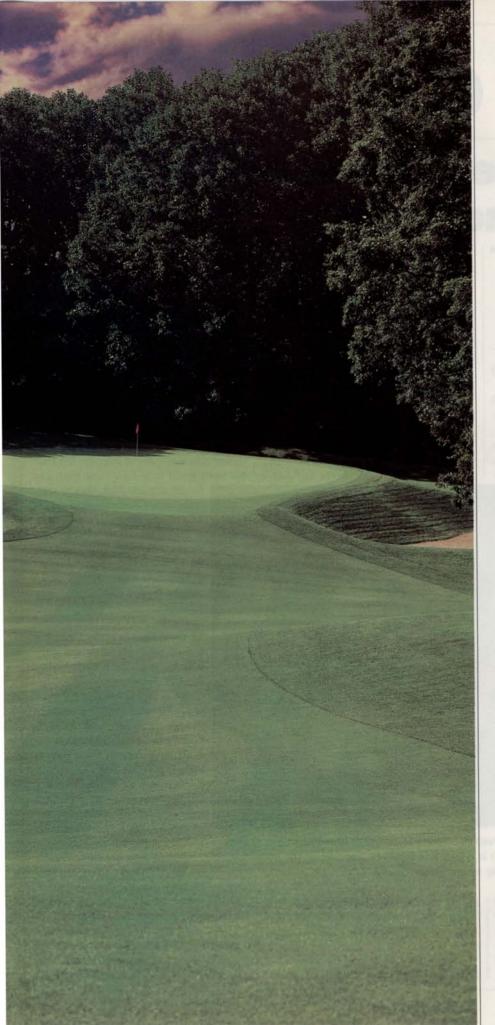
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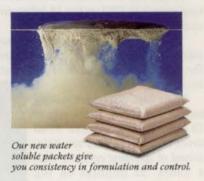


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■ There is no dawdling on the city golf courses in Overland Park, Kan.

Check out these numbers: 149,400 total rounds in 1992 on two 18-hole courses and a brand new nine-hole layout.

"My favorite days are when we get more than 400 people out," says Sandy Queen, Overland Park's manager of golf opera-

Those days, players are moving around the course at the rate of 18 holes every four hours. At all times of the year, they are guaranteed of spending no more than 4 hours, 32 minutes on the

"The number one problem of golf is slow play," Queen observes. Overland Park's courses are doing their best to alleviate that problem with their "Ready Golf Program," instituted three years ago by Queen.

Ready?-Here's how the program works:

Fivesomes tee off in eightminute intervals, with a 16minute gap every hour. Each fivesome has a "team captain" responsible for keeping the group moving. He gets a card from the starter that notes optimum times for ending each nine holes.

morning, around noon, and after-

noon. Fivesomes start on each of the two Overland Park nines and Westlinks. They rotate in unison for their second nine holes. "The timing on the wave gets critical," says August Lietzen, superintendent at the Overland Park course.

"We also experimented with 7- and 10minute starting times, but 8 worked the best," notes Queen.

Eighty-five volunteers, mostly seniors, make up a team of starters, tee managers and "play managers." They each work two six-hour shifts per week and get unlimited free golf play in return.

"We have an opportunity to provide an education for everyone playing the course. Tee managers take tickets, tell team captains about the speed of play, conditions and so on," Queen notes.

"The play manager has a responsibility to contact each group. He works the course, in a cart, in reverse and has a

Yes, Overland Park's Manager of Golf Operations (Sandy Golfers leave in what Queen Queen) is allowed to take his golf cart on the coursecalls "waves," three to a day: but only where green stakes allow.

pocket play manager (slide rule) that tells him where the group should be on every hole. He's also responsible for maintaining

Queen spent two days in 1988 visiting Marty Cavanaugh at a course in Franklin County, Ohio. Queen tailored his Ready Golf program after Cavanaugh's. "The program would work at any course, modified based on public demand," Queen contends.

Red (no) and green (yes) posts tell golfers when they can leave cart paths. Golfers are urged to adhere to the "90degree rule" (straight to ball at a 90-degree angle from cart path and return) when leaving paths.

Course set-up also has a tremendous impact on golfer pace, Queen notes.

"We can alter play pace," notes Lietzen, "by shortening holes and softening pin placement."

Wear and tear-All of this play, of course, has its effects on the turf.

"General wear and tear is our biggest problem," Queen notes. He says high-traffic areas are re-sodded every year. Each course also uses 5 lbs, of nitrogen fertilizer per year, about 1/4 to 1 lb. more than you

> might expect. And, Queen says, "players are really good in regard to repairing divots."

> The Overland Park and Westlinks courses have bluegrass fairways and Penncross bentgrass greens. St. Andrews has seven pushed-up-dirt greens planted in 1955 with Cohansy bentgrass and two new USGA-specified greens. All three courses suffer through a 6- to 8-week period in the summer during which turf quality declines.

Each course has five full-time and nine seasonal maintenance people. Lietzen and Russell Bonneville (Westlinks superintendent) have degrees from Kansas State University; Terry Rodenberg (St. Andrews superintendent) is a University of Missouri grad. Two more Kansas State graduates, one of whom holds a master's degree. are also employed.

"These guys are exceptionally talented," notes Queen. He says Lietzen is particularly inventive,

and Rodenberg adds that, "we're kind of like a support group for each other."

Year-round play the last three years has helped the course break attendance records. (Normal season is March 1 to November 1). Yet, since budgets are based

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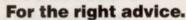






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Overland Park's 'support' group includes, left to right: St. Andrews superintendent Terry Rodenberg. Westlinks superintendent Russell Bonneville, manager of golf operations Sandy Queen, Overland Park assistant super Steve Olson and Overland Park superintendent August Lietzen.



on the previous year's attendance, Queen has had some extra money lately.

"This is a self-sustaining course operation that has to pay the city a 12 percent overhead," he says. "We budget very aggressively to make sure any extra funds stay in the golf department. I should never exceed my forecast."

The city's master plan includes \$6.5 million to improve golf facilities over the next 10 years.

-Jerry Roche

(For more information on 'Ready Golf.' contact Sandy Queen at (913) 897-3805.)

Keeping excess water off greens

Researchers at the IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center are finding out just how pesticides applied to a USGA green can leach into the groundwater.

For the past two years, they've been carefully monitoring pesticides on and under their own USGA-spec green, and the leachate which passes through it.

This isn't an idle exercise. Groundwater is used by 50 percent of the U.S. population (90 percent in rural areas) for its drinking water.

What the Florida researchers are discovering is both good news and bad news for golf course superintendents.

The good news-From one of the researchers, Dr. John Cisar:

For a pesticide to affect groundwater, it (or one of its metabolites) must make its way through the turfgrass. Turfgrass forms dense plant communities that contain up to 2,000 to 3,000 plants per square foot. Many turfgrasses produce thatch that's high in organic matter that can bind up pesticides.

"As a biological filter, turfgrass is second to no other plant material," says Cisar, associate professor of turfgrass management and water at the University of Florida.

The work at Fort Lauderdale confirms what other researchers have discoveredsome pesticides never get very far into the soil before they're broken down. They are subject to photo-decomposition at the soil surface, also by chemical decomposition or biological degradation in the soil.

Even so, once a chemical does leach below the rootzone, because of excess irrigation or rainfall, it's less likely to degrade. And if its journey is through sand, the likelihood of groundwater con-

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Dr. George Snyder discusses the fate of pesticides applied to this USGA-specification green during the Turf Field Day in Ft. Lauderdale.



Stainless steel containers filled with the same layers of materials as the green allow researchers to capture and measure leachate.

tamination increases.

Today's sand-based greens—usually containing about 20 percent by volume of organic matter and little or no clay—allow, in some instances, pesticides (or their metabolites) to percolate to the groundwater. That's the case at the research green in southeast Florida where the groundwater is just five feet below turf which is maintained identically to a course there (without the play, of course).

"You have a system that's actually geared toward, and possibly favoring, moving pesticides off site," says Cisar.

The bad news—The researchers determined that there is risk of contaminating groundwater, particularly if a green is irrigated excessively. They discovered this by collecting leachate from large, stainless steel containers buried under the research green.

For instance, they found metabolites of the nematicide fenamiphos in the leachate a few days after an initial application of the material during their first study in November 1991. The parent compound is strongly absorbed by organic matter, but the metabolites (also active against nematodes) are less strongly absorbed and more leachable.

"If you are going to be using Nemacur (fenamiphos), really be careful about excess irrigation, especially after a first-time application," says Cisar. "If you irrigate excessively, you're going to lose some of the pesticide and you may not get the nematicidal activity that you want."

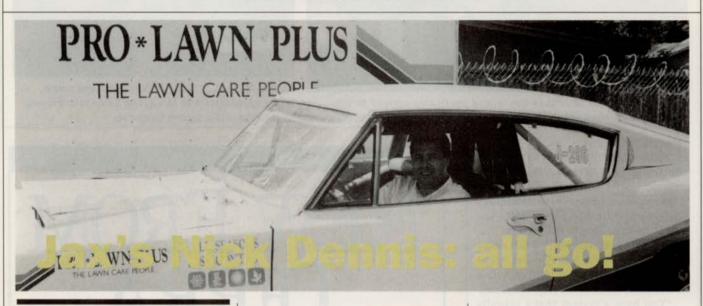
During the second test in January 1992 there was a substantial drop in the amount of chemical found in the leachate, says Cisar. He attributes this to decreased perculation and to enhanced degradation of the pesticide by microbes.

