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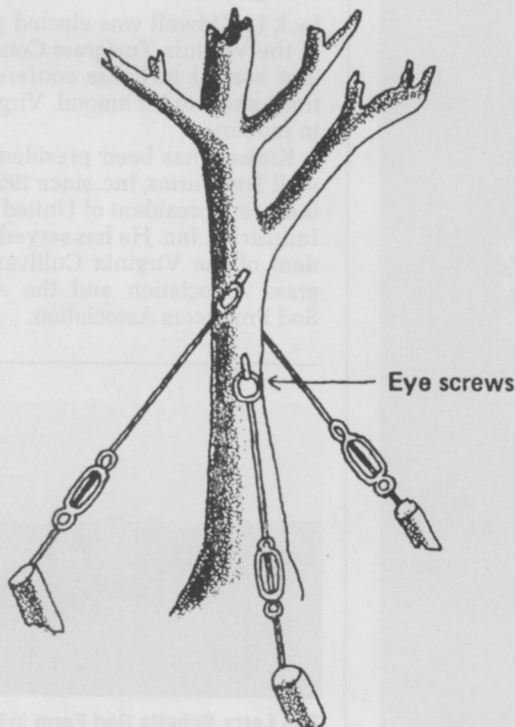
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

By Roger Funk, Ph.D., Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio

Q: Several 8-inch caliper trees are being installed in our park, and the contractor plans to guy the trees by using three lag (anchor) bolts screwed into the trunk approximately 1½ inches at various levels. Is this an accepted practice of guying, and will this harm the tree in any way? (New York)

A: Our policy is not to use guys unless absolutely necessary. Trees with freedom of movement respond with better root development in a shorter time period. Also, if a tree is located in a park or other public location, children swing on guys and loosen them; and mowing around the trees can be a problem. Guys may be necessary, however, in a windy location or where the soil is too loose to support the tree properly.

The use of lag bolts or eye hooks to anchor support wires is an established practice on trees larger than two inches in diameter. After the tree has established (usually one to two years) the lags should be cut flush with the trunk or removed and the hole filled to facilitate proper callusing. Although holes drilled into the trunk increase the potential for decay, this system of guying appears to cause less injury to large trees than a wire or cable attached to the tree by passing it around the trunk. Even when the wire is covered by a plastic or rubber hose, it places a constriction on the cambium and sapwood at the point of contact. Often the trunk appears swollen where the hose loops around it due to excessive growth from accumulated carbohydrates.



Q: How can I save my grass from dogs? And how can I bring back the brown spots that are already present? (Illinois)

A: Please refer to the December 1980 Vegetation Management column for the first part of your question.

Since turf injury is caused by excess soluble salts in the urine, any treatment effective on turf injured by fertilizer or deicing salts will also be effective on dog spots. Drenching the affected areas will help leach the salts below the root zone. If the turfgrass is still alive, new shoots will emerge from the crown area. If the turfgrass is dead and the spots are over 6 to 8 inches across, you should consider scarifying the soil and reseeding.

Q: This past season we had a disease problem identified as leaf blight in several pachysandra beds. How can we control this disease if it occurs this year? (Pennsylvania)

A: Although there are several leaf blights or leaf spots that attack pachysandra, the most serious is caused by *Volatella pachysandrae*. The leaves first develop brown blotches, followed by numerous stem cankers and blight of entire plants. Plants are more susceptible following winter injury or an insect infestation of scale insects.

Since the disease can spread rapidly from one plant to another, thin the stand periodically to prevent dense growth. Rogue and destroy severely diseased plants and avoid the use of heavy, damp mulch which encourages disease development. Inspect the underside of the leaves for scale and, if present, control with superior oil while the plants are dormant or with malathion in mid-May.

Fungicide applications to control the disease should begin when new growth starts in the spring. Spray thoroughly with ferbam or captan or mancozeb two or three times at 10-day intervals.

Q: If trees were dug in late fall and stockpiled, would the roots have time to harden off before freezing temperatures occurred? The trees were not mulched. (Ohio)

A: Roots normally are the most sensitive part of a tree to cold temperatures and they do not harden more than a few degrees. Trees stockpiled over winter in cool climates should be mulched.

Q: How much harm is done when trees bleed after spring pruning?

A: I am not aware of any evidence indicating that the loss of sap through pruning cuts will cause injury to trees. Maples and birches have been tapped for decades without apparent injury.

Send your questions or comments to: Vegetation Management c/o WEEDS TREES & TURF, 757 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017. Leave at least two months for Roger Funk's response in this column.

SOD PRODUCER NEWS

Sod producers welcome 450 to midwinter conference

The all-around annual program of managing a business was supplemented this year by equipment exhibits at the American Sod Producers Association conference in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, Feb. 16-18.

