

# They've Joined the Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> Fan Club



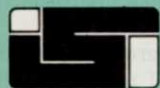
Golf professionals, golf superintendents and weekend players alike sing the praises of Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> overseeding mixture. Their reasons are the same: Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> produces a smooth, true and beautiful putting surface that will last the winter through. Here's what some of the professionals have said about it:

*"I mowed 15 days after sowing Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> and was on my way to the prettiest putting surface I have ever seen."* Bob Martin, Superintendent Clarksdale Country Club, Clarksdale, Mississippi.

*"Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> has given me a uniform, dense putting surface that has putted consistently true. The color has been outstanding . . . even though the temperature in January dropped to 11 degrees F. Bent greens went off color . . . but Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> came through like a champ."* Ed O'Donnell, Superintendent Brook Valley Golf & Country Club, Greenville, North Carolina.

Dixie Green<sup>®</sup> overseeding mixture is a premier mix of Highlight Chewings-type red fescue which was judged World Champion at the 45th Annual Royal Agricultural Show in Toronto, and Derby turf-type perennial ryegrass. This fine mix has proven a winner for winterseeding of greens, tees and aprons all over the South. Dixie Green<sup>®</sup>—a great mixture for you and your members.

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## PROSCAPE

By Michael Hurdzan, Ph.D., golf course designer and consultant

**Q:** What is the average "life span" of the new turf type perennial ryegrasses? No one states this in their advertising. G.E., Mahwah, NJ

**A:** I do not believe that there is an "average life span" for these grasses as their longevity is a function of where they are planted, how they are used, and the maintenance that they receive. To be specific, if about 15% turf-type perennial rye is blended with a bluegrass mix in the Midwest, and the turf is given about 3 pounds of N per year, watered occasionally and is mowed about 1½" high, the ryegrass will not only persist indefinitely but it may begin to dominate the mix. This domination by the ryegrasses may be the result of more vigorous growth during colder temperatures when bluegrasses may be dormant, tillering of the ryegrasses into open areas left by dead or dying bluegrasses, and/or the aggressive incursion of ryegrass aided by their tendency to grow faster than other turf varieties and cause shading. Because the ryegrasses are so competitive, it is usually recommended that not more than 20% of mix be turf-type ryegrass and some believe that it should be only 5% of the seed mix.

**Q:** I have read Proscape for the past one and a half years and I have wondered what value is a Consultant. It seems more often than not whenever a Consultant is called in someone loses their job. Doesn't this bother you or how do you avoid the situation? J.P., Minneapolis, MN

**A:** First, a Consultant is rarely ever called unless there is a problem that the resident staff has not been able to solve with in-house skills and information. So, when a Consultant is called it is with the hope that he will provide that information or skill that will correct the problem.

Many times the problem is so acute there is no easy solution and nothing can be done but start over. When this happens the Consultant's worth may be questioned for we all want easy solutions. However, it is the professional responsibility of the Consultant to be as candid as possible with all parties involved about situations that he is 100% confident about. If he is uncertain about a particular problem then he should say so and make sure any remarks are taken as only speculation.

It indeed bothers everyone if a man loses his position over a Consultant's report; but most often the report is simply used as an excuse to terminate an employee and is not the real reason.

**Q:** Are there any industry averages breaking out income and expenses within the landscape design and landscape contracting business? Robert Morris Associates publishes a composite statement for horticultural services which lumps the two together and is not very specific with regard to income percentages.

**A:** To my knowledge there is no such source book and with the instability of the economy and fluctuating costs of labor and materials I do not believe any will be forthcoming.

As a general rule, most practitioners figure materials at cost plus handling and then add a profit of 15-35% depending on how competitive the bids must be. Then labor is figured as per number of man hours required to complete the job multiplied by the average wage rate, then they add in 25-30% for benefits and administration plus another percentage of 15-20% for profit. As an example if the average wage that must be paid is:

\$ 10.00/hour for laborer  
3.00/hour for administration  
2.00/for profit

\$15.00/hour for each manhour on the job

**Q:** With the possibility of another impending gas shortage, would you publish any energy saving ideas that may have been shared with your magazine when we had the Arab oil embargo of a few years ago? Or ask your readers to submit any suggestions they may have used. Y.C., Westminster, CO

**A:** An excellent suggestion. Weeds Trees and Turf would be pleased to print and credit any ideas that would help conserve our limited energy resources.

