The idea could be a blessing in disguise, a cost-cutting measure that consequently adds an important dimension to the game of golf. Or it could be an unnecessary move that opposes what most Americans value in the game. It depends on who you ask.

The idea is target golf. It involves reducing the fairway area on the course and increasing rough areas, which could include taller grass, sand traps and natural brush. The golfer is provided with a specific target at which to aim and the course is given a more natural look, such as those in Scotland. The American trend tends to be an extremely toned-down variation of the target courses found abroad.

Prompted by increasing maintenance costs and restrictions on water, the move involves, according to some architects, adding some integrity to the game that is present in courses in Scotland and England but absent from most American versions.

Jack Snyder, president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, points out that while it is a recent movement in American course architecture, it is not a new idea.

"The trend, as far as I'm concerned, is going forward to the past," Snyder said, "It's really the way golf was played in Scotland and England. With the cost of maintenance going up, we have to find ways to reduce.'

"For a variety of reasons, including maintenance costs, the integrity of the game and pure aesthetics, I think target golf will become a very important theme in golf course architecture," said Brian Silva of Cornish & Silva, Inc., Golf Course Architects, formerly an agronomist with the Northeast Green Section, USGA.

"We're still talking about beautifully maintained fairways, but just not as wide as in the past," he explained.

Just as the name implies, target golf makes the golfer concentrate on accuracy over power. As Silva sees it, the surface of the tees will be maintained with just as much intensity as they presently are, but the banks around them will be

rougher. At least 100 yards or more from the tee will be a fairway maintained just as nicely as possible, but not as wide as usual. About 30 to 40 feet from the greens will also be taller grass.

Much of the fairway restructuring will be accomplished through contour mowing. This step alone will not create the type of target courses Scotland is known for, but a more limited, Americanized version of the Scottish principle.

Architect Geoffrey Cornish believes this concept plays an important part in creating American target golf courses.

"We're doing it largely through contour mowing," Cornish said. "We're bringing the roughs into the fairways. I'm a great advocate of letting the grass grow taller, sometimes overseeding it," he says.

A common concern of opponents to the move is that, along with the change in course structure, the game will become more difficult. However, proponents contend that protection of the average golfer is considered.

According to Cornish, the concept behind contour mowing is to reduce the area of fairway turf to save maintenance money, and at the same time keep in mind the different ability levels of players.

The fairway is kept wide near the tee, where most high handicappers' balls land, and narrow where the long distance hitters and low handicappers place.

"We don't want to hurt the high handicappers," Cornish explained. "The longer one hits the ball, the more accurate he must be. That's our principle."

Ted Horton, superintendent at Westchester Country Club, said, "It puts a premium on accuracy rather than distance." Harder hitters may be discriminated against.

Silva points out, however, that with a 100 yard, wall-to-wall fairway, the golfer has nothing to aim at, no point on which to concentrate hitting or avoiding.

"I believe it helps the golfer when he stands on the tee to see where the ball should go," he said.

"It definitely makes the golf course more interesting," Cornish added.



Jack Snyder



Geoffrey Cornish



Harry Eckhuff



Ted Horton

Jack Snyder believes this is a cost-cutting measure that is not only helpful but often necessary. "With the cost of maintenance going up, we have to find ways to reduce," he maintains.

According to Snyder, rough areas require less attention. Sprinkler systems, for example, can be modified to provide fairway areas with their usual amounts of water, but to reduce the water used on intermediate areas and roughs. Although the computerization of systems to perform in this modified way is itself an added expense, Snyder points out it may soon be necessary anyway due to frequent water shortages and restrictions on water consumption.

The target golf concept holds possibilities on some courses, but will it become a widespread trend to sweep American golf? Probably not. Snyder points out not every course will be interested, and that it will gain more acceptance in private courses catering to better golfers.

"It certainly is happening on country club courses," Cornish agreed. But even an advocate of the idea, he explained that some public courses have shown a 10 to 20 percent drop after narrowing their fairway areas.

For Bill Lyons Jr. of familyoperated Lyon's Den Golf Club, the results of such a transformation

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"I like to see a course where most of the hazards are visible so the golfer knows what he is up against." Cadanelli.

would hardly be advantageous.