Some 450 sod growers and spouses listened to talks on how to update their business, investigated equipment and services which were presented for the first time at midwinter conference, and planned for next year's show in Maui. The Lake Tahoe setting provided a beautiful backdrop for two full days of educational sessions and attracted many growers from southern climates.

Energy was an important theme and many speakers referred back to the address of the first speaker, Dr. Victor Gibeault, turfgrass extension specialist for the University of California-Riverside. He spoke about experiments and research with grasses which don't

need as much water and others which grow shorter and don't require as much mowing. Dr. William Meyer, research director for Turf-Seed, Inc., reiterated this theme in his talk, "New Turfgrass Varieties for Sod Production."

William Harding, legal counsel for ASPA, spoke about legal developments for the organization and how to deal with state agencies. He urged members to have input with ASPA headquarters on state issues so all members might be aware of problems and take advantage of legal assistance in coping with them.

Another consultant for ASPA, Dennis Marx of Ernst & Whinney, reviewed some areas with which his accounting firm is assisting the sod growers. One project consists of analyzing ASPA's membership to gain a profile of the sod industry and its related fields.

The last speaker, John Tate, a senior

law partner in the law firm of Tate, Bruckner & Sykes, spoke about labor laws and employee relations. He said that many small and moderate-sized businesses wouldn't get into labor problems if they understood what unions promise. There would be no labor problems if employers looked at their crew's needs and responded to them.

Along with other business and cultural talks and split sessions on warm and cool season grasses, the banquet attendees heard former quarterback Roman Gabriel, now head coach at Cal-Poly U. Gabriel said playing on artificial turf was like being hit twice, once by a tackler and once by the turf. He said if you questioned the players, not one would vote for artificial turf.

In a surprise presentation at the banquet, Dr. William Daniel, turf specialist at Purdue University, was given a plaque and awarded an honorary member for his work with ASPA and for being one of the originators of the association.

Kidwell becomes Virginia turf head

Jack L. Kidwell was elected president of the Virginia Turfgrass Council at its 21st annual turfgrass conference and trade show in Richmond, Virginia held in January.

Kidwell has been president of Kidwell Turf Farms, Inc. since 1959, and he is current president of United Bio-Fuel Industries, Inc. He has served as president of the Virginia Cultivated Turfgrass Association and the American Sod Producers Association.

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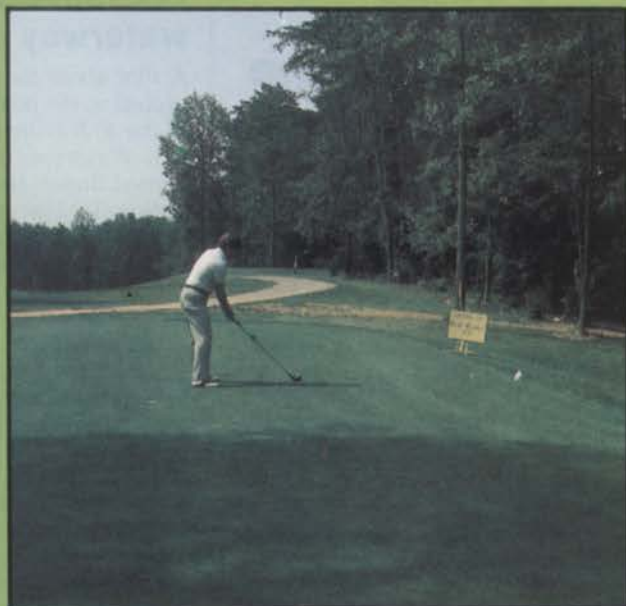
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66 WEEDS, TREES & TURF/APRIL 1981

The Land Reclamation Report

Documentary shows waterway project

A film about the largest earth-moving project in the country, the construction of the \$1.6 billion Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway in the southeastern United States, is available from International Harvester Construction Equipment Group.

The film shows how 64 International 350B off-highway haulers move 95 million cubic yards of earth in five years. When completed, the project will considerably shorten the shipping routes of 14 south central states to the Gulf Coast seaport of Mobile, Alabama, making transportation of goods more economical.

The first half of the film covers the excavation work and shows the fertilization of native grasses and shrubs and the restoration of wildlife and trees. The second half emphasizes the recreational and economic benefits of the project. The governor of Mississippi appears and talks about reconstruction, environmental, and economic growth.

This waterway will provide the area with 42,000 acres of lakes and 13,000 acres of land for recreational facilities, which are expected to attract 4 million visitors annually.

The film includes aerial scenes and animated maps. It comes in 16mm, super 8mm, and videotape format and may be purchased from International Harvester Product Support Center, 2201 Estes Avenue, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007.