**Q:** What is the best and most inexpensive method to break up clay soil (hard) over which sod has been placed? After five years we are still having difficulty getting the grass roots to penetrate this clay. Northern Virginia, VA

**A:** I would suggest that you review the Proscape column from the February 1979 issue of WTT. The described procedures are about as inexpensive as possible and yet achieve some notable results.

**Q:** What is the best and cheapest ryegrass that will grow in Clay without watering and the least mowings? AA Inc., Angola, NY

**A:** I assume you mean turf-type ryegrass. All ryegrasses seem to perform well in clay that has been properly prepared for seeding. Of course, the terms best and cheapest contradict. Much research is taking place lately comparing ryegrasses with the result of newer improved varieties. Cheapest ryegrass is the older Linn in most cases. Manhattan will be near the top of the cost list. Derby is a moderately priced improved ryegrass. There are many others of good quality you should consider.

Although height is one growth characteristic improved lately with lower growing cultivars, growth regulators can reduce the number of mowings in low wear areas where vigorous growth is not needed to fill in damaged spots.

You'll pay more for lower growing, clean cutting, and deeper green types of ryegrasses. But you may save in other ways.

## IRRIGATION

### IA and IDIA reach consolidation accord

The Presidents of The Irrigation Association (IA) and the International Drip Irrigation Association (IDIA) have announced to their memberships an agreement reached between them which will result in the consolidation of their efforts for the betterment of the entire irrigation industry.

Taylor Ramsey of The IA and John Riddering of the IDIA said in a joint letter to their members that "... we have agreed to associate together in the future for the benefit of all of us." As a result of the agreement, the two Presidents are "jointly recommending and calling for the immediate joining of The Irrigation Association by all members of the drip/trickle industry."

Discussions between the two organizations on a coordination of their efforts have been conducted over the last two years and culminated recently in a contract signed by their respective officers. The contract details arrangements whereby the outstanding debts and obligations of the IDIA will be paid through a rebating to the IDIA of certain funds over the coming months. The contract also looks to the reestablishment of the drip/trickle scholarship fund and details consignment of IDIA publications to The IA for sales to the industry.

In addition to the basic contract between the IDIA and The IA, a letter has been received by the IDIA from President Ramsey outlining the policies and procedures The IA will follow in the organization and operation of The IA's new Drip/Trickle Division. The IDIA Board of Directors has unanimously endorsed the agreement and its individual members are taking immediate steps to become members of The IA, an action which they hope will encourage other members of the drip/trickle industry to do also.

All members of the drip/trickle industry have received membership applications for The IA along with the joint letter. They are being urged to join the IA at this time and to participate in The Irrigation Technical Conference in San Francisco on February 18-21.



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The 2300 trencher looks like a compact. But the only thing small about it is its size.

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power steering and easy-to-reach controls. Four wheel drive and high-flotation tires provide accurate trench control. A complete selection of chain assemblies permits trenching in soil conditions ranging from soft soils to hard, frost-locked ground...with three digging chain speeds, plus reverse.

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## PRODUCTS



The "Claw," from Wastequip, Inc., is used to pick up tree prunings, leaves, grass, and other yard and garden refuse normally placed along gutter lines of municipal streets. The machine works equally as well with wet and dry materials.

The "Claw" attaches to most conventional wheel front loaders of  $\frac{7}{8}$ -cubic yard capacity or more. When fully open the unit features an overall width of more than 90 inches and a length of 61 inches. When fully closed the overall width is 71 inches. In addition, it has a height of 28 inches and weighs 900 pounds.

Two men are needed to run the machine. One man to drive the loader and attached "Claw" and the other to drive the truck.

Thus far field tests in several California cities has shown that the "Claw" in a two-man, two vehicle operation can harvest as much as 25 tons of yard and garden refuse daily, according to the manufacturer.

Circle No. 701 on free information card

**Lawn Pro Spraying Systems** introduces a 500-gallon sprayer which provides the versatility of boom application. The unit features a 25-foot, spring-loaded breakaway boom for spraying commercial and industrial lots, athletic fields, and other areas.

Additional equipment includes a 500-gallon, baffled, stainless steel tank, in-cab controls to operate the pump and the hydraulic boom, a chemical inductor for ground-level

filling, and a 300-degree rotating Hannay electric rewind hose reel.