The research project is receiving strong backing from the USGA, the Florida Turfgrass Association and the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

-Ron Hall



LAWN GARE



Incoming FTGA president on fast track with lawn care business and automobile racing.

 Drag racers call the metal pole with its row of colored lights "the Christmas Tree."

It signals the start of each race. It flashes yellow, yellow, green! Reflexes uncoil like a great spring. Hands grip the wheel. The right foot slams down so hard on the accelerator it's a wonder it doesn't burst through the firewall. Headers belch so loudly as to split your skull. The driver launches his car and, in less than 10 seconds, rockets past and triggers an invisible timing beam.

"Stress relief," says Nick Dennis, weekend driver and car sponsor, and full-time family man and lawn care pro, as he describes his involvement with drag racing-"But it's really not.

"Racing is perfect for you, a friend told me," says Nick. "He said. 'You're the most impulsive person I've ever met. If you don't like something, you'll tear it apart and rebuild it because you love to experiment."

partner and former college roommate (U. of Georgia) Mike Feely. You'll recognize Mike immediately. He's the calm one. "I'm always in everybody's face," admits Dennis.

Nick Dennis started his lawn care business almost 14 years ago after visiting Atlanta and noticing, really noticing, ChemLawn trucks for the first time. "I started snooping around, looking at their trucks, talking to their people," he recalls.

east Florida.

Nick Dennis operates Pro Pro Lawn Plus crew with production leader Mike Feely. Lawn Plus, Jacksonville, Fla., with rear center, and Nick Dennis, kneeling.

Within a few months, he'd told his wife that he was quitting his pest control job and starting his own lawn care company in Jacksonville. She urged him to go for it.

Nick's timing turned out to be pretty good. He caught the industry moving up.

Florida home owners, long used to professional insect control in their homes and in their yards, also started to realize their lawns could be even nicer with regular fer-

> tilization and weed service. Adding to the demand was the steady stream of retirees, Yankees from the North buying homes in Florida and wanting nice lawns

> Nick, however, believes the industry's heyday is over in north-

> He points to severe price cutting in his market as proof. Also, the ever-growing amount of lawn care regulation.

> "As an industry, we've brought a lot of this scrutiny on ourselves by sloppy work and sloppy marketing," says Dennis, "by hiring warm bodies and throwing them out there and saving they're trained when they're not trained."

> He says lawn care business owners now must be more responsible and responsive to customers if they want to survive.

To be profitable and have their companies grow, their service



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'The mentality that it's a fastbuck industry, that it's an easy mark for money-that really bugs the hell out of me.'



what needs to be done. Give me some guidelines and leave me alone. Don't ask me how I'm going to do it. Just let me do it.'

'Just show me



'Price cutting is a big threat to the industry. It's like telling homeowners that we're going to sell them a new Lincoln at a Geo price.'



quality and/or delivery, must be markedly better or different from competitors.

"The only way we (Pro Lawn Plus) can hope to out-distance ourselves from everybody else in the marketplace is to be different from the others, more flexible than everybody else," says Dennis, who says his company grew by 7 percent during 1992.

That's one reason why Dennis is so involved in the Florida Turfgrass Association, regularly making the 2-hourplus drive to Orlando while working on various committees. In September he becomes the first lawn care business owner ever to serve as FTGA's president.

"Being involved with the association has allowed us to keep a sharp eve on all the turfgrass research taking place in Florida," says Dennis. "We know all the latest on nematodes and mole crickets. We know about the updates on the herbicides. the hybrid grasses as they're being developed.

"A lot of this is information we can use on our customers' lawns. Sometimes it's information they should know, and we can

Pro Lawn Plus is using Isuzu trucks this season with 600 gallon main, 100 gallon drop tanks.

pass it on in the newsletter we leave with each service round."

Dennis admits his schedule is just about as full as it can get.

"I like what I do, but when I get tired of it, I have other things, other diversions. Maybe that's how I keep such a strong interest in this business. When the men and women come here every morning, they see that I'm still excited about what we're doing," says Dennis.

"I guess I look at this as kind of like a NASCAR race team, and I'm the car owner. The sales guys are out there getting us sponsors when they sign up customers. The people in the office, they're the pit crew. Our drivers are the men on our trucks. Would I put an unskilled. untrained driver in a car that goes 120 mph? No, I'm not going to put an unskilled, untrained applicator in my trucks either.

"This is a very intense race, but we're going to win the race. We're going to win a lot of races," says Dennis.

-Ron Hall

1993 a big, big year for Florida turf

■ This promises to be a milestone year for the 41-year-old Florida Turfgrass Association (FTGA).

Sometime this summer or early fallperhaps in time for the FTGA Conference and Trade Show Sept. 25-30 in Tampathe 1,000-member associa-

tion will heln:

unveil the first Florida Turfgrass Survey since 1974. It promises to have some eyeopening numbers. There were only about 400 golf courses in the state in 1974 and an estimated 1200 (and still counting) in 1993.

dedicate a state of the art turfgrass research facility at the University of Florida. Gainesville, the Envirotron. Bob Yount: FTGA The Envirotron was funded membership is diverse by private support from the and growing fast. FTGA and by matching funds

contributed by the state. It has been under construction since March 11, 1992.

completion.

asking how big turfgrass is in the state, and now we're going to be able to tell them," says Yount. "This will be extremely important as the state continues to deal with issues like water."

Also, by surveying and categorizing the industry, suppliers can more accurately and comprehensively match their products with the markets, says Yount.

> The Envirotron, being built on the U. of Florida campus, will consist of a research laboratory, a greenhouse, a study/living area and a rhizotron-a glass-walled laboratory which allows researchers to study roots and soil.

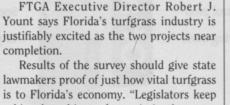
> "Turfgrass is so important to Florida that we have to continue to recruit excellent students," says Yount. "It's almost like recruiting a top quarterback. And we think the Envirotron will help the

University of Florida get top-flight students."

In an unrelated matter, Yount reports that its Turfgrass Friends coloring and activity book has been a big hit with youngsters. The FTGA had distributed almost 15,000 by the beginning of sum-

For more information: FTGA, 302 S. Graham Ave., Orlando, FL 32803-6399; (407) 898-6721.

-Ron Hall



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Management's responsibility: support service people

■ Your technicans have the most contact with customers, right?

Do they get just enough pay, encouragement, and/or support to get them through another day?

Do they really matter to your firm?

Are they *only* the technicians? Are they *only* the people who deliver service to your customers?

Second in a series on Zemke and 'service.'

"We've got to come to grips with what we pay people in front-line service jobs," says nationally known business consultant Ron Zemke. The operators of service businesses will have less and less choice anyway, says Zemke, because the number of eligible and trainable people looking for entry-level service jobs is shrinking.

Zemke directed a three-day ALCA Executive Forum this past February, and a big part of its message was that responsible, effective front-line people are the soul



Zemke: A manager's role is to support the service providers.

of any successful service company. About 250 lawn/landscape business owners took part in the Forum.

Zemke says some service delivery operations never rise from mediocrity because their management is like a pyramid and

rigid. These op-erations foster the perception that the only way for employees to advance their careers is to become managers, to concentrate more on the organization's operation as they retreat further and further away from customer concerns.

This is dangerous thinking. The function of managers, in fact everybody in a service organization, should always be focused on customers. Or, says Zemke, in serving the people who serve customers.

A manager's role is, in many respects, a servant's role, he believes—supporting service personnel, running interference, creating an atmosphere of understanding and trust and support.

"You have to have people at the front line who are comfortable with the idea that they have some control, and that you support their effort," says Zemke.

Back to the issue of technician pay.

Do high-quality service delivery organizations always pay their service people more than competitors? Not necessarily.

"Sometimes people are willing to trade off higher pay off for long-term employment and security," he adds. Other organizations reward competent people by giving them increasingly more responsibility and/or job variety. Don't be afraid to be creative when it comes to compensation.

More info is available from: Ron Zemke, Performance Research Associates, Inc., 821 Marquette Ave., Suite 1820, Minneapolis, MN; (612) 338-8523.

-Ron Hall



Some tools require a lot of time and manpower ...

GMAW picks two for top honors

Instead of a single "Person of the Year," why not two?

That's what the Grounds Management Association of Wisconsin (GMAW) members decided when they voted both Joe Bilskemper, LaCrosse, and Terry Kurth, Barefoot Grass, the honor.

Bilskemper, representing Lawn Care Specialist Inc., is a 1976 graduate of Viterbo College. He serves on four LaCrosse Chamber of Commerce committees. Kurth, a 1974 graduate of the University of Wisconsin, operates Barefoot Grass of Madison. He's GMAW's president and the past president of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association.

Both green industry professionals served on the Ad Hoc Committee for the revised AG-29 rules, attended PLCAA's 1992 Day on the Hill, and also testified to defeat the Louis Forest Lawncare Bill AB-468 in Wisconsin.

The men were honored during the Wisconsin annual conference at Chula Vista Resort in the Wisconsin Dells.



Winners Terry Kurth. left, and Joe Bilskemper surround PLCAA board member Lou Wierichs.

