



### Dr. Watson Receives Award From USGA Green Section

The Green Section of the United States Golf Association has given its top award for distinguished service to Dr. James R. Watson, vice president of customer relations and chief agronomist for Toro Co., Minneapolis.

Dr. Watson, honored for his contributions to turf research, is the 16th recipient of the award which is made annually. He has conducted research on adaptability of species and strains of turfgrasses, fertilization practices, snow mold prevention and techniques for the winter protection of turfgrasses. His turfgrass adaptation studies led to the development of new cultivars in Bermudagrass and creeping bentgrass for sports turf.

He is a contributor to several standard texts on turfgrass science and has also written many articles on turfgrass care and management.

### Housing Developments Hold Course Market Key

While the golf course market will always constitute an important business for Toro Company, Minneapolis, its prospects for reestablishing its high past growth rate will depend in part on an easing of interest rates and the trend toward golf

## All-Pro Tingelhoff Applauds Natural Turf

The conversion back to natural turf at Miami's Orange Bowl represents a "substantial victory" for the National Football League Players Association, according to all-pro center Mick Tingelhoff of the Minnesota Vikings.

He said the association opposes artificial turf because its hard-asphalt base and slippery surface produce more knee injuries than natural grass fields. He predicted NFL owners will never again replace natural grass with artificial turf.

"I hope the switch back to natural grass in Miami heralds a new trend," the Viking star said at a luncheon sponsored by Cushman-Ryan turf care equipment during the 47th Golf Course Superintendents Association of America conference in Minneapolis. The 35-year-old Viking player, whose team plays its home games on natural turf, said artificial playing surfaces also can shorten a player's career. He said the hard surfaces subject legs to a "merciless pounding" and result in bruises and similar nuisance injuries.

"Asphalt really wears you out and it can wreck your legs," Tingelhoff told more than 120 turf equipment dealers. "There is no way you can recover from your injuries within a week. I don't know of a

player, trainer or team physician that likes artificial turf."

The former University of Nebraska All-American said artificial turf surfaces "are faster" than natural grass. But he said even small running backs, who rely on speed, dislike artificial turf fields. "What good is speed if you ruin your knees falling on a hard surface?" he asked. "The greater the speed, the more force there is upon impact. It is a matter of basic physics and every running back knows it."

However, Tingelhoff admitted, it is impossible to prove artificial turf has ended or shortened anyone's NFL career. "The association would definitely put artificial turf to an end if we could," he said. "But I don't know how we could prove it." He said Robert Kennedy Memorial Stadium in Washington, D.C. has the best playing surface in professional football. The field has Nugget bluegrass on a 20-inch base largely formed of sand and peat. Irrigation drainage and heating are controlled by small underground lines plus a water pump inside the stadium.

"The surface is very porous and soft," he said. "It is actually softer than natural turf surfaces, so therefore, fewer knee injuries result. And the field actually drains faster than artificial surfaces."

courses in new housing developments.

In the company's annual report recently released, it was noted that increased marketing emphasis is being given by the company to other high-growth areas; the commercial markets for the Turf Products Division and the commercial and agricultural markets for the Irrigation Group.

The report said the golf course market accounted for 13 percent of Toro's sales in 1975, for irrigation products and turf maintenance equipment. With a decline in the construction of new courses from about 450 to 150 last year, Toro feels the existing golf course market represents the principal short-term opportunity for Toro's irrigation and mowing equipment.

### Nelson Is New President Of Landscape Contractors

Duane Nelson, a landscape contractor in Spokane, Wash., has been installed as president of the Associated Landscape Contractors of America at its recent annual meeting in Phoenix, Ariz.

Also installed were Dick Brickman, Theodore Brickman Co., Long Grove, Ill., president-elect; Ronald A. Ahlman, Lawrence & Ahlman, Dundee, Ill., vice president; William C. Byers III, Landscape Industries, Inc., Smyrna, Ga., vice president; William Thornton Jr., Thornton Industrial Landscape Contractors, Cincinnati, Ohio, treasurer; and Vernon D. Smith, Millcreek Gardens, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah, secretary.