The sprayer also features the patented "venturi suck-back" system which immediately stops the solution from flowing when the boom is turned off.

Circle No. 702 on free information card

**Progressive Electronics, Inc.** introduces "Pulser," a buried cable fault locator for use by zone irrigators.

The operator, using variable-distance earth probes, follows the faulted line with the "Pulser" meter until the fault is located. The unit emits a 3,000 volt pulse every three seconds.

"Pulser" is portable and comes in a vinyl-covered case approximately 20 inches wide by 8 inches deep by 5 inches high. It also features a rechargeable battery, built-in battery check, and an audio output unit.

Circle No. 703 on free information card



**Futura turf grass mixture**, a precision blend of three turf-type perennial ryegrasses (Blazer, Fiesta, and Pennfine), is available for commercial sale from Pickseed West, Inc.

Pennfine is a well-known cultivar and Fiesta and Blazer are two of the newest turf-type perennial rye-

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grasses developed by Dr. Reed Funk of Rutgers University.

The varieties were selected for their outstanding turf qualities including dark green color, disease resistance, mowability, fine texture, and overall turf density.

**Circle No. 704 on free information card**

**AFMC Sidewinder** offers the SC-60 rear-mounted utility mower. The mower features a 35-horsepower rated gearbox, front roller, and ad-

justable side skids to prevent scalping.

The SC-60 also features three up-draft blades with an inch-and-a-half overlap which provides an even, controlled cut. The mower blades are enclosed.

**Circle No. 705 on free information card**

**A medium size grader**, made specifically for close quarter situations where larger machines are in-

efficient, is available from Vermeer Manufacturing Co.

The G-960 grader features an articulated frame grader which puts all wheels on the graded surface, provides a 4½-foot cutting radius, and allows the rear wheels to track the same path as the front wheels.



The four-wheel drive grader is powered by a 28-horsepower, air cooled, Deutz diesel engine with hydrostatic drive and all-hydraulic control. It is also equipped with a six foot, front-end dozer blade which cuts to a maximum of four inches below and 12 inches above grade. The eight foot center blade cuts three inches below and ten inches above grade.

**Circle No. 706 on free information card**

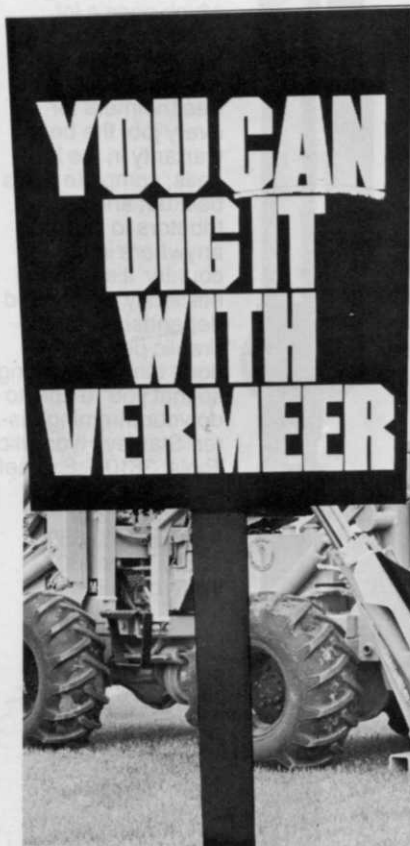


**Row Crop Sprayer**, a self-propelled, three-man spot spray vehicle, is offered by the Hustler Corp. The vehicle features adjustable wheel and seat widths, an electric start, ten-horsepower engine, and a transmission system with forward and reverse gears.

Spray material is applied through three individual handguns which are operated by an electric pump and fed by a 55-gallon polyethylene tank. Material can also be applied through a wick bar applicator which is electrically actuated to raise and lower the bar.

Further, the wheels can be adjusted to allow the vehicle to be transported in a standard pickup truck. The sprayer weighs about 600 pounds.

**Circle No. 707 on free information card**



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Citation is mighty popular around these parts, but there's no need for a shoot-out. Fact is, Citation has a great reputation **CITATION** for fast germination, outstanding heat tolerance, disease resistance, and packs a dark green color. Try it on an area you want to dress up and we think you'll check in your guns and notice an improvement in your disposition.