Partners now in NH

■ Partners Quality Lawn Service, Inc., based in Easton, Mass., opened a new branch in Londonderry, New Hampshire.

Earlier this year, Partners purchased the customer base of Orkin Lawn Care's consolidated offices in Billerica and Marboro, both in Massachusetts.

Partners' President Dick Ficco, said plans had already been under way during 1992 to expand into markets north of Boston prior to acquiring Orkin's accounts.

Partners was formed in 1987. Ficco is a board member of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America.

Correction

An error was made in the article about Nutrilawn International.

The article stated that Nutrilawn has 50,000 customers in Winnipeg, Canada when, in fact, those customers are nationwide. It also states that franchisees need at least 30 customers to make a franchise viable. The correct number is 300.



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Are answers needed to sports field questions?

Little data exists to justify or support a cost/benefit rationale for reconstruction or renovation.

OLATHE, Kan.—According to Stephen McWilliams, president and CEO of Turf Diagnostics & Design here, numerous questions remain about defining athletic field costs, benefits and performance. In a letter to LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, McWilliams writes:

"Dr. (Henry) Indyk didn't reveal the most critical piece of information that begs the question in his article ('Renovation or reconstruction?') in the April issue of Landscape Management: How much stress is too much stress for a native field?

"Native soil athletic field research data on the ability of sports fields to handle the day-to-day levels of stress is relatively nonexistent. Until we determine this information, 'renovation or reconstruction?' is guesswork.

"Dr. Indyk cites drainage as the single most important factor in the failure of a sports field. I couldn't agree more.

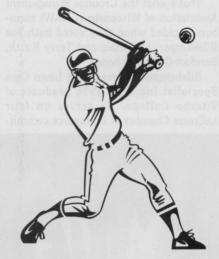
"Unfortunately, the cost of installing effective types of drainage systems in a native soil athletic field is approximately \$50,000 to \$70,000. The cost of sodding an athletic field is approximately \$10,000 to \$20,000, depending on sod quality. The price could approach \$100,000 to renovate one sports field with no realistic idea of what the long-term performance characteristics will be, or the cost to operate the field.

"The industry needs to know the performance expectations of a variety of sports fields under different stress conditions. What are the internal drainage characteristics of a good native soil field with good performance? What is the percolation rate for different types of native soils, compacted and uncompacted?

"The percolation rate for a compacted native soil field can be as low as 0.01 inches per hour. Is a \$50,000 to \$70,000 drainage system an effective solution to a soggy sports field, when it could take 12 days for the water to reach the system?

"What is the relationship between field grade and soil matrix performance, with or without supplemental drainage systems? What are the moisture retention properties of native soils? How do we determine the impact of stress at various soil moisture levels? How much maintenance expenditure is needed to protect the facility's investment in the field?

"We have very little data to justify or support a cost/benefit/performance rationale for reconstruction or renovation. We continue to put bandages on a problem which is rapidly heading toward resolution



in the courtroom.

"Of one thing I am certain: the legal community would be happy to hold our collective hands at about \$100-\$200 an hour for sports field injury litigation.

"With the various associations—Sports Turf Managers Association, National Youth Sports Foundation for the Prevention of Athletic Injuries, National Youth Sports Coaches Association, National Federation of High School Athletic Associations—there is no lack of talented people available to solve the problem and move toward meeting the common goal: making sports fields as safe as possible."

OSU working on turfgrass that withstands drought

COLUMBUS, **Ohio**—In dry years, it takes more than 4,500 gallons of water each week to keep an average home lawn green and growing.

That's only an inch of water over a 50-by 150-foot lawn. But it's still too much, water conservationists say, especially during drought years.

So researchers at Ohio State University are teaming up to develop drought-toler-

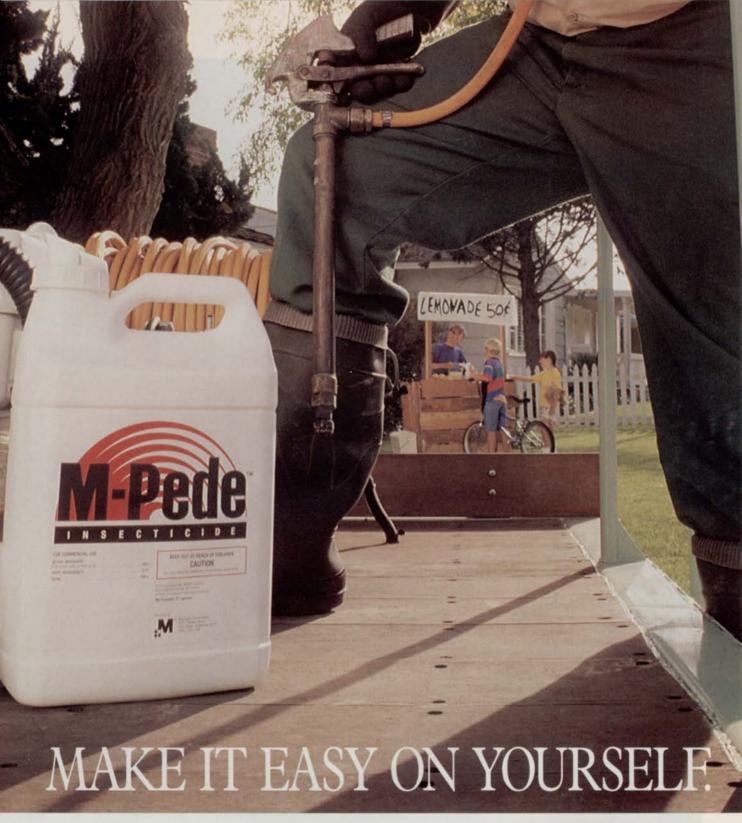
ant turfgrass using the most current biotechnology.

"Everybody's looking for a high-quality turfgrass that requires less maintenance," says OSU's Dr. Karl Danneberger. "Especially water—there are some areas of the nation that can only use non-potable water on their grass. This project is really opening doors to allow us to reduce inputs

continued on page 54

ELSEWHERE

House, EPA hear industry, page 54 Residential landscaping up, page 56 New group eyes members, page 58 Info-Center, month's events, page 58



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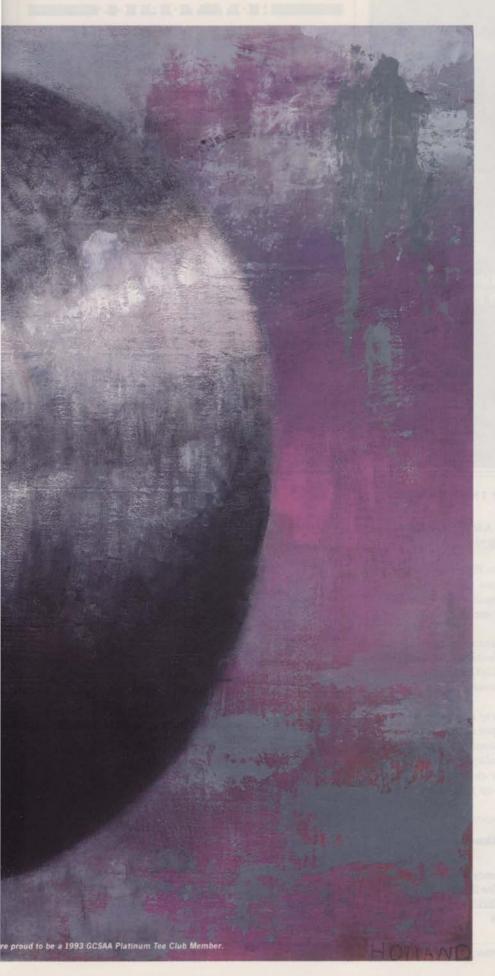


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Coverage is provided by Lloyd's of London and is subject to a \$2,500. deductible per accident. This program will not replace your automobile insurance—it will fill a void in your current policy. Consult your Agent or Broker to verify that your current policy does not provide pollution clean-up protection.

For further details contact:

Richard P. Bersnak, Jeanne Bartkus, or Dan Remley

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OSU from page 50 on turf."

Danneberger is cooperating with OSU's Biotechnology Center, which has isolated a gene that helps plants jumpstart the production of proline, a common amino acid associated with drought tolerance in many plants.

"Proline helps to hold a lot of water," says Dr. Desh Pal Verma, a professor of molecular genetics. "It prevents damage in the cell, so the cell remains alive during drought."

Biotechnologist John Finer is ready to bombard creeping bentgrass tissue with the drought-tolerance gene, and will soon begin work with several varieties of bluegrass.

The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation, Sam Stimmel president, has granted OSU \$100,000 to fund the drought tolerance project, which was to begin April 1st.

Danneberger: **Turfgrass** that's low-maintenance is the goal.



"The technology that comes out of this," notes Stimmel, "could lead to other things (like) developing pestresistant varieties, and helping the plant make better use of nitrogen so we need less fertilizer."

Already, researchers who make up OSU's newly-formed Turfgrass Biotechnology Consortium-12 researchers from five departments-are looking at other possibilities.

"This is leading-edge technology," Stimmel says. "There's not another group doing this in the country, on turfgrass."

'We need the tools,' House, EPA are told

WASHINGTON-"Pesticides involve risk. Life itself involves risk," said U.S. Rep. Robert F. Smith (R-Ore.). "It's not pesticides that present the risk but improper use of those pesticides."

