

Rebel

Turf Type Tall Fescue

Performs in the Shade

Rebel turf-type tall fescue . . . up to 30% finer and 188% denser than Kentucky 31. Now university testing is showing Rebel tall fescue performs exceptionally well in shaded conditions.

This is what two of the leading turf specialists are saying about the shade performance of tall fescues:

Dr. Beard, world-famous turf agronomist at Texas A&M University: "After five years of testing the performance of tall fescue at College Station, Texas, results show that more consideration should be given to its use in shaded areas - particularly in the South where bermudagrass does not persist in the shade."

Dr. Funk, world-renowned turf breeder at Rutgers University: "In four years of testing at North Brunswick, NJ, Rebel has shown promise of significantly improved shade performance."

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Circle No. 123 on Reader Inquiry Card

A vote for the little course

Just a note to say how much I enjoyed Bill Lyons' article on Let's Not Forget The Little Golf COURSES. It was just great and so very true.

Having just returned from Florida and other Southern areas, I have decided it is my last. The attempt to play

golf down there is just too much trouble and aggravation, simply because the name of the game is \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$.

I'll take our little golf courses here in our own area from now on.

I will also make a prediction. We will see the day when the classy clubs welcome the public to a great degree and golf will be FREE as long as you are willing to pay \$50.00 per round for a cart.

Anyway, thanks for an excellent magazine. I really look for it each month and it is very helpful in our attempt to keep our "little" course in superb condition for our citizens.

Jerry Allen
Elizabeth City Parks
and Recreation District,
Elizabeth City, NJ

Organization is needed

I applaud your proposal to form an organization of educators and extension agents in horticulture and agronomy for turf and landscape. I agree that such an organization would be helpful to us and the industry.

A major part of my educational effort is with landscape managers, grounds maintenance people and turf care professionals. We have for the past eight years conducted a two-day school here in Evansville for these professionals as well as other meetings during the year. Over 100 participated.

Please let me know what I can do to help the organization become a reality.

Thank you for an excellent magazine.

Allen Boger
Extension Agent
Horticulture
Purdue University
Evansville, IN

Dual role for WT&T

I am writing this letter in response to your editorial in the March issue of *Weeds, Trees, and Turf*.

I am the Extension Plant Pathologist in charge of disease recommendations for forest, shade trees, and turf throughout the state of Georgia. I work very closely with our forestry industry, municipalities (in managing their urban forests), and the turf grass industry within the state which includes golf courses as well as other high maintenance urban turf. Not only is *Weeds, Trees, and Turf* very helpful to me in distributing information, but it is also a possible outlet for me to disseminate information in the future.

I will be glad to work with you in any way possible. If I can be of any assistance to you in this area, please feel free to contact me.

Edward A. Brown
Extension Plant Pathologist
University of Georgia,
College of Agriculture,
Athens, GA



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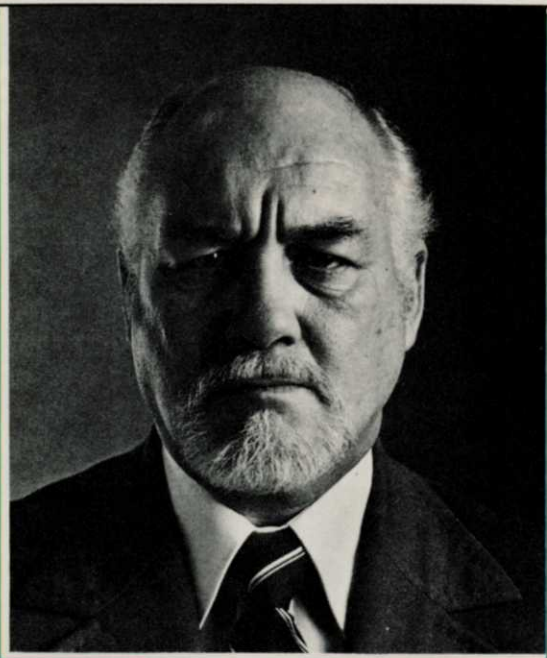
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Another frost crack solution

Your answer in the December 1982 issue of Weeds, Trees and Turf's (Vegetation Management column) on the ways to prevent frost cracks in London Plane reminded me of how I stopped frost crack in a 30 inch pin oak in my backyard.

When I moved into my present home in December 1959, the large pin oak in the backyard had a frost crack on the south side of the trunk extending up about 8 feet above the ground. It had been cracking for several years and a ridge of callus tissue had formed, but each year the crack opened anew. I noticed, also, that during the summer that fluxing took place out through the crack.

As a graduate student at Cornell in 1948, 1949 and 1950, I had seen Carl Seliskar's research on wetwood disease of elms and observed that properly installed drain pipes stopped the fluxing. So I drilled a hole a little over half way through the trunk about 8 inches above the ground and put in a drain pipe, leaving the end stick out about 5 inches. The fluxing stopped, the frost crack disappeared, and over the 25 years that followed so has the drain pipe. I think frost cracks are caused by water expanding and contracting in the freezing temperatures.