There may be a little room for argument here. CBS is a mixture of Citation, Birdie and Omega fine leafed perennial ryegrasses, blended especially for overseeding **CBS** for use as winter turf in the south. Each variety used in the blend has a different genetic background to improve overall performance. CBS blend is mighty fast too, so the whole shootin' match could be a stand-off.



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**National Diversified Sales, Inc.** offers a complete line of more than 60 different configurations of plastic drain fittings, ranging in size from three inches to eight inches.

The company recently developed three inch and four inch ABS adapters for sewer- and drain-size pipes. Also recently available are three inch and four inch styrene drop-in drain grates.

Plastic fittings are lightweight, corrosion-resistant, rustproof, and durable according to the manufacturer.

**Circle No. 708 on free information card**

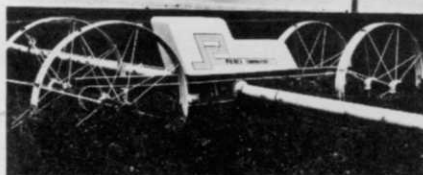


**Pasquali U.S.A., Inc.** introduces an entire line of walking, steering, and traditional tractors.

The Model 988 tractor features a

number of attachments including single furrow plow, cultivator, embanker, sod-breaker, baler, and three furrow plow. In all, 79 attachments are available, along with more than 45 additional accessories.

**Circle No. 709 on free information card**



**Pierce Corp.** has developed an automatic wheel roll sprinkler irrigation system which utilizes micro-computer technology to automatically irrigate sod fields.

Incorporated into the system's control panel is a micro-processor which enables the turf grower to program the watering cycle and drain times required for each individual field.

The "Auto Side Wheel Roll" is made for use with five inch tube on

58 inch, 64½ inch, or 76 inch wheels for quarter mile systems. The unit's dual mover design insures continual alignment as the wheel moves down the field. The system is powered by an eight-horsepower engine featuring a power start-up unit and automatic battery charger.

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**Uni-Al**, a low temperature brazing rod, makes it possible to repair aluminum items such as irrigation pipes, lawn mower housings, and



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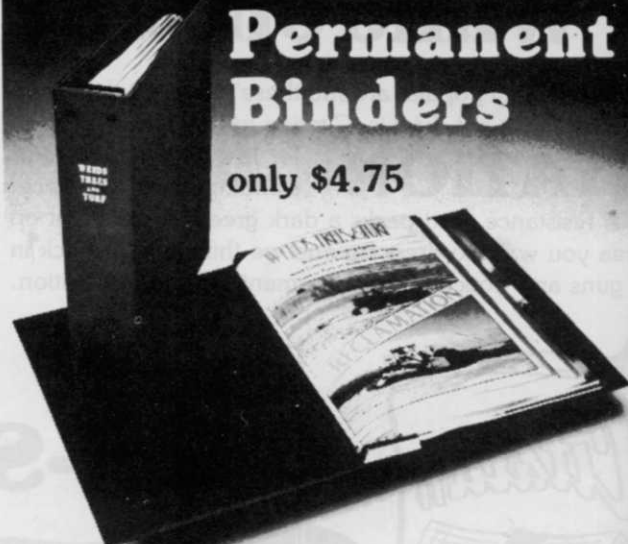
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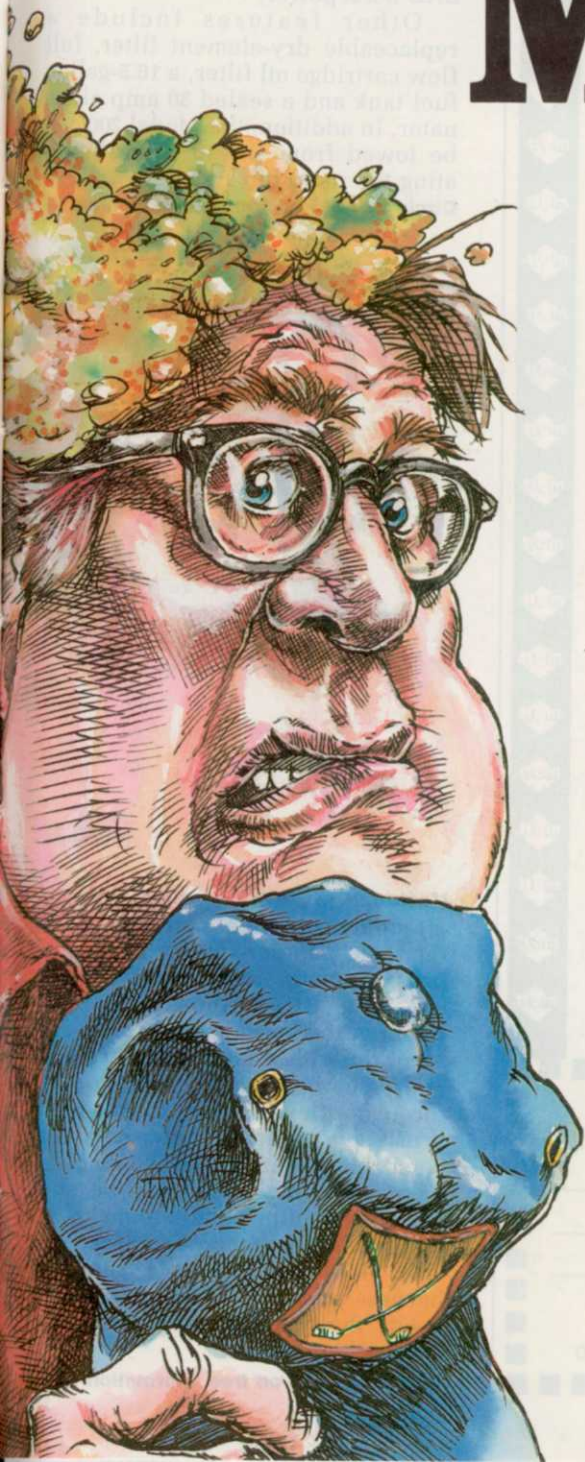
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other small engine housings while in the field.