Rep. Smith's observation capped a "Specialty Pesticide Federal Symposium" here April 29. Rep. Smith is the ranking Republican on the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Department Operations and Nutrition. More than 30 U.S. congressional aides, members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Agriculture, attended.

Dr. Joseph Neal of Cornell Univer-sity pointed out that:

- Gardening is America's No. 1 leisure activity.
- 20 million acres are in home lawns and landscapes.
- 56 million Americans maintain their own lawns.

- 500,000 people make their living from turf care.
- Ornamental crops, including sod, nursery and greenhouse products, represented 10 percent of farmgate wholesale value in 1987.

"Cultural practices, such as mowing, cultivars, fertilization and irrigation are essential parts of the equation," said Neal, "but we also need the tools, the pesticides to get rid of the pests."

Others speaking on behalf of the green industry and its need for specialty chemicals: Tom Tri, environmental project manager for St. Louis, Minn.; Dr. Maxwell McCormack, Jr., U. of Maine Cooperative Forestry Re-search Unit; Bob Andrews, president of The Greenskeeper Inc., Carmel, Ind.; and Dr. Kirk Hurto, director of technical services for TruGreen-ChemLawn.

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Kansas City, MO 64120. (800) 842-8020.

EXPECTED CHANGE, 1992 to 1993

Region	Overall	New Res.	New Comm.	Res. Ren.	Comm. Ren.	Res. Maint.	Comm. Maint.
Northeast	+14.6%	+13.7%	+4.9%	+12.5%	+4.4%	+12.0%	+15.0%
Southeast	+9.4%	+8.8%	+6.8%	+2.9%	+3.3%	+5.0%	+4.8%
Great Lakes	+9.3%	+10.9%	+0.6%	+0.9%	-1.7%	+6.5%	+8.3%
Great Plains	+10./3%	+10.1%	+5.6%	+6.0%	+2.9%	+3.8%	+5.0%
Survey Avg.	+11.6%	+11.5%	+2.9%	+8.9%	+1.4%	+6.7%	+8.8%

ACTUAL CHANGE 1991 to 1992

ACTUAL CHANGE, 1001 to 1002							
Region	Overall	New Res.	New Comm.	Res. Ren.	Comm. Ren.	Res. Maint.	Comm. Maint.
Northeast	+5.6%	-11.7%	-19.3%	+5.2%	-5.3%	+13.1%	+13.6%
Southeast	+4.4%	-10.2%	-2.4%	-5.0%	+1.7%	-3.3%	+5.0%
Great Lakes	+6.0%	+5.8%	-7.7%	+6.1%	-4.0%	-1.1%	-3.7%
Great Plains	+16.1%	+12.4%	+9.0%	+15.0%	+2.8%	+7.0%	+6.2%
Survey Avg.	+7.0%	0.0%	-5.6%	+6.6%	-1.8%	+2.2%	+3.2%

Source: National Landscape Association

New residential business expected to grow by 11.5%

WASHINGTON-New residential installation is the hot ticket in the landscape maintenance market, according to members of the National Landscape Association.

NLA members, in this spring's annual survey, predicted a sales increase of 11.5% this year. Residential renovations are predicted to be up 8.9% and commercial maintenance up 8.8%.

The toughest market this year, NLA members believe, will be commercial renovation, predicted to grow just 1.4%.

Overall, NLA members expect sales in their industry to grow 11.6% over 1992 figures. Last year, they predicted an increase of 8% over 1991, but business actually grew just 7%.

The recently-depressed Northeast predicted the largest overall increases this year, 14%, followed by the Great Plains (10.3%), the Southeast (9.4%) and the Great Lakes (9.3%).

(Complete chart above.)

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AFMS seeking new members

SILVER SPRING, Md.—The American Floral Meadow Society is a new professional society formed for the development and improvement of wildflower-grass groundcover plantings for ornamental and low-maintenance uses.

Members of the organization conduct research into selection of wildflower and grass species, formulation of mixes, establishment methods and maintenance.

For a limited time, memberships are \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations. For more information contact: AFMS, c/o John Krouse, University of Maryland Dept. of Agronomy, Turf Research and Education Facility, 3120 Gracefield Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20904.

USGA considers 'Record' reprint

CHELSEA, Mich.—Would you like to see the past 15 volumes of the United States Golf Association's "Green Section Record" reprinted in a 7-volume hardcover format?

The USGA, in cooperation with Lewis Publishers here, is examining the interest in such a project. The set will contain all articles exactly as they appeared previously, including a cumulative index released by the USGA at the end of 1991.

The set, if there is enough demand, will be available for approximately \$350. It will have more than 2,000 pages.

If interested in purchasing this item, please contact Kathy Paparelli at the USGA: P.O. Box 708, Far Hills, NJ 07931; (908) 234-2300.

INFO

Useful literature and videos for LM readers

ENVIRO-FIBBERS...Global warming an invention? Ozone depletion untrue? Is the spotted owl in reality far from extinction? The answers to these and other questions about the environment are found in Dixy Lee Ray's new book, "Environmental Overkill; Whatever Happened to Common Sense?" Cost is \$19.95. Contact: Regnery Gateway, 1130 17th St. NW, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 457-0978.

CONCRETE PAVERS...The Concrete Paver Institute publishes a basic guide to interlocking concrete pavements. The three-ring guide is in four sections: Basic Skills; Managing a Job and Job Site; Advanced Job Situations; Advanced Product Knowledge. Contact: Concrete Paver Institute, 2302 Horse Pen Rd., Herndon, VA 22071-3406; (703) 713-1900.

MOUNTAIN PLANTS... "Flora of West Virginia" presents descriptions, illustrations, geographical data and other information on about 2,200 species found growing without cultivation in West Virginia and throughout the Appalachian and surrounding region. The book costs \$40. Contact: Contact: Seneca Books, Rt. 6, Box 81-B, Morgantown, WV, 26505; (304) 594-1324.

MEMBER DIRECTORY...A directory of the nation's leading grounds professionals is available from the Professional Grounds

Management Society. It is free to members, \$38 for non-members. Contact or send check or money order to the Professional Grounds Management Society, 120 Cockeysville Rd., Suite 104, Hunt Valley, MD 21031; (410) 584-9754.

GITY SLICKERS... "Urban Trees: A Guide for Selection, Maintenance, and Master Planning" by Leonard E. Phillips, Jr., presents detailed guidelines on everything from cataloging and maintaining existing trees to selecting the right trees for future planting. How to use new computerization methods to take a street tree inventory; how to choose trees to fit a specific climate and site; how to implement a high-power, cost-saving maintenance program; and how to work within the scope of the policies, laws and regulations that govern city streets and parks. Contact: McGraw-Hill, (800) 262-4729.

TOOLIN' AROUND...Retailers of Husqvarna equipment might like the company's new video series on product set-up to sales training. The nine videos cover a variety of subjects and benefits relative to Husqvarna equipment. Theyinclude information on safety, dealer support programs, customer service training, and business advice. Contact: Husqvarna Forest & Garden Co., 9006 J Perimeter Woods Dr. Charlotte, NC 28216; (704) 597-5000.

JUNE

11: Iowa Sports Turf Workshop, Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa. Contact: Gary Peterson, (515) 791-0765.

15: Nebraska Turfgrass Field Day and Equipment Show, John Seaton Anderson Turfgrass Research Facility, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Dr. Roch Gaussoin, (402) 472-8619.

16: Lofts Seed Annual Field Day, Lofts Seed Research Farm, Martinsville, N.J. Contact: Cindy Kinnette, (908) 560-1590; outside N.J., (800) 526-3890.

16: Chesapeake Chapter/Sports Turf Managers Association "Softball Field Renovations," Meadows Park, Chevy Chase, Md. Contact: Tim Moore, (301) 650-2631, or Art Downing, (410) 313-7254.

17-18: Park & Recreation Design Symposium, Little Rock, Ark. Contact: National Institute on Park and Grounds Maintenance, (414) 733-2301.

22: "Diagnosing Landscape Disorders," Riverside, Calif. Contact: HEOF, UC Seminar

EVENTS

Coordinator, (602) 684-7308.

22: "Estimating & Managing Principles," Phoenix, Ariz., with Charles vander Kooi. Contact: Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association, (602) 956-4252.

26: Park Seed Flower Day, Greenwood, S.C. Contact: Karen Jennings, (800) 845-3369.

30: National Midwest Regional Sports Turf Institute Trade Show, Wheaton (Ill.) College. Contact: Mike Trigg, (708) 360-4750.

JULY

13-14: "Bulbs for All Seasons" Short Course, Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center. Contact: Michael Masiuk, (412) 392-8540.

14-16: American Sod Producer's Association Summer Convention and Field

Days, Nashville, Tenn. Contact the ASPA at 1855-A Hicks Rd., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; (708) 705-9898.

14: VPI-SU Nursery Field Day, Hampton Roads Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Beach, Va. Contact: Hampton Roads Station, (804) 363-3900.

14-15: MAPPA-PGMS Grounds Management Conference, Oxford, Ohio. Contact: George Persinger, Miami University, (513) 529-6786.

15: Southern Illinois Nurseryman's Association Field Day and Trade Show, Dintelmann Nursery, Belleville, Ill. Contact: Dintelmann Nursery, (618) 233-4638.