U.S. soil losses would cover Iowa

Erosion robs the U.S. of enough soil each year to cover the state of Iowa with a layer one inch thick, and this often comes from the best land, say experts with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Farmers, ranchers, and conservation specialists with USDA agencies have stepped up their fight to check the huge soil losses, which equal 5.5 billion tons. Conservationists warn that with so many mouths to feed in the world, failure to better protect the topsoil eventually would mean hunger for millions.

"Soils being taken by erosion generally are the richest in nutrients and organic matter and have the most favorable conditions for plant growth," says Norman Berg, chief of the USDA's Soil Conservation Service. "This consti-

tutes a significant drain on the productive potential of land where our food is produced."

Much soil loss has occurred because of the recent drought and last summer's long stretch of 100-degree-plus days that beat down on the Great Plains. Figured at 1979 prices, USDA soil conservation specialists estimate that putting all of the lost nitrogen and phosphorus and one-fourth of the lost potassium back into the damaged land would add up to \$18 billion in just one year.

Mobil Oil to mine and reclaim Wyoming site

Mobil Oil Corp. plans to mine about 317 million tons of coal over a period of 24 years at the proposed Rojo Caballos mine in Campbell County, Wyoming.

On the basis of public comment received on the draft impact statement and the technical analysis of the mine plan, stipulations are being proposed to bring the mine plan into compliance with the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and other applicable Federal and State requirements.

West Virginia will receive \$30 million

The Interior Department's Office of Surface Mining (OSM) has approved the Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan for West Virginia, making the state eligible to receive approximately \$30 million in reclamation funding.

The State's reclamation division estimates a total cost of reclaiming the land and streams affected by past mining practices at over \$5.6 billion. The money the State is eligible to receive comes from fees charged to active coal mine operators under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977.

Other awards to states include:

- \$2.3 million to Ohio for regulation of surface coal mining activities,
- \$1.1 million to three counties in southeastern Kentucky to correct mine reclamation problems restoring mines,
- \$470,000 to Virginia to continue enforcement of its interim program,
- \$448,000 to Colorado for its first annual submission of abandoned mine lands reclamation projects, and
- \$200,000 to New Mexico to help small coal mine operators apply for permits to mine under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.



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grasses have time to fill in scarred areas, Hurley said.

A major conflict with athletic fields is they are used most heavily at the best time of year to seed, August and September, or the second best time, early spring. As a result, Hurley said, most fields are dormant seeded between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Seeding prior to the last game of the season will allow traffic to work the seed to the surface.

Shearman said the choice of turfgrass is reduced to tall fescue if maintenance is low. Hurley pointed out that improved tall fescues are making more desirable, durable playing surfaces than older varieties.

CONFERENCE

Lawn care cited for bigger turnout

Turfgrass associations all over the country report record attendance at this year's conferences and trade shows. Part of the increased turnout is due to the growth of the lawn care industry.

Dr. David Wehner of the Department of Horticulture of the University of Illinois, says, "Each year more people are being graduated with degrees in the (lawn care) field, and they maintain contacts with the universities and the turf organizations. This is how we help foster our own programs."

Also, many conferences now schedule special sessions to meet the needs of lawn care people.

The Virginia Turf Show, Jan. 20-22 in Richmond, which had never had lawn care sessions before, combined a trade show and complete lawn care program. Attendance, including speakers and exhibitors, was 516, the largest ever recorded. The association is entering areas such as highways and sod production and may plan a special program on cold-tolerant bermudagrass.

The 21st Illinois Turfgrass Conference attracted about 670 people to the Prairie Capital Convention Centre in Springfield, Illinois, from December 16-18.

The conference opened with concurrent workshop sessions on financial

planning and on various turfgrass problems—weed, disease, and insect control.

On the second afternoon, there were split lawn and golf turf sessions, followed by a banquet at the Springfield Hilton Hotel. Orion Samuelson, vice president of WGN-Continental Broadcasting System, delivered the keynote banquet speech on the importance of turf and horticulture to the American way of life.

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association marked its 10th anniversary with an Expo '80 at the Cherry Hill Hyatt House in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, from December 8-11. A record number of 1,200 people attended.

Dr. Henry Indyk, the association's general chairman, said, "We arranged the sessions consecutively so that talks, exhibits, and the trade show didn't compete. People could sit for two hours, then walk around at the exhibit. If you've been listening to speakers all day, your retention capacity goes way downhill by 4 o'clock."

The meetings began with an afternoon workshop on insect identification. The following day, a general session was held. On the third and fourth day, there were split sessions on golf and fine turf and on lawn and utility turf. A special session was held on the last afternoon for pesticide applicatory certification.