## Nine Outstanding Dealers Honored by Cushman-Ryan

Nine firms have been named outstanding dealers by Cushman-Ryan turf care equipment, Lincoln, Neb.

Officials from the dealerships were presented plaques by Frank McDonald, Cushman-Ryan sales manager, at a luncheon during the 47th annual Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in Minneapolis. The annual award is based on marketing, sales and service achievements.

Dealers honored were Gulf Shore Turf Supply, Inc., Pensacola, Fla.; Fallis Turf Equipment, Ltd., Richmond, British Columbia; Morin Equipment, Ltd., Ste Foy, Quebec; Duke Lawn Equipment, Ltd., Burlington, Ont.; Westward Power Equipment, Edmonton, Alberta. Cushman Motor Company, Inc., Minneapolis; Toro Pacific Distributing, Gardena, Calif.; Krigger & Company, Inc., Pittsburgh; and Tennessee Electric Motor Company, Nashville.



Dr. Fred V. Grau, president of the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation, presented a check to Dr. Harry Niemczyk of the Ohio Agricultural Research Center, at the recent GCSAA turf show in Minneapolis. The money will be used to help support a graduate student at Ohio State University. Ben Warren of Warren's Turf Nursery is treasurer of the foundation.

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## Process Turns Cattle Manure To Odorless Soil Conditioner

A new process to improve the biological conversion of cattle manure into soil conditioner has been developed by the BioCon Division of Searle Agriculture Inc., Hereford, Texas. The product from the process is being introduced to the lawn and garden industry under the brand name "Tilleez". The soil conditioner is sold in bulk to golf courses and other quantity buyers.

Company officials told WEEDS TREES & TURF the conditioner improves the tilth and fertility of soil without creating the problems of odor, burning and weeds usually associated with manure. The conditioner is produced by a new plant in the Texas Panhandle which biologically converts manure from cattle feedlots into humus for garden and lawn use.

The process, developed after years of experimentation, eliminates offensive odor, even when the

conditioner is wet. The process also dissipates the heat generated by decomposition and substantially reduces weed seeds and other harmful organisms, company officials said. Basically, manure from feedlots is pulverized and deposited in vats at the plant. In the vats, air is forced through the manure to stimulate digestion by aerobic bacteria.

Decomposition of the manure by aerobic bacteria is what makes the conditioner virtually odorless, dry or wet, according to Dr. William C. Hackett, division general manager. Aerobic bacteria — microorganisms that thrive in air — can digest manure without producing the odor that occurs when anaerobic bacteria — bacteria that live without air — perform the decomposition, Dr. Hackett said.

In less than a week, the composting — which would have taken nature a year to perform unaided — is completed in the vats, and the conditioner is ready for bagging. Elimination of offensive odor is only



R. Wayne Mezitt, vice president and general manager of Weston Nurseries, Inc., Hopkinton, Mass., will head the convention committee for the American Association of Nurserymen's 101st Annual Convention and Trade Show July 10-14 in Boston.

one of the advantages which the process imparts to the conditioner, company officials said. Heat generated during decomposition, which causes manure to burn vegetation, is dissipated from the conditioner in the vats. Exposure to that heat substantially reduces weed seeds and other harmful organisms in the manure before they can reach the soil.

## Wholesale Nursery Growers Choose Taylor as President

The Wholesale Nursery Growers of America recently held an election at its winter membership meeting in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Re-elected to serve for one-year terms were: Robert Taylor, Concord Nurseries, North Collins, N.Y., president; Hubert Nicholson, Commercial Nursery Co., Decherd, Tenn., vice president; Ben Davis II, Ozark Nurseries Co., Tahlequah, Okla., secretary-treasurer; and Bill Scarff, Scarff's Nursery, New Carlisle, Ohio, director-at-large.