15-16: ASPA Summer Convention and Field Days, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, Tenn. Contact: American Sod Producers Association, (708) 705-9898.

18-20: Mid-Atlantic Nurserymen's Trade Show, Baltimore Convention Center. Send \$8 pre-registration to MANTS, P.O. Box 314, Perry Hall, MD 21128.

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Your golfers want to play on healthy greens, tees and fairways. So if they run across Dollar spot, they'll probably end up running you down.

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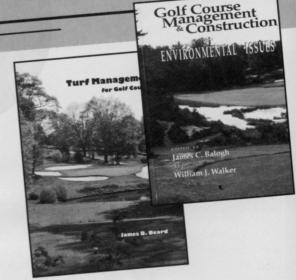


Golf Course Management and Construction: Environmental Issues

edited by James C. Balogh, Ph.D., William J. Walker, Ph.D. For turfgrass specialists, landscape and golf course architects, developers, superintendents and land-use regulators, this volume summarizes and assesses environmental effects of turfgrass system construction and maintenance. Covers water resources, fertilization, pesticides, integrated management systems, wildlife, wetlands, aquatic and terrestrial toxicity tables. 976pp. BK-617-\$65.00

Turf Management for Golf Courses by James Beard

Written by the eminent turfgrass researcher, this USGA sponsored text is an ideal reference and "how to" guide for your bookshelf. This comprehensive guide details all phases of golf course operations including course design and construction, turf management, course administration, irrigation, equipment, and disease and pest control. 642pp. BK-615–\$74.00





uri

Turf Managers' Handbook by Daniel and Freeborg

2nd. ed. Totally revised and updated, this valuable and practical guide targets the turf practitioner. Chapters on grasses, growth regulators and diseases have had extensive modifications. Innovations resulting from research and practice have been added to reflect the current techniques available for turf manager. 437pp. BK-110-\$39.95

controlling Turfgrass Pests by Shurtleff, Fermanian, Randell New comprehensive guide provides the most up-to-the-minute information available on the identification, biology, control and management of every type of turfgrass pest. 449pp. BK-220–\$56.95

Turf Management Handbook by Howard Sprague

This is a practical guide to turf care under both healthy and poor turf conditions. Chapters cover turf in cooler and warmer regions, fertilizer use, regular turf care, weed and disease control, and special turf problems. Useful seasonal schedules for management of turf areas. 255pp. BK-620– \$26.60

Landscape Management's Pocket Seed Guide You'll refer to this handy guide again and again. It provides sections on why seed?, overseeding, Florida study, adaptability and disease susceptibility. Section 2 covers the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program results about perennial rye grass, Kentucky blue, Bentgrass, and Fineleaf fescues. Quick supplier listing included. 36pp. BK-655-\$10.00

TURFGRASS SCIENCE AND CULTURE

JAMES B. BEARD

Turfgrass: Science and Culture by James Beard

This is the comprehensive basic text and reference source used in many leading university turf programs. It includes findings of current research compiled from more than 12,000 sources. 658pp. BK-630–\$62.95

Turf Irrigation Manual by James Watkins

The perfect guidebook for engineers, architects, designers and contractors. Keeps pace with the latest developments in turf and landscape irrigation. Specific chapters deal with rotary sprinkler design systems, golf course design systems, and expanded engineering and reference materials. 364pp. BK-640-\$32.95

Turf

2nd. ed. For every professional who makes decisions about the selection, proper use, storage, and handling 1993 Turf and Ornamental Chemicals Reference of chemical products. Provides fast access to new developments. Includes complete product label and information organized by manufacturer, tabbed for quick reference, indexed six different ways, by brand name, manufacturer, product category, common name, plant and site use, pest use. Complete product Material Safety Data Sheets alphabetized by company and brand name, HazCom, SARA and OSHA regulations, table of DOT shipping information, storage requirements, application/record keeping chart. 930pp. BK-645–\$110.00

compendium of Turfgrass Diseases by Dr. Richard Smiley, Peter Dernoeden, Bruce Clarke

2nd. ed. Contains important new information on biological disease control, root-infecting fungi that cause patch disease, diseases, disorders, and causal agents. Over 60 color photos for easy disease identification. Covers abiotic agents of noninfectious diseases, foliar and/or root diseases, disease diagnosis and control strategy. 128pp. BK-650-\$30.00

The Most Effective and Economical Training For New and Current Staff:

See how an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program for turf increases pest control, cuts costs, reduces use of pesticides and protects health of the environment. Learn how to effectively monitor weeds, insects, diseases, then use habitat modification, horticulture, physical/mechanical, biological and least-toxic chemical IPM in Turf (VHS Video) controls. Thorough, interesting, practical. Sell your clients on the IPM concept. Help your turf business prosper. VD-100E-\$89.95

A good turf specialist needs a good education and varied practical experience. This video shows all required Professional Turf Management (VHS Video) in the maintenance of turfgrasses. Starts with how grasses grow and looks at what a site assessment determines. Learn: common types , mowing, irrigation, soil fertility, fertilization, cultural practices, weed/insect/disease/pest control. VD-101E-\$89.95

Turf & Ornamental Chemicals Reference



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021935P2

SHOWEASE

Fungicide combo controls summer disease complex

A new fungicide tank-mix combination can effectively prevent and control turfgrass summer stress complex and prevent subsequent decline in turf quality, according to Rhone-Poulenc.

Chipco Aliette WDG fosetyl-al fungicide and Fore WP mancozeb fungicide are the control products. University research shows crown and root rot diseases caused by pythium and rhizoctonia can be controlled. The combination fungicides are used every two weeks from mid-June through September: 4 oz. of Chipco Aliette WDG plus 8 oz. of Fore WP per 1,000 sq.ft. Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card

New fungicide controls at extremely low rates

Grace-Sierra has just released Algaen-X turf algaecide and fungicide for use in golf, commercial and residential turfgrass.

Grace-Sierra says this new product can control algae at application rates of 1.6 oz. per 1000 sq. ft., and may be safely used on bentgrasses, bluegrasses, bermudagrasses, fescues, ryegrasses, St. Augustinegrasses or their mixtures as well as dicondra.

Circle No. 192 on Reader Inquiry Card

Fungicide combines contact and systemic

Lesco's Touche Flowable Fungicide delivers 14- to 28-day preventive and curative control of dollar spot, leaf spot, brown patch and red thread on turfgrass. It is also effective for pink and gray snow mold control.

A flowable forumulation, each gallon of Touche contains 4.17 pounds of active ingredient, for reduced handling and easier storage and disposal.

Circle No. 193 on Reader Inquiry Card

Fungicide treatment attacks six turf diseases

Fungicide IX, from O.M. Scott & Sons, is designed to control six common turfgrass disease, including Pythium blight and dollar spot on golf course fairways,

Broad spectrum fungicide effective at 1-2 oz. rates, with long residual

Banner systemic fungicide from Ciba-Geigy controls 12 different turf diseases, including dollar spot, brown patch, red thread, anthracnose, rust and summer patch.

Banner is concentrated to be effective at rates of 1 to 2 oz. per 1000 sq. ft. Its long-lasting residual means less frequent applications, and less wear on turf and equipment.

Banner is now available in Ciba-Geigy's new 15-gallon Turf-Pak dispensing system.

Circle No. 194 on Reader Inquiry Card

tees, putting greens and related professional turf areas.

According to Scotts, Fungicide IX, when used in rotation with its Proturf Pythium Control or Fungicide VII, is effective against resistant strains of those diseases. Fungicide IX also helps prevent or control gray and pink snow mold, brown patch and copper spot.

Circle No. 195 on Reader Inquiry Card

Dry flowable works on turf disease prevention

Thalonil 90DF from Terra International, Inc., is a dry flowable fungicide for broad spectrum ornamental plant diseases. As a dry flowable, the product gives the control of a liquid in an easy to handle formulation.

In case of accidental spills, the dry granules can be swept up with a broom and will not soak into clothes or skin.

Thalonil can be used as a preventive or as a curative.

Continued use at recommended rates and intervals will maintain disease control, lower the risk of disease damage and maintain healthy grass and plants.

Circle No. 196 on Reader Inquiry Card

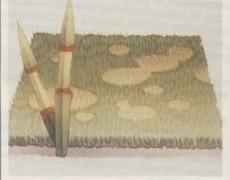
Broad-spectrum product for look-alike diseases

Rubingan A.S. broad spectrum fungicide from DowElanco is a local systemic sprayable product that prevents and treats 14 common fungal disease on golf course fairways, greens and tees, parkes, athletic fields, and commercial and residential areas.

Rubigan A.S. also controls Poa annua

on intensively maintained stands of perennial turfgrasses such as overseeded bermudagrass greens and tees.

Ranner



DowElanco

For dollar spot control, one low-rate application offers 14 to 28 days curative control for about 10 cents per 1000 sq. ft. per day.

Circle No. 197 on Reader Inquiry Card

Broad-spectrum fungicide controls eight diseases

Curalan fungicide, from BASF, controls eight turfgrass diseases, including dollar spot, brown patch, leaf spot, pink and grey snow mold, Fusarium patch and red thread.

Curalan offers the option of preventive or curative treatments by adjusting the application rate.

Labeled for all turf grasses, and many ornamentals, Curalan is available in liquid flowable or dry flowable formulations.

Curalan may also be used in rotation with other fungicides for optimum disease control.