EQUIPMENT

MTD to purchase Harvester's Cub line

International Harvester's Agricultural Equipment Group has reached agreement with MTD Products Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio, to sell its Cub Cadet line of lawn and garden tractors. MTD will establish a new subsidiary, Cub Cadet Corp., to produce and market the line. International Harvester dealers will continue to market the Cub line as well in more than 2,000 dealerships in North America.

MTD is one of the largest manufacturers of mowers, tillers, and other outdoor equipment in the U.S. A sizeable portion of its products are marketed under the brands of large retail chains. The company introduced a professional series of products this year. The Cub Cadet line will strengthen its position in the homeowner and small commercial markets. The company will manufacture the Cub line at a plant recently constructed by International Harvester in Brownsville, TN.

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WT&T EVENTS

The current issue of **WEEDS TREES & TURF** carries meeting dates beginning with the following month. To insure that your event is included, please forward it, 90 days in advance, to: **WEEDS TREES & TURF Events, 757 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017.**

35th Annual SE Turfgrass Conference, Coastal Plain Station, Tifton, GA, **Apr. 13-14.** Contact Dr. Glenn W. Burton, Research Geneticist, University of Georgia, Coastal Plain Station, Tifton, GA 31793, 912/386-3353.

Southern California Turf & Landscape Institute, Anaheim, CA, **Apr. 14-15.** Contact Ed McNeill, Southern California Turfgrass Council, 1000 Concha Street, Altadena, CA 91001, 213/798-1715.

Texas ASLA, Chapter meeting and trade exhibit, Hyatt Regency-Fort Worth Hotel, Fort Worth, Texas, **Apr. 29-May 2.** Contact Monica Schwanitz,

1100 Macon Street, P.O. Box 2973, Fort Worth, Texas 76113, 817/333-2611.

Annual Meeting of the American Boxwood Society, Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce, VA, **May 13.** Contact The American Boxwood Society, Box 85, Boyce, VA 22620.

Second Annual Menninger Flowering Tree Conference, Quality Inn, Cypress Gardens, Winter Haven, FL, **May 14-15.** Contact Mrs. Taylor Burris, P.O. Box 16796, Temple Terrace, FL 33687, 813/985-8511.

Western ISA chapter meeting, Sacramento Inn, Sacramento, CA, **May 17-20.** Contact Ervin C. Bundy, ISA Executive Director, 5 Lincoln Square, P.O. Box 71, Urbana, IL 61801, 217/328-2832.

Quebec ISA chapter meeting, Hotel Auberge des Gouverneurs, Sherbrook, Quebec, **May 21-23.** Contact Ervin C.

Bundy, ISA Executive Director, 5 Lincoln Square, P.O. Box 71, Urbana, IL 61801, 217/328-2032.

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association meeting, Leland, MI, **May 19.** Contact C. E. "Tuck" Tate, President, NMTMA, 1147 Santo, Traverse City, MI 49684, 616/947-9274.

Turf & Landscape Irrigation Institute Conference, Lake Arrowhead, CA, **May 29-31.** Contact J. L. Meyer, University of California, Dept. of Soil & Environmental Sciences, Riverside, CA 92521, 714/787-5101.

Refresher Course, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA, **June 2-4.** Contact Lanny E. Walker, California Association of Nurserymen, 1419 - 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/448-2881.

Kentucky Cemetery Association annual meeting, Executive Inn, Louisville, KY, **June 5-7.** Contact Lewis C. Tingley, Resthaven Memorial Park, P.O. Box 18068, Louisville, KY 40218, 502/491-5950.

Grow Show '81, Albert Thomas Convention Center, Houston, TX, **June 8-10.** Contact David H. Lindsay, Exposition Manager, P.O. Box 17413, Dulles International Airport, Washington, DC 20041, 703/471-5761.

Texas ISA chapter meeting, Dunfey Dallas Hotel, Dallas, TX, **June 11-13.** Contact Ervin C. Bundy, Executive Director, 5 Lincoln Square, P.O. Box 71, Urbana, IL 61801, 217/328-2032.

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association meeting, Cadillac, MI, **June 16.** Contact C. E. "Tuck" Tate, President, NMTMA, 1147 Santo, Traverse City, MI 49684, 616/947-9274.

Seventh Annual Turf Field Day, University of Massachusetts, South Deerfield Research Station, **June 24.** Contact Dr. Joseph Troll, University of Massachusetts, Dept. of Plant and Soil Science, Stockbridge Hall, Amherst, MA 01003, 413/545-2353.

Better Lawn & Turf Institute Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, **June 30.** Contact Robert W. Schery, Director, BLTI, 991 W. 5th Street, Marysville, OH 43040, 513/642-1777.

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