Hugh E. Thompson
Professor, Kansas State
Manhattan, KS

Wetting agent helps Poa control

We enjoyed reading Jeff Hagman's article on some of the research being done with Embark to control *Poa annua* seedhead formation. It is good to begin to get this information out to the field.

We also thought the "Weeds Trees & Turf" readership would be interested to know about the concurrent "Poa seedhead control" research that has been conducted at Cornell. Dr. M. Petrovic has found that Aqua-GRO (the soil wetting agent for rootzone water management) as well as EMBARK properly applied in the spring gives consistently significant reductions in *Poa* seedhead formation with no discoloration or inhibition of the turf. In fact Dr. Petrovic's data showed improved quality ratings where Aqua-GRO was used. This treatment can also serve as the rootzone application of Aqua-GRO, thus becoming an additional benefit of a regularly used turf product.

Dr. Petrovic presented this research at the American Society of Agronomy meeting but has not yet published it as it is going through the patenting process. However, the abstract is in Agronomy Abstracts, page 145 and Dr. Petrovic can be contacted with questions on the work.

We enjoy reading your magazine. It is helpful in keeping abreast with new developments in the turf industry.

Demie Moore Powell
Vice President-Marketing
Aquatrols Corp. of America
Pennsauken, New Jersey

EVENTS

JULY						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

California Association of Nurserymen Nursery Field Day. Research Reports, University of California, Riverside Campus. **July 7.** Contact CAN, 1419 21st St., Sacramento, CA 95814. (916) 448-2881.

Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. Annual Meeting, Duch Inn, Lake Buena Vista, FL. **July 10-13.** Contact APMS, PO Box 16, Vicksburg, MI 39180.

American Association of Sod Producers Association International Summer

Convention and Field Days, Atlantic City, NJ. **July 11-13.** Contact Bob Garey, Executive Director, 9th and Minnesota, Hastings, NE 68901 (402) 463-4683.

American Association of Nurserymen Annual Convention, Montreal, Canada, **July 16-20.** Contact AAN, 230 Southern Bldg., 15th and 8th Sts., NW, Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 737-4060.

Mississippi Turfgrass Association 24th Annual Conference, **July 24-26.** Contact Jim Perry, Dept. of Horticulture, Mississippi State University. (601) 325-3935.

1983 Penn Allied Nursery Trade Show, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA, **July 26-28.** Contact Pat Norman, PANT, 234 State St., Harrisburg, PA 17101-1181. (717) 238-1673.

University of Illinois Turfgrass and Ornamentals Research Field Day, Ornamental Horticultural Research Center, Urbana, IL. **July 27.** Contact Dr. Dave Wehner, 1707 S. Orchard, Urbana, IL 61801. (217) 333-7848.

Central Plains Turfgrass Foundation- Kansas State University Field Day, Manhattan, KS. **July 27.**

Illinois Landscape Contractors Association Annual Summer Field Day, Matt Tures Sons Nursery, Huntley, IL. **Aug. 3.** Contact Lucile Little, 4A East Wilson St., Batavia, IL 60510 (312) 879-0765.

Ohio State University Cooperative Extension Service Landscape Design Short Course for Residential Properties, Wooster, OH, "Planting Design," **Aug. 3-5.** Prerequisite is Course II. Contact Fred K. Buscher, Area Extension Center, OARDC, Wooster, OH 44691 (216) 262-8176

To insure that your event is included, please forward it, 90 days in advance, to: WEEDS TREES & TURF Events, 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44130.

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PROBLEM SOLVERS

By Balakrishna Rao, Ph.D., and Thomas P. Mog, Ph.D.

Q: Every year during the summer months we have seen lawns with extensive tip dieback of grass blades. I think it is Anthracnose disease. Could you please help me in identifying and controlling this problem? (Michigan)

A: The tip dieback and blighting can be caused by a number of different fungi such as *Leptosphaerulina*, *Ascochyta*, *Septoria* and *Colletotrichum*. With the help of a 10X magnifying lens, examine affected turfgrass blades. You can distinguish *Colletotrichum*, the causal agent of Anthracnose, from all other fungi causing tip dieback by the presence of dark, minute spines protruding from the leaf surface in clusters. These are the fruiting bodies (acervuli) of the Anthracnose fungus. The other fungi (mentioned above) have smooth-walled fruiting bodies.

Anthracnose disease is reported to be very widespread and probably infects all cultivated turfgrass in warm (80°-85°F.) and prolonged moist weather. This disease usually establishes in turfgrass that is weakened by other pest problems such as leaf spot disease, improper fertility, compacted soil, etc.