"We are strictly a public course. I have no members to pick up the tab. I depend on daily golf fees," he explained.

Most players of his course are amateurs or beginners. He feels that making the game more difficult for them would slow them up on the course, create lines waiting at the tees, make people dissatisfied and business would drop.

Bruce Cadanelli, superintendent at the Hollywood Golf Club, maintains similar apprehensions.

"You want the golf course to be enjoyable and to be played in a moderate amount of time," he said. A course requiring six hours to complete is not going to encourage new golfers to play or return to a course.

He contends that most American golfers play for social reasons, for enjoyment of being outdoors and the chance to occasionally play an exceptional round. "I don't know if they want a constant challenge" Cadanelli said.

Lyons gives his patrons what he feels they want.

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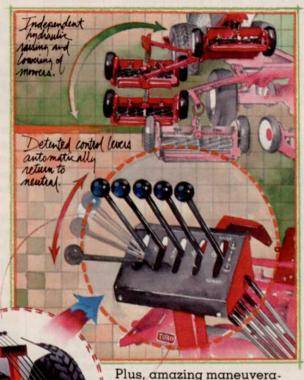
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enough to get a change of color," Lyons said.

Public golfers aren't complaining. Lyons said that every year his business increases, not only from greens fees but from increased volume.

For golf professional Arnold Palmer, the idea of reduced fairway area is no problem. Although he foresees it happening on a number of courses, he also feels it can discourage many golfers.

"I don't really mind. Target or restrictive golf is fine, but you have to consider all the people who aren't professionals," Palmer said.

As far as reduced maintenance costs, Lyons sees none. "I have to drag my mowers around anyway. There's no way I could justify decreased costs." he declared.

What Bruce Cadanelli sees in terms of maintenance is not so much a cost reduction, but a change in quality. Having eliminated 1/3 of his fairway turf, dropping from 30 to 21 acres, he hasn't noticed any savings. What he believes may be happening, though, is that the money not spent on fairway turf may be spent elsewhere on the course in terms of better quality or improvements.

He maintains that strategy can be built into a course by design.

"I don't really favor target golf, per se, where a person has to hit a specific target and by missing it by a small amount is severely penalized. I don't think that person is likely to come back to that course.

"What I like to see in a course is a situation where most of the hazards are visible so the golfer knows what he's up against," Cadanelli explained.

He does advocate the type of strategic courses created by some degree of contour mowing. He also encourages multiple tees, so the golfer can choose how difficult a game he wished to play on a daily basis.

Brian Silva would like to see the

"A course requiring six hours to play is not going to encourage new golfers." Cadanelli.

attitudes toward tee positions changed. He finds it would be beneficial if older players or beginners would use the closer tees, discarding the stigma of women's and children's tees. Three or four separate tees would almost be necessary to the idea of contour mowing, so different types of players are not discriminated against.

As far as this direction changing the way golf is viewed by American golfer, Ted Horton believes that pros and amateurs are playing better golf; so there should be little difference in attitude between private and public clubs.

Bill Lyons maintains that his public golfers want the ball to sit on fairway turf like it was on a tee. They tend to scoop the ball.



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TARGET from page 24

"You've got to appeal to the people you serve," he contends.

Most agree, however, that the spread of the target trend will rely largely on superintendents.

"A large part of it is the initiative of the superintendent. They want to get down to 20 acres of fairway instead of 50. Everyone is after them to reduce," Cornish said.

Silva adds, "As an agronomist, if I suggest to a superintendent he only mow in front of the tee twice a week, he's the one who must listen to the complaints of the golfers who are used to having it another way."

"I don't think superintendents are afraid of strategic golf," Cadanelli offered. "I don't know if the American golfer wants a challenge on a day to day basis."

He sums it up as a matter of degrees. "Scotland is one end of the spectrum. They may be undermaintained and are operating on lower budgets. We are probably overmaintained."

He would like to see some sort of middle ground established, which would reduce some maintenance and still appeal to the average golfer, which would make private courses more accessible to everyone. He points out that most superintendents could find some places on their courses, far off in the distance where no ball usually lands, to reduce care.

Jack Snyder would like to see a lot more of the target concept, not only through contour mowing but by wild roughs and tricks as well.