The melting point of Uni-Al is about 400°F, lower than the melting point of aluminum. Both blow torches and propane, butane, and Prestolite torches can be used to melt the brazing rod. No flux is required.

Circle No. 711 on free information card

**Hydra-Mac, Inc.** has added the Model 9C Series III to its line of skid

steer loaders. The loader features a 30-horsepower Isuzu diesel engine and a heavy duty cooling system.

Other standard equipment includes an all gear drive system, dual hydra-lever controls, a 24-month gear drive system warranty, and an "easy tach" system for quick attachment changes.

Among the options are a third hydraulic control valve, sweeper, trencher, rotary mower, and full horsepower live mechanical power take off.

Circle No. 712 on free information card



**The Swinger Model 200** front loading tractor features a Continental 162-cubic-inch, gas engine as standard equipment. The four-cylinder, water-cooled engine produces 48.3 SAE horsepower.

Other features include a replaceable dry-element filter, full flow cartridge oil filter, a 16.5-gallon fuel tank and a sealed 30 amp alternator. In addition, the Model 200 can be towed from site to site, eliminating the need for a trailer.

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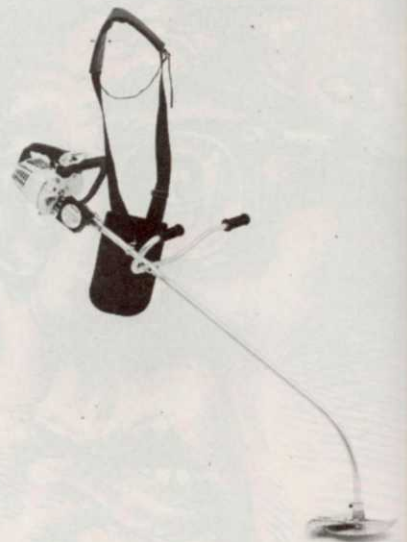
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**Hoffco, Inc.** offers a chain saw attachment which converts more than 40 popular-selling saws into brush cutters, weed cutters, lawn edgers, and tree trimmers. The saw is converted by replacing its bar and sprocket with a clutch drum pulley and drive belt that transmits power through a flexible shaft to a 44-tooth brush saw blade or Hoffco's Tri-Kut weed blade. An optional monofilament trimming head may be substituted for either blade to make the tool a lawn trimmer or edger. The saw also comes with a shoulder harness and special handles which keeps the operator away from the cutting blade.

Circle No. 714 on free information card