Circle No. 198 on Reader Inquiry Card

TREES & SHRUBS

Care of Shrubs:

Diseases and Pests of Ornamental Plants by Pascal Pirone

5th ed. Standard reference discusses diagnosis and treatment of diseases and organisms afflicting 500 genera of ornamental plants. Reflects current national and state laws and new diseases with photos and illustrations. Indicates approaches by symptom and cause. 566pp. BK-410-\$58.00

Diseases of Trees and Shrubs

by Wayne Sinclair, Howard Lyon, Warren Johnson

Comprehensive pictorial survey of diseases of and environmental damage to forest and shade trees and woody ornamental plants in the U.S. and Canada. Important developments in fungal biology and taxonomy, plant bacteriology, virology, and environmentally induced stress in plants are covered. Newly discovered diseases and accounts of old diseases summarized. 575pp. BK-430-\$52.50

Insects that Feed on Trees and Shrubs

bu Warren Johnson and Howard Luon

Essential information you need for identifying more than 650 insect pests and the injuries they cause on trees and shrubs. Over 200 color illustrations aid identification. BK-690-\$52.50

Ornamental Foliage Plant Diseases by A. S. Chase

Essential reading for the interiorscape industry. Includes: fungal diseases; diseases caused by Helminthosporium-like organisms, Phytophthora, Pythium, and Xanthomonas; bacterial, viral and nematode diseases. Plus, an extensive glossary and index for quick identification. 114 p. BK-415-\$30.00

Elements of Pruning (VHS Video)

A knowledge of proper pruning procedures is a vital skill for gardeners. Find proven techniques clearly presented in this popular videotape for beginners: when and why to prune, basic principles of plant growth, pruning tools, types of pruning cuts, applications of pruning techniques to ornamental trees, hedges, roses, conifers, flowering shrubs, rhododendrons. 26 min. English - VD-755E, Spanish - VD-755S-\$89.95

Tree Maintenance by Pascal Pirone

The care and treatment of trees including special sections on abnormalities, diagnosing tree troubles, non-parasitic injuries and assessing the suitability of trees in different environments. BK-760-\$49.95

RESOURCES FOR PROFESSIONALS

Identification:

Shrub Identification by George Symonds

Pictorial key to identifying shrubs contains over 3,500 illustrations to check specimens. Popular and botanical names given. Handy index tabs for quick reference. BK-720-\$19.50

Tree Identification by George Symonds

Make sure you have this pictorial reference to identifying trees by checking leaves, buds, branches, fruit, bark. Popular and botanical names listed with easy-find index tabs. BK-750-\$17.95

Hearst Garden Guides: Annuals edited by Ted Marston

Guide to cultivating seasonal plants, lushly illustrated with over 150 color photos. Learn: success secrets for growing annuals, preparing potting soil, seed-sowing techniques; tips for positioning annuals so they thrive; how to eradicate pests/diseases. An A-to-Z encyclopedia of 200 species of annuals and hundreds of other varieties: Latin and common names, descriptions, cultivation, disease control strategies. 192pp. BK-700-\$25.00

Hearst Garden Guides: Perennials edited by Darrel Apps

Gorgeously illustrated book gives fundamentals of growing perennials, featuring pest/disease control, safe use of chemical fertilizers, mulching, watering techniques, crown divisions, and an A-to-Z plant encyclopedia, with 250 full-color photos. Latin and common names, detailed description, hardiness zones, color, shape, blooming season. 208pp. BK-705-\$25.00

Hearst Garden Guides: Bulbs edited by John E. Bryan

Complete guide to gardening with bulbs, this detailed reference includes extensive A-to-Z encyclopedia showing lesser-known varieties. Covers designing and planting for year-round color, storing, propagating, troubleshooting, 150 color photos, 191pp, BK-701-\$25.00

Hearst Garden Guides: Trees & Shrubs edited by R. William Thomas

Complete guide to selecting, planting, nurturing over 1,000 ornamental varieties. 200 color photos, guidance on using trees and shrubs as focal points, selecting the right plant, tips on pruning. 208 pp. BK-702-\$25.00



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Utility/dump body works in a variety of heavy-duty ways

The best features of a utility/service body and a small dump truck have recently been introduced to the landscaping industry with the TC-200 from Truck

The Truck Craft TC-200 is designed to let you save time and money: tools are organized and unloading is a breeze.

The cargo area measures 48.5 x 101

inches. A dual-hinged tailgate offers full dumping or controlled spreading capabilities.

Each dump body provides protection for the truck cab roof, rear window and side boxes. A control switch on a 10-foot cord is included for in-cab or walk-around dumping control.

Circle No. 199 on Reader Inquiry Card

Power rake cuts through heavy thatch build-up

Parker Sweeper's Thatch-O-Matic Power Rake cuts a 19-inch path through built-up thatch. Handle-mounted clutch and throttle controls and easy height adjustment are designed for operator comfort. Three reel options are available for a wide range of lawn care applications, including spring tines for dethatching:



knives for verticutting and controlling creeping grasses, and flails for heavy thatch removal or lawn renovations.

Circle No. 201 on Reader Inquiry Card

Changes make truck bodies safer

Reading Body Works, Inc. has made some changes to its line of service bodies:

- stainless steel bolt on door hinge brackets for security, strength and easy replacement;
 - · automotive flange mounted rubber door seals; and
- adjustable striker plates on locks for convenient adjustment of door locks.

Circle No. 200 on Reader Inquiry Card





Trenchless system fast and exact

StraightLine Manufacturing, Inc. has a new fluid-assisted horizontal directional boring unit. The DL305 is designed for use with any auxiliary hydraulic power source that provides 9.5-11.5 gpm at pressures up to 2,500 psi. The model shown has the DirectLine 305 Power Pack. The DL305 is fluid assisted, making it capable of fast, accurate and profitable 20-foot to 100-foot installations.

Circle No. 202 on Reader Inquiry Card

BIOTURF NEWS

For the Latest Developments in Biological, Organic and Natural Turf Care!

With our October premier publication of Bioturf News, we at LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT magazine continued our commitment to give you the best possible coverage of green industry happenings.

Bioturf News is our new, bimonthly review of current research and development in "biological, organic and natural" turf care. In 1993, it will exist independently of LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT.

Alternative turf care products can't be ignored. University research has determined them to be viable forms of insect, weed and disease control.

SIOTURF NEWS

Many of our readers have also

formed opinions of biological and organic products.

Some say biological and organic products are too expensive and take too long to show results. Others believe customers should have a choice. And still others are probably wondering what all the excitement's about.

Our job, as an industry information source, is not to tell you what to think, but to simply relay the information to you—as soon as we can and in the best way possible—and let you take it from there.

There are two sides to every story. Your opinions count, and we want to know what you think of these products. Have you tried alternative products? If so, what were the results? To make *Bioturf News* the most useful news source it can be, we will always welcome your questions and comments.



Jon Miducki Publisher



Terry McIver Editor

Bioturf News will be a bi-monthly newsletter reporting on biological, organic and natural products for the specialty turf market. But you have to subscribe in order to receive it. To receive your free one-year subscription, please return the coupon below to:

Jon Miducki, publisher LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT 7500 Old Oak Blvd. Cleveland, Ohio 44130

Bioturf News will appear independently of Landscape Management beginning July 1993. You must be a subscriber to receive it! We've had a terrific response so far. If you haven't sent for your free subscription yet, please do!!

	SU	ubscription yet, please do!!	
Name		capacity in the seedbox than	
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REVIEW

Wildflower carpet for quick, easy planting

The Wildflower Carpet from Applewood Seed Co. comes to the rescue for immediate, economical wildflower planting.

The carpet is a mat of densely packed, three-inch high wildflower plants with well-developed root systems

All plants are at least three months old. Roots are nourished by a thin layer of lightweight, non-soil planting medium supported by an

exclusive, non-woven fabric that roots can penetrate.

The carpet will grow in any climate that has cold winter nights averaging less than 40° F for at least two months out of the year.



It requires direct sun for more than four hours a day in growing

In the first season, Wildflower Carpet begins to bloom within six to eight weeks after planting. Different flowers bloom throughout the growing season. Perennials include black-eved Susan, Johnny jump-up and maiden pinks.

Others, such as 'Dame's Rocket,' 'Gaillardia' and 'Rock-

ress,' bloom from the second year onward. Plants grow from six to 60 inches high. Depending on conditions, certain wildflowers will be more prevalent than others.

Circle No. 203 on Reader Inquiry Card

Deep orange marigolds an addition to seed supply

'Janie Deep Orange' French marigold is new to the Goldsmith Seeds marigold series. The crested, two-inch around flowers have a shapely silhouette and are never hidden beneath the finely cut foliage. The flowers bloom atop compact, uniform, six-inch high plants.

They are an ideal choice for containers or flower boxes. Also for use as foreground plants in mass plantings, or as a short, freeflowering border plant.

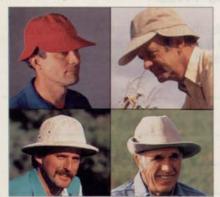
Circle No. 204 on Reader Inquiry Card

Hats and caps protect

workers from sunburn

New 12-foot seeder covers large areas at precise rates

A catalogue from Gempler's, Inc. features 19 styles of comfortable hats and



caps that fully protect the ears and neck, which, according to the company, are highly susceptible to skin cancer.