Re-elected for two-year terms were Martin Usrey, Monrovia Nursery Co., Azusa, Calif.; Hans Hess, Hess' Nurseries, Cedarville, N. J.; Austin Kenyon, Greenleaf Nursery Co., Park Hill, Okla.; and Edward Porter, Triangle Nursery, McMinnville, Tenn.

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## Salt May Seriously Damage Landscape Plants and Trees

When roads are icy, salt trucks can look very beautiful. But what deicing salt does to landscape plants is often not so pretty. Symptoms of salt injury to evergreens include drying and browning of needles. Die-back and witch's broom-like growth occurs on deciduous species like red oak, beech and crabapples.

"Some ornamental plants are more tolerant than others to flying salt spray or salt on the soil," Harold Davidson, extension horticulturalist at Michigan State University, told WEEDS TREES & TURF. "When you are choosing plants for locations near salted streets or highways, it is a good idea to choose those that are known to be salt tolerant."

Honey locust, Norway maple, blue spruce and Austrian pine are some of the best trees for areas where salt spray is a threat. Japanese maple, box elder, white spruce, red pine, white pine, Scotch pine and English yew are very susceptible to damage by salt spray. Oaks are also likely to be injured, David-

son said. Most shrubs are susceptible to salt injury, including most of the barberries, dogwoods, euonymus, honeysuckle, firethorn, elder, viburnum and coralberry. Most grasses, vines and ground covers, on the other hand, are at least moderately tolerant.

## California Insect Expert Explains Elm Disease Control

A University of California-Riverside professor of entomology and expert on tree insects says if your elm tree has been attacked by the elm bark beetle, you still can fight the insect if there is no disease.

First, water adequately. Trees suffering from drought are much more susceptible to beetle attack. Next there is chemical control: a methoxychlor spray. This is much less toxic than DDT to man and wildlife, he told WEEDS TREES & TURF.

"Look for general tree symptoms first," he said. "If the tree looks weak; if its leaves are not so green as they should be; if you find

grass that looks like paprika in the cracks, crotches and around the base of the tree — you probably have the bark beetle. Then examine the bark; the brownish beetle makes holes one-eighth inch in diameter, or less; beetle larvae and pupae inside the bark are about the size and appearance of rice grains.

He said the beetle is most likely to strike by early April, with the peak in late April. A large second brood might appear in mid-June and peak in late July. A smaller, third brood will peak in early September. Sprays should be applied in early April and mid-June.

If the elm bark beetle has already attacked in great numbers and infected the tree with Dutch elm disease, however, there is nothing to do but cut the tree down, bury or burn its parts and spray surrounding elms. "The problem is," he said, "people do not want to cut down trees because it is expensive. If they do cut the tree down, they do not want to burn the wood until winter. This is exactly the wrong thing to do, because this firewood lets the beetle emerge from the wood and carry the disease to other trees."



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## Toro Holds Parts Seminars In Management for 23

Twenty-three persons were awarded  
certificates by the Toro Co., Minne-  
apolis, Minn. at the completion of a  
training seminar in parts manage-  
ment and inventory control.

The sole woman attending was  
Gloria Reynolds, of Adams Equip-  
ment, Inc., Baltimore. Zaun Equip-  
ment, Inc., of Florida, sent three  
men, one from each of its branches:  
Carl Jeise, of Jacksonville; Dick  
MacDonald, of St. Petersburg; and  
Kevin Quinn, of Orlando. Minne-  
sota Toro, Inc., had two repre-  
sentatives: Alex Donaldson, of  
Edina; and Rick Gwynn, of Crystal.  
Two Canadians in attendance were  
Alex Cormack, of Turf Care Prod-  
ucts, Lt., Markham, Ontario; and  
Alain Forest, of Agri-Tech, Inc.,  
Boucherville, Quebec.

## New York State Arborists Elect Wickey as President

Richard Wickey, park supervisor  
for Garden City, N.Y. was elected  
president of the New York State Ar-  
borists Association at its recent an-  
nual meeting.