"Architects haven't been able to hide sand traps, for example, like in Scotland," he said. "What was called the 'rub of the green' has been eliminated. Maybe we can bring a little of that back within 5, 10, 20 years.

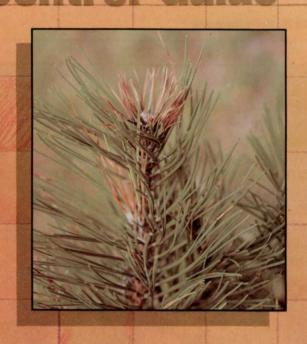
"On the other side, some architects say that the structure of golf doesn't have to return to the past to tighten the game."

Snyder hopes target golf will become a theme new course designs will take into account.

"I think all new courses will be modified slightly with this concept in mind, but not nearly as tight as those private clubs that want to employ it."

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Insect Control Guide





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The INSECT CONTROL GUIDE will be updated and published each May. For this premier edition, the authors are Dr. Harry Niemczyk, professor of turfgrass entomology, Ohio State University, Wooster, and Dr. R. E. Partyka, director of horticulture, Chemscape, Columbus, Ohio. Photos were contributed by leading entomologists. The Guide was written with timing for control in mind. The turf section is followed by a section on landscape insect control, i.e. trees and ornamentals.

A useful approach to dealing with insect pests of turfgrasses is to consider them as they occur throughout the growing season. While insects are present in the turfgrass environment throughout the year, the key to preventing visible damage from them is knowing the optimal time to apply control measures. These times are keyed to vulnerable periods during the pests life cycle.

Depending on whether the preventive, predictive or curative approach to control is taken, controls for a certain pest may be directed at the different stages of that pest as they occur over the growing season. With the chinchbug, for example, preventive controls may be directed at the overwintering adult in early spring to prevent the laying of eggs, that lead to the damaging summer generation. The curative approach would be to wait until the eggs hatch and then treat for the young (nymphs) during early summer. Whatever the approach, knowing the life cycle of the insect and when the various stages occur, is essential.

The purpose of this guide is to point out some major pests to look out for in 1983 and cover some of the controls that may be used during these times. No endorsement of named products is intended nor is criticism implied for those not mentioned.

LATE WINTER (MARCH)

A. Chinchbug and Bluegrass Billbug - Both of these insects overwinter as adults in the thatch but some move to sheltered sites near buildings or other protected locations. On warm days the insects begin moving about.

When summer damage from chinchbug and/or bluegrass billbug is expected, summer infestations can be prevented with an application of Dursban® (chlorpyrifos) 1 lb AI/Acre (active ingredient/acre) or diazinon 2.5 lb AI/Acre, made as soon as these insects begin to move about. In 1983 this could be as early as the first or second week of March.

B. Grubs — The larvae of this group of pests normally overwinter 6 inches or deeper in the soil. However, during the mild winter of '82-'83, many remained near the surface. This means early grub activity can be expected along with skunks and racoons who will tear up the turf searching for the grubs.

Application of Oftanol® (isofenphos) at 2 lb AI/Acre during March or when frost is gone from the ground, provides control of overwintered grubs as they return to the surface. There is limited confidence that such a treatment will provide adequate control of fall grub infestation. On the other hand, treatment at this time kills overwintering chinchbugs and billbugs and prevents infestation of these insects during the summer. C. Mole Crickets - The biology of mole crickets varies considerably with the species and is still under study in many areas. Generally, these insects overwinter as adults deep in the soil, however some do overwinter as nymphs. Feeding activity resumes in March. Both adults and nymphs feed at night near the surface on turf roots, organic matter and other insects. During the day mole crickets return to permanent burrows.

In years when feeding of overwintered mole crickets resumes earlier than normal, Oftanol® at 2 lb AI/Acre has been used with some success. Generally, such applications are better made during May.

D. Winter Grain Mite — This dark bodied, red-legged mite actively feeds on grass blades throughout the winter. Symptoms of injury are very similar to those from winter dessication. Damaged areas may also have a gray color appearing as though hit by a late frost.

When unacceptable damage from the winter grain mite is discovered in March, infestations can be readily controlled with a single application of liquid Dursban® 1 lb AI/Acre or diazinon 2.5 lb AI/Acre.