Affected turf may show round to elongated, reddish-brown leaf lesions which often coalesce and blight the blades. Older affected blades will show the fruiting bodies (acervuli) with dark spines. Diseased turf is reddish-brown at first, fading to a light tan or yellow. Patches may vary from a few inches to 10-20 feet in diameter.

Follow good cultural practices to minimize the disease incidence and improve turf vigor. Provide proper watering and feeding. Pick up clippings to reduce the spread of dis-

ease and aerify if the soil is compacted. Applications of fungicides such as Tersan 1991, Fungo, Spot Kleen, Tersan LSR, Fore, Zineb, Dyrene, Daconil 2787, Captan or Tersan-75 will also help to manage the disease. Read the label and follow the directions.

Q: This year we have seen a number of our clients' lawns showing browning of the turfgrass around house foundations. Upon close examination we found 8-legged, small insects. I think they are clover mites but I am not sure whether these insects can cause such an extensive injury to turfgrass. I would appreciate your comments concerning positive identification of clover mites and how to control them. (Pennsylvania)

A: As you know, the first thing to do in pest management is to have proper identification of the causal agent. From your description of the pest, I feel that you are dealing with a clover mite *Bryobia praetosis* problem.

Mites are not true insects. The clover mites are very small (about 1/30-inch), with eight legs and a reddish-brown body, and usually present a problem by invading houses during the spring and fall. They have very distinguishing, long, front legs which extend forward from the body. These can be easily seen with a 10X hand lens. Mites feed on turfgrass, clover and other vegetation. During fall they lay eggs on building walls, tree bark or plants and have several generations per year. Infested turf initially shows a silvery appearance caused by the mites feeding activity. Damage is often seen in spring in a 3-foot band around house foundations.

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Usually chemical treatment is not necessary for clover mite control because predators keep the populations under good control. If the damage is extensive, apply chemical treatments at the first sign of infestation. Chemicals such as diazinon, Spectracide, Kelthane or Dursban can be used to minimize this pest. Read the label and follow the directions for more details.

Q: Some of our clients' properties are heavily infested with moss. The properties are full of trees around the outer border with the house usually located in the center of a donut-shaped lawn. The lawns were seeded about 2-3 years ago and they are very thin. I would appreciate your recommendations to manage this moss-spreading problem. (New York)

A: Before attempting to control the moss, study the properties and identify the reasons why moss is growing and establishing in these properties. A moss problem is usually the result of improper drainage, insufficient light or poor air circulation. Also, moss can tolerate alkaline or acid soils better than turfgrasses.

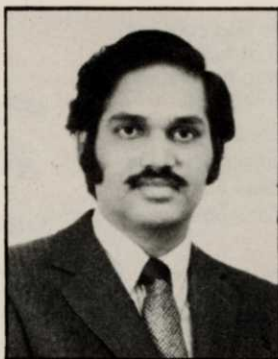
Moss can invade and establish well in those locations where conditions are unfavorable for turfgrass. Moss plants do not have roots, instead they have rhizoids.

The following guidelines may improve the condition of the turf. After identifying the possible reasons why moss is growing in lawns, try to eliminate those problems first. If heavy shade, reduce the shade by thinning tree branches. Improve drainage and air circulation to discourage moss growth. Make a soil test to determine soil pH and fertility and adjust accordingly.

After following these cultural practices, if desired apply chemicals such as powdered copper sulfate (2 lbs./acre or 3 level tablespoons/1000 sq. ft.). Be careful while using this product—use gloves because it stains clothes, skin, etc.

Amonium sulfate (10 lbs./1000 sq. ft. when moss is actively growing) can also be used. Do not water the area after treatment.

After the moss is gone, the thinned out areas in the lawns should be overseeded with turf cultivars adapted to the locations.



Balakrishna Rao is plant pathologist and Thomas Mog is pest management specialist for Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent OH.

Questions should be mailed to Problem Solver, Weeds Trees & Turf, 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44130. Please allow 2-3 months for an answer to appear in the magazine.

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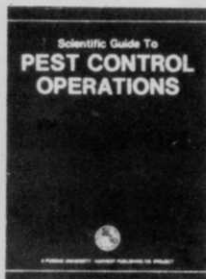
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WTT 73

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PRODUCTS



Ditch Witch debuts compact loader

Ditch Witch, a company known for its trenching, vibratory plow and related equipment to install material in the ground, has entered the compact loader market. It is introducing the 400 LD, a half-cubic-yard, 40 hp class articulated loader.

Lift arms and bucket on the loader are solid steel. It has four-wheel drive and an articulated frame for maneuverability.

Bill Haynes, director of marketing, said the new loader is seen as a natural extension of the Ditch Witch line of equipment.

"We believe, he said, "there is a place in the market for a high-quality, compact loader and that the Ditch Witch 400LD has the highest quality and is the best value of any product available.