Circle No. 205 on Reader Inquiry Card

Brillion Iron Works, Inc. has a new, 12foot wide Turfmaker Seeder for landscapers, sod farmers, or anyone wishing to

seed large areas at precise rates.

The companv savs the Turfmaker has 20 percent more capacity in the seedbox than 10-foot model. The larger, nine-bushel seedbox reduces seeding time, and growers can plant

more acres before refilling. The Turfmaker crushes, seeds and rolls in one operation.

Marketing agreement for perennial ryegrass

Pennington Enterprises has acquired the exclusive producion and marketing rights to Morning Star perennial ryegrass from Pickseed West. The variety was developed by Pickseed as an "endophyte enhanced" variety that is very fine bladed and genetically dark green in color.

It was developed and tested initially by Pickseed as SYN-P.

Morning Star tested within the top 10 percent in the NTEP quality ratings for 1991. The variety had superior ratings in summer and fall density as well as a high tolerance to brown patch, dollar spot and pythium.

Circle No. 206 on Reader Inquiry Card

Brillion's micro-meter adjustment with an infinite number of settings

> improves the precision metering of small seeds.

The 12-foot units also feature wider metal deflectors, to help prevent winds from blowing seeds away, and to guide the seed down between the

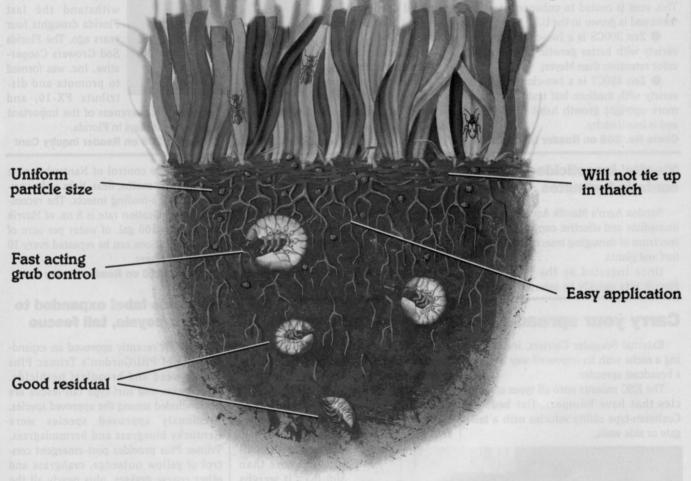


roller wheels.

Circle No. 207 on Reader Inquiry Card

The Andersons High Quality fertilizers now with the benefits of TURCAM Insecticide

Now you can control 22 Tough surface and subsurface pests including white grubs while you fertilize... This combination will provide you:



The Andersons. Uniformly the best in the business.

the professional's partner



1-800-225-ANDY

REVIEW

New zoysiagrass available in four different selections

Turf Merchants, Inc has developed a new line of seeded zoysiagrasses to meet the developing market for this low-maintenance grass. Four different selections are available in the "Zen Line:"

- Zen 100 is Chinese common Zoysia japonica, with medium texture and medium dark green color, chemically treated for faster germination;
- Zen 200CS is the first generation seed from Meyer zoysia which was previously only available as vegetative sprigs. This seed is coated to enhance establishment and is grown in the U.S;
- Zen 300CS is a two-clone synthetic variety with better genetic color and fall color retention than Meyer;
- Zen 400CT is a two-clone synthetic variety with medium leaf texture. It has a more uptright growth habit than Meyer, and is less thatchy.

Circle No. 208 on Reader Inquiry Card

Sod root system endures stormy weather

This past winter's "storm of the century" was no match for FX-10 sod, according to the Florida Sod Groweers Cooperative. Many of the areas struck by the March torrents were virtually unscathed thanks to the FX-10 grass.

Jim Anderson, of Anderson's Nursery, reported the sod had minimal erosion due to the deep root structure which secured the lawn during the storm.

The Cooperative calls FX-10 drought resistant, and the only grass on the

market today that is resistant to chinch bugs.

Fx-10 requires little maintenance and



watering. It can withstand longer periodes of drought—up to two years—due to the root structure, and requires only quarterly fertilization.

FX-10 was developed by the University of Florida, with patent rights given to the Florida Sod Growers Cooperative, Inc., to withstand the last Florida droughts four years ago. The Florida Sod Growers Cooperative, Inc. was formed to promote and distribute FX-10, and

increase the awareness of the important role turfgrass plays in Florida.

Circle No. 209 on Reader Inquiry Card

'Gentle' insecticide controls turf mites

Sandoz Agro's Mavrik Aquaflo provides immediate and effective control of a broad spectrum of damaging insects and mites in turf and plants.

Once ingested by the target pest, Mavrik acts quickly to interfere with the insect's central nervous system and destroy its stomach. However, according to Sandoz, the product's low toxicity to small pets, birds and wildlife makes it one of the most gentle insecticides available.

Mavrik eliminates a variety of insects, including whiteflies, aphids, caterpillars, flea beetles, mealybugs, mites and thrips.

The odor-free product also provides

cost-effective control of Nantucket pine and other tip moths, fleas, ticks and a variety of surface-feeding insects. The recommended application rate is 8 oz. of Mavrik mixed with 100 gal. of water per acre of turf. Applications can be repeated every 10 days as necessary.

Circle No. 210 on Reader Inquiry Card

Herbicide label expanded to include zoysia, tall fescue

The EPA recently approved an expanded label of PBI/Gordon's Trimec Plus grassy weed and broadleaf herbicide. Zoysiagrass and turf-type tall fescue are now included among the approved species. Previously approved species were Kentucky bluegrass and bermudagrass. Trimec Plus provides post-emergent control of yellow nutsedge, crabgrass and other coarse grasses, plus nearly all the broadleaf species controlled with regular Trimec herbicide treatments.

The Trimec Plus rate for tall fescue is the same as Kentucky bluegrass: 3 oz. per 1,000 sq.ft. The zoysia rate is the same as for bermudagrass: 3-5 oz. per 1,000 sq.ft. Recommended spray volume is 1-3 gal. of water per 1,000 sq.ft.

Circle No. 212 on Reader Inquiry Card

Carry your spreader where it's in easy reach

External Spreader Carriers, Inc. is filling a niche with its improved way to carry a broadcast spreader.

The ESC mounts onto all types of vehicles that have bumpers, flat beds or Cushman-type utility vehicles with a tailgate or side walls. The carrier will work with Lesco, Scotts, Spyker, Ev-N-Spred or Cyclone broadcast-type spreaders.

Carrying the spreader outside the bed makes room for other items, puts the spreader in easy reach of the technician, and eliminates spills in the truck bed.

The carrier will support more than 300 lbs.; it weighs only 21 lbs. The cost is \$169.

The cost is \$169. An adapter for Cushman UV's costs \$19.99.

ESC is located in Little Rock, Ark.

Circle No. 211 on Reader Inquiry Card



PRODUCT REVIEW

Herbicide gets new experimental permit

The EPA has granted an experimental use permit (EUP) for Manage turf herbicide by Monsanto, which has demonstrated excellent control of nutsedge in field trials.

The EPA action allows use on 500 acres in 1993, including golf courses, sod farms and other turf areas where nutsedge is a problem. Manage is safe for all major warm- and cool-season turfgrasses, says Monsanto business director Dennis Plummer.

The sulfonylurea herbicide is applied at very low rates. Field trials have demonstrated that it has negligible potential to reach groundwater, Plummer notes. Monsanto says Manage also has very favorable toxicological properties.

Circle No. 213 on Reader Inquiry Card

Add to golf course value with ultrasonic club cleaner

The Ultra-Club Cleaner uses ultrasonic sound waves to deep-clean dirty grooves in



golf clubs. The machine also cleans away dirt and grime from grips.

The machine operates on tokens, and a set of clubs can be cleaned for between \$2 to \$4. The Shine A Blind Company estimates an average colf course will gross about \$3,300 per month from the cleaner.

Circle No. 214 on Reader Inquiry Card

Blade balancer is a precision tool for rotary mowers

The new Mag-500 Blade Balancer is designed for precision balancing of rotary mower blades, says Magna-Matic Corp.

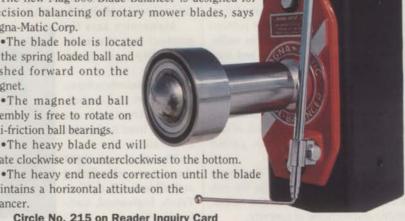
•The blade hole is located on the spring loaded ball and pushed forward onto the

·The magnet and ball assembly is free to rotate on anti-friction ball bearings.

.The heavy blade end will rotate clockwise or counterclockwise to the bottom.

maintains a horizontal attitude on the balancer.

Circle No. 215 on Reader Inquiry Card



Full equipment line features turf edgers

King O'Lawn Products has a full line of turf maintenance products, featuring a wide range of lawn edgers.

Also included in the list are front throw power reel mowers, power sprayers, and turf and hard surface vacuums.

Edger models 216B and 286 use Briggs & Stratton 3 hp engines. They are made of heavy duty 10 gauge stamped steel and have 11 preset blade angle positions that arc over 135 degrees from over vertical to over horizontal.

The cutting blade features a standard 2by-9-inch hardened steel blade with a full 180-degree blade guard.