E. Black Turfgrass Ataenius — This golf course pest overwinters as an adult in the soil under debris in roughs or other protected areas. With the mild winter and expectations of a very early spring in 1983, a few may be seen flying about on warm afternoons in early March.



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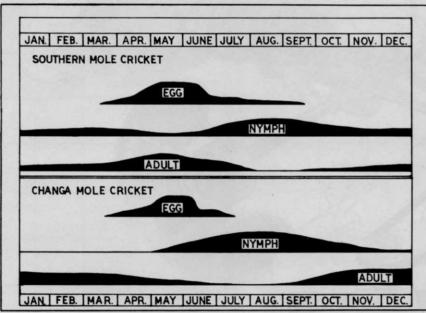
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MAY 1983/WEEDS TREES & TURF 29



Mole crickets begin feeding near the surface in March. Preventative control would focus on stopping adults before they lay eggs.

Usually this activity begins when crocus starts blooming and intensifies as the bloom of red bud appears.

While an application of Oftanol® in March may be successful in preventing summer infestations of larvae, the probability of successes is increased by waiting until April. F. Greenbug — The only stage of the greenbug known to overwinter in northern states is the egg. Shiny black eggs deposited the previous fall may be found adhering to grass blades, fallen tree leaves or other debris.

Treatment for greenbug is not appropriate at this time.

G. Sod Webworm — The most common sod webworm species on northern turfgrasses overwinter as larvae in the thatch or upper inch of soil. Feeding does not resume until hibernation (dipause) is broken by early spring warmth.

Treatment for sod webworm is usually not appropriate at this time.

SPRING (APRIL-MAY)

A. Chinchbug and Billbug — As the warm days of May approach, movement of chinchbug and bill-

bug adults increases rapidly. Generally, egg laying begins during May but in 1983 this may occur a month early. Occasionally on warm afternoons, adult billbugs can be seen wandering about on sidewalks.

Generally, application of insecticides to prevent infestations of these two pests (mentioned above) should be completed by the first week in May; before significant number of eggs are laid. This time may vary as much as a week or more depending on the spring.

B. Grubs — Overwintered grubs return to the surface and begin feeding on turfgrass roots in April. Increased activity and damage from moles, skunks and racoons foraging on grubs can also be expected. Feeding by mammals and grubs continues thru May.

A single application of Oftanol® at 2 lb AI/Acre made during April has been successful in controlling overwintered grubs and preventing subsequent infestations during late summer. Application made during May may not provide immediate control, however, prevention of the late summer infestation may be expected.

Infestations of grubs can also be controlled during April or May by spot or general treatment with diazinon 5.5 lb AI/Acre, Turcam® (bendiocarb) 2 lb AI/Acre, Proxol® 8 lb AI/Acre. Golf course superintendents may also use Nematicide/Insecticide (ethoprop) at 10 lb AI/Acre. Irrigation or rainfall should follow such applications, to move the insecticide to the target grub as soon as possible.

Although milky disease products for control of Japanese beetle grubs may be applied anytime there is no frost in the ground. Spring is a good time for such applications because the soil is open and frequent rains help carry the spores deep into the soil. Remember, such products are effective against the Japanese beetle grub only.

C. Mole Crickets — Mature adult mole crickets emerge from the soil in May and engage in mating and dispersal flights. Eggs are laid in chambers hollowed out in the upper 6 inches of soil.

Though some variation in results has been experienced, application of Oftanol® at 2 lb AI/Acre during this time has been generally successful in preventing summer damage. Irrigation following treatment is advisable.

D. Black Turfgrass Ataenius - Adults of the black turfgrass ataenius can be seen flying about in April and are often found in the clipping catchers after early mowing of golf course greens. These adults begin egg laying in early May, or about the time Vanhoutte spiraea first comes into bloom.

Application of Oftanol® during April or May has successfully prevented larval infestations during the summer. Diazinon at 5.5 lb AI/Acre applied to fairways when Vanhoutte spiraea first comes into bloom, kills egg-laying adults and also prevents the development of summer larval infestations.

E. Sod Webworm — Overwintered larvae of the sod webworm

Continued on page 32