The machine is available through the Ditch Witch dealer organization which offers sales, parts and service.

Circle No. 140 on Reader Inquiry Card



Dow offers wettable powder DURSBAN

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Bill Schader
Ranch Manager
AmFac Garden Cal-Turf; Camarillo, CA



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Columbia	2	3	1	13	2	6
Midnight	*	1	3	13	*	1
Baron	14	39	12	23	13	27
Adelphi	1	36	2	16	4	4
Victoria	20	38	*	15	*	9
Touchdown	3	18	18	7	14	46
Merion	19	34	20	*	18	12

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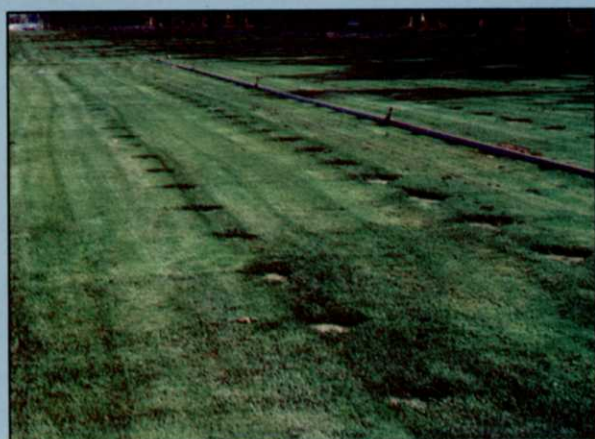
Columbia Kentucky Bluegrass is at the roots of a good sod business...

Columbia Kentucky Bluegrass is the ideal "blue" for sod and home lawn use. Above ground level, Columbia produces a medium dark green turf that is resistant to Fusarium Blight, Leaf Spot, Stripe Rust and Stripe Smut. Columbia adapts well to all geographical areas and has good winterability in colder climates.

Underground, Columbia produces a quick spreading rhizome system that allows sod to be harvested earlier. A good root system is important to turf health in hot, dry summer periods. Columbia's Fusarium Blight resistance makes it a perennial winning turf-type "blue".

The Rewards of Research...

These test plots at Camarillo, California, proved Columbia Kentucky Bluegrass was best suited to this area. Fusarium and rust damaged Baron, Victoria, Glade, Park and Touchdown while Columbia rated second only to the experimental CHB-11A. As a result, Columbia was chosen as a vital part of the mixtures used in southern California sod.



of Dursban insecticide products. New Dursban 50W is a broad spectrum insecticide which will control many pests harmful to turf and ornamental plants.

The product contains 50 percent Chlorpyrifos (0,0-diethyl 0-3,5 6-trichloro-2-pyridyl phosphorothioate) and 50 percent inert materials.

The new insecticide offers reduced phototoxicity effects compared to EC products, according to Vince Geiger, product manager for Dursban 50W.

"The product offers the benefits of

easy mixing with wettable powder fungicides, improved grub control, effective residual control, cost competitiveness and good storage and handling characteristics," he said.

The insecticide is approved for use in every state except California where label approval is in process.

Dursban 50W is compatible with commonly recommended insecticides, miticides and fungicides (except for alkaline materials.) It is applied as a dilute (with water) or concentrate foliar spray using conventional power-

operated ground spray equipment that insures thorough, complete coverage of foliage. In treating lawn pests, the insecticide is applied as a coarse, low pressure spray. Ornamental trees and plants are treated by applying a wetting spray to both upper and lower leaf surfaces as well as infested limb and trunk surfaces.

The product is also approved for control of peach tree borer and native elm bark beetle. It can be applied in area control of ticks and chiggers infesting non-cropland areas—roadsides, footpaths and trails, picnic and camping sites, parks and other recreational areas where pests create a nuisance and potential human health problem.

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Teledyne introduces vertical shaft engine

Teledyne Total Power, Memphis, has introduced its first vertical shaft Wisconsin Robin Long-Life Engine. The new unit is a single cylinder 3.5 hp air-cooled gasoline engine designated Model W1-145V.

The new engine represents Teledyne Total Power's first move into the vertical shaft engine market in recent years, with the unit targeted at the commercial lawn and garden equipment manufacturer, as well as the rental and replacement markets.

Model W1-145V has a heavy, cast-in iron cylinder liner; forged aluminum connecting rod; ball main bearings, mechanical flyweight governor; and a forged steel crankshaft. In standard configuration, the new engine produces its peak 3.5 hp rating at 3,600 rpm. It has a displacement of 8.72 cu. in. (143 cc) with a bore of 2.48 inches (63 mm) and a stroke of 1.81 in. (46 mm). At normal operating speeds, the noise level is low. In full production, the unit is well-suited for powering a variety of equipment requiring a vertical shaft engine, including professional lawn and garden equipment.

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