Circle No. 216 on Reader Inquiry Card

Harrow promotes turfgrass production

The Parmiter Flexible Harrow not only covers the seed and firms the soil for fast. uniform turfgrass seed germination and uniform growth, but it smooths and levels the ground, too.

According to Parmiter, when used to incorporate herbicides or fertilizers, the harrows provide significant savings to turf and sod producers. The harrows work elements into the soil where they resist wind and water erosion. When used for root aeration, a harrow helps to stimulate growth for better water infiltration and root development.

A complete range of different type harrow sections is available: drawbars from 4 to 16 feet in width-when used with connectors to couple sets together, a working width of 24 feet can be achieved.

Parmiter harrows can be turned for aggressive or passive tine deflection, or used with tines up for light crumbline and smoothing action. In all positions, they are self-cleaning.

Circle No. 217 on Reader Inquiry Card

Vibratory plow leaves little evidence of its use

Classen's VB-40 vibratory plow can be easily attached to most 3-point tractors, 18 hp or larger. This unit buries poly or PVC irrigation pipe up to 1 1/2 in diameter, electrical wire or cable 12" underground with virtually no sign of installation.

Other features include: blade mount swivel for radius turns, hold down fingers to eliminate lifting, and a rubber isolated main frame for smooth operation.

Circle No. 218 on Reader Inquiry Card

New concrete paving products look natural

Bomanite Corporation adds two patterns, Random Slate and Garden Stone, to its line of colored, textured and imprinted

REVIEW

cast-in-place architectural concrete paving.

There are four Random Slate patterns, each containing six randomly placed stones averaging in size from 2 feet to 3 ½ feet. Designed to be reminiscent of flagstone with a slate texture, this pattern lends itself well to large pedestrian walks, plazas, malls, driving surfaces and pool areas.

Garden Stone simulates the rocks and stones that line creek beds. This mixture of river pebbles and large, randomly shaped garden stones adds a touch of creativity to any pool or spa areas, garden walk or interior sun room.

Bomanite offers more than 50 patterns and 25 standard colors to combine the rich look of natural paving with the safety, durability and economy of concrete.

Circle No. 219 on Reader Inquiry Card

A single mix of this 2-cycle oil good for most equipment

The Shaler Company says a single gas/oil mixture of its Rislone Premium Quality 2-Cycle Engine Oil can be used in engines calling for gas/oil ratios of 32:1, 40:1 and 50:1.

"A single oil/gas blend meets the needs of the majority of lawn, garden and recreation equipment engines," says J. Bur Zeratsky, marketing manager. "Instead of having three gas cans with separate mixes for chainsaws, weed trimmers and rotary cultivators, one Rislone 2-Cycle fuel mix can end gas can clutter."

In addition, Shaler formulated the oil to provide smokeless operation, which greatly reduces noxious smoke and fumes. "With most people concerned about the environment, it's important we offer a clean burning, smokeless product," says Zeratsky.

Circle No. 220 on Reader Inquiry Card

New modular mower blade sharpening system available

Neary's 500-series modular blade sharpening systems is flexible, with technological advantages.

The 500-S represents a flexible grinding system with a technological advantage. The spin sharpening system offers 3-way ridged mounting, streamlined set up and

Colored asphalt looks better than basic black

New asphalt paving is available in earthtone colors with Asphacolor seal coating.

Developed by Asphacolor Corporation of Sparks, Nev., this product is easily added to conventional asphalt seal coating or slurry seal products.

Asphacolor says the product has the same durability as black sealants.

A full colorbrochure, color chart and application instructions are available from Asphacolor Corporation.

The photo at right shows Asphacolor Paving at Hollywood Park Race Track, Inglewood, California.

Circle No. 222 on Reader Inquiry Card



true cylinder sharpening. The 500 SR features adjustable one-to45 degree relief grinding to reduce drag between the reel and bedknife.

Circle No. 221 on Reader Inquiry Card

Rubber-tracked vehicle gets great traction on wet ground

ASV, Inc. announces a new, fully tracked vehicle to their product line.

Posi-Track is uniquely designed to provide a broad range of uses. A compact, highly versatile unit with hydrostatic drive, and dual 18-inch all-weather, Kevlar reinforced rubber tracks.

The Posi-Track has extremely low ground pressure (1.25 psi), which means less soil compaction and more productivity because of its ability to operate on soft, wet ground, or in other difficult conditions such as snow, mud, swamps, bogs or hilly areas.

Circle No. 223 on Reader Inquiry Card

Pressure regulator for more precise applications

The Green Garde Division of H.D. Hudson Manuracturing company offers a low-cost pressure regulator for hand operated compression or backpack sprayers. The Spray Management Valve (SMV) sells for about \$25. According to the company, it has been field-tested in Australia for several vears and has resulted in safety awards for its ability to control spray

Three models are available, and control pressure at 15, 30 and 45 psi.

Circle No. 224 on Reader Inquiry Card

Roller unit makes greens putt faster

The Speed Roller from Friend Turf
Equipment, Inc. reduces greens stress by
eliminating the need for double cutting
while improving greens to tournament

roller surface pro
without slippage.

The 3 ft. roll
direction and spe

The frosted roller surface provides maximum traction without slippage.

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machine.

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The 3 ft. roller has pedal operated direction and speed control, and responsive, geometrically-balanced handle bar steering.

Circle No. 225 on Reader Inquiry Card

level play.

Precision ground stainless steel rollers insure accuracy in rolling throughout the

MARKET SHOWCASE

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Real Green Computers 1970 Winner Street, Wolled Lake, MI 48390

Circle No. 251 on Reader Inquiry Card

HELP WANTED

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

LAWNCARE BUSINESSES:

Thinking about selling your Lawncare Business? We'd like to talk about the possibilities. If you are doing business in: Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Columbus, Dayton, Chicago, St. Louis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Detroit or Ft. Wayne, we are interested. All communication is confidential, Reply to LM Box 500, c/o LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, 120 W. 2nd Street, Duluth, MN 55802.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE/CONSTRUCTION

Established, Full Service Landscape Maintenance & Construction Company, seeks an experienced quality-minded individual to assist in the continued growth and development of our Maintenance Division. Duties include estimating, sales and scheduling. Must have Horticultural background, sales/estimating experience and 3-5 years field experience. If you are a hard working, responsible individual, please send a complete resume along with past work history and salary to:

Harder Landscape Contractors 632 Jerusalem Avenue Hempstead, New York 11550

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-- Jana Miller Environmental Management

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FOR SALE



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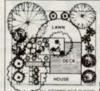
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Circle No. 188 on Reader Inquiry Card



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LANDSCAPE

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BOX NUMBER REPLIES: Mail box number replies to: LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, Classified Ad Department, 120 W. 2nd St., Duluth, MN 55802. Please include box in address

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Position sought that involves research, technical service, or sales with a university, or company involved in furthering the turfgrass industry through education, communication, and scientific evaluation. Turfgrass Masters, June 1993. Paul Zarlengo, 5425 Frank Ave., Canton, OH 44720. 501-443-4229.

University Landscape Supervisor seeking new opportunities to contribute to a leadership organization. Landscape Architecture degree BSLA, 7 years experience landscape construction, maintenance and design, 4 years supervisor. Will relocate within the western states. Contact Kent Bagnell, P.O. Box

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EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

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BROUWER 24" SOD HARVESTOR 450 hrs, 3910 Ford diesel, \$20,000.00, Toro 5 gang fairway mowers excellent condition \$1,800.00, Phone: 517-332-8410.

NEW AND USED BROUWER EQUIPMENT: Mowers - VACS - Fork Lifts - Harvesters - and full line of replacement parts. Contact Ed or Glenn Markham at 1-800-458-3644.

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FOR SALE: Jacobsen HF-5 Diesel, \$4,000. Also, Toro GM-3 Greens Mower, sharpened, \$2,250. National 84" cut \$1,100. Jacobsen 5 Gang Pole Type Fairway Mower, completely reconditioned \$3,400. 313-653-5695.

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BUCKET TRUCK: Hi Ranger 65', 57', 50'. Skyworkers with chip boxes. Asplundh brush chippers. Bean 55 gal. sprayers. Pete Mainka Enterprises, 633 Cecilia Drive, Pewaukee, WI 53072. 414-691-4306.

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6/93

Landscape Sales: Well established Commercial Maintenance and Installation Firm. Quality oriented and operated, a drug free work place. Will handle all sales in Southeast, Florida. Send resume to: Custom Care, 6560 E. Rogers Circle, Boca Raton, Florida 33487.

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LANDSCAPING/OPERATIONS: Hermes Landscaping, a well established contracting company, is seeking a self-motivated, professional manager to handle the operations of a Commercial Landscaping and Sprinkler Division. Must have a B.S. degree, 2-4 years of experience, people skills and hands-on supervisory experience. Send resume and salary history to: Hermes Landscaping, Inc., P.O. Box 14336, Lenexa, KS 66215, 913-888-2400. EOE. 6/93

TREE AND LANDSCAPE, TOP WAGES FOR TOP ARBORISTS: Lueders Tree and Landscape, Inc. is searching for tree care supervisors and assistants. Candidates must have strong expertise in trees with a strong horticultural background. Outstanding pay and top benefits for professional arborists. For interview, call LTL, Inc. (617)444-0994/(508)359-9905.

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