Three vice presidents were also  
elected: 1st vice president Jake  
Bruinooge, Bruinooge Tree Service,

of Spring Valley, N.Y.; 2nd vice  
president Samuel Blakley of S. G.  
Blakley Tree Co., Mt. Vernon,  
N.Y.; 3rd vice president Leo G.  
Cook, Goodell Tree Service, of  
Vestal, N.Y.; James W. Taylor,  
James W. Taylor Tree Surgery of  
Walden, New York was reelected  
secretary-treasurer.

On the board of directors, past  
president Carl Lundborg of Bartlett  
Tree Experts, Westbury, N.Y. will  
serve a one-year term, as will Philip  
Brogan of Lewis Tree Service,  
Syracuse, N.Y. For two-year terms,  
Raymond Smith, Davey Tree Ex-  
pert Co., of Buffalo, N.Y. and Jon  
Hickey, Parr & Hanson of Hicks-  
ville, N.Y. For three-year terms,  
Jack Flanagan, Tree Preservation  
Co. of White Plains and Robert  
Mullane, Landscape Foresters, Ltd.  
of White Plains, N.Y.

Margaret Herbst, with head-  
quarters at 101 Park Avenue, New  
York, N.Y. 10017 was reappointed  
executive secretary.

Wickey has worked for the past  
17 years as park supervisor in  
Garden City. Before this position,  
he served in the Nassau County  
Park Department for eight years. He  
has been active with the Asso-  
ciation since 1958.

He is a graduate of the Long Island  
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## Sprinkler Irrigation Group Publishes License Guideline

The Sprinkler Irrigation Association has announced the publication of its *Landscape Irrigation State Licensing Guideline*. Developed by the SIA's landscape irrigation committee, the guideline is a study of the need for state licensing programs, the formulation methods of actual legislation, an evaluation of existing legislation and its specific application to the industry, consideration of the licensing of landscape irrigation consultants and an outline of methods of obtaining industry support and informing the public and legislatures of needs for the legislation.

The Guideline is available from the SIA office at 13975 Connecticut Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906 at a cost of \$4.00 per copy. The 72-page booklet contains the following sections:

Introduction, terminology, statement of need, protection of potable water supply, protection from the public from injury or damage, protection of consumer interests, protection from financial liability, conservation of power and water, guidelines for the development of a state licensing law with model

legislation and notes and commentary and a summary.

The basic portion of the guideline, the model licensing law, is presented in a format that is both useful and easy to understand. The actual suggested wording of legislation is contained on the left hand pages with explanatory notes and comments as to its implications and necessity, along with room for personal notes, on the right hand page.

As a guideline, all possible material pertaining to a state licensing program has been included. All points presented are actually a part of licensing laws in effect in at least one state at the time of preparation. Even though selective deletions may be required in a given state to meet specific local requirements, an effective licensing law may be formulated from the guideline if sufficient material is judiciously incorporated to serve the needs of any given state.

Extensive review of the material was made to insure that it included the most up-to-date information available from states having existing licensing laws, answered problem areas as they might have developed in these states and also met basic legal requirements as well as appropriate governmental regulations.

The guideline, which has been three years in the development, was reviewed by Leo B. Hoschler, registrar of contractors for California; John Kayetan, state registrar of contractors for Arizona; John Heidman, member of the Texas State Board of Landscape Architects; F. J. MacDonald, executive vice president of the American Institute of Landscape Architects; and Malcolm D. MacArthur of the firm of Lee, Toomey and Kent, legal counsel to the SIA.

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Earle H. O'Dell (left) of Chesapeake, Va., and Houston B. Couch of Blacksburg, Va., were honored at the 16th annual Virginia Turfgrass Conference held recently in Fredericksburg. O'Dell, secretary-treasurer since 1969 of the Virginia Turfgrass Council, received the R. D. Calk award honoring the council's first secretary-treasurer and Couch received the Tolly H. Quinn service to industry award. O'Dell, praised for his role as secretary-treasurer, is assistant manager of the turf and garden division of Todd Co., Chesapeake. Couch, a professor of plant pathology at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, was cited for his work with turf diseases.