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			1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29				

54th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Jan. 17-18. Lansing, MI. Contact Paul E. Rieke, Extension Specialist, Turf, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824.

24th Annual Virginia Turfgrass Conference and Trade Show, Jan. 18-20. Williamsburg Hilton and National Conference Center, Williamsburg, VA. Contact Dr. John R. Hall, III, Agronomy Dept., VPI&SU, Blacksburg, VA 24061-7294. (703) 961-5797.

Turf and Grounds Maintenance Short Course, Jan. 23-25. University of Tennessee Department of Ornamental Horticulture and Landscape Design. Contact Dr. L.M. Callahan. Professor of Turf Management, Box 1071 University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37901, (615) 974-7324.

Professional Turf and Landscape Conference, Jan. 25. Tappan Zee Towne House, Nyack, NY. Contact Dan Antonecchia, 21 Jackson Ave., Scarsdale, NY 10583, (914) 723-1677. February

Industrial Vegetation Management Association Annual Meeting, Feb. 1-3. Stouffer's Denver Inn, Denver, CO. Contact Dr. John Pickle, President, (913) 539-4241.

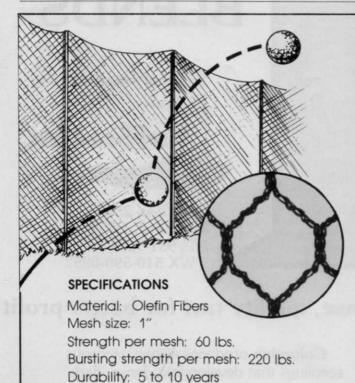
American Sod Producers Association 1984 Midwinter Conference, Feb. 21-23. Hilton Riviera, Palm Springs, CA. Contact ASPA, 9th and Minnesota, Hastings, NB 68901, (402) 463-4683.

Mississippi Erosion Control and Land Reclamation Seminar, Feb. 21-22. Holiday Inn Southwest, Jackson, MI. Contact Robin Borden, agronomist, Mining and Reclamation Section, Mississippi Bureau of Geology, PO Box 5348, Jackson, MS 39216, (601) 354-6228.

16th Annual Professional Turf and Plant Conference, Feb. 27. Nassau-Suffolk Landscape Gardeners Association, Colonie Hill, Long Island, NY. Contact William Alexander, NSLGA 59 Orinico Drive, Brightwaters, NY 11718, (516) 665-2250.

53rd Massachusetts Turfgrass Conference & 8th Industrial Show, Feb. 28 - March 1. Springfield, Massachusetts Civic Center. Contact Dr. Joseph Troll, Plant & Soil Sciences, Stockbridge Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003.

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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MULTI-COURSE from page 34

issue." Proposition 13 in California cut public funding in many areas. It may be part of the reason for the success of contract golf course maintenance there.

AGC's Vice President Bill Brown recently annnounced formation of a "golf club" to spur rounds at 22 of its golf courses in California, Nevada and Arizona. For a \$48 membership fee, golfers get a free round at any of the courses including preferred tee times and tournaments. Marketing the game of golf is one of the most difficult tasks for an owner or municipal course. AGC is using marketing tactics similar to those used by American Express and Diner's Club to increase revenues.

"We're finding group buying a great benefit to our clients," says Epchells with Golf Turf Inc." We specialize predominantly with newer golf courses and developers. We help them get established and then follow up with group buying and opera-

tional problem-solving."

The future of multis

The case for multi-course management is economic. Beside groups with ten or more courses, are many more with two or three courses. Many of these are owned by developers who built the courses to serve as the centerpieces for recreational communities. These developers eventually try to sell the golf course to the owners of the condominiums or homes in the development. Failing this, they seek other options.

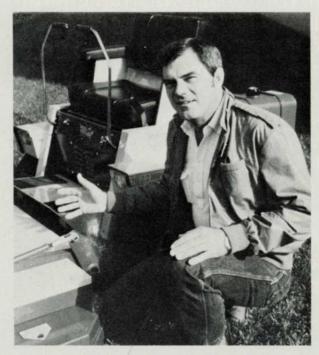
Companies which once found owning a golf course prestigious, are also tempted by ways to lighten their burden. Municipalities faced with tight-fisted taxpayers and growing problems with basic services, labor, and schools, may be anxious to cut their loses and reduce management headaches by leasing their courses to multi-course operators.

Even the private golf club, disappointed with superintendents and afraid to raise dues, may try contract maintenance or a consulting organization.

Of course, consulting is available from other sources, especially the United States Golf Association Green Section. The certification program by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America can help superintendents document competence if needed.

The real foes of individual superintendents are management, labor problems, and size. To match the expertise and cost savings of multi-course operators, superintendents will require strong association and extension support, buying groups to gain quantity discounts, and a greater knowledge of managing and marketing their course.

It will be more difficult to stay a "greenskeeper" and leave the operation of the course to the club manager and the golf professional. Recreation is now a business and the superintendent will need to become a businessman as well as a skilled landscape manager to guard his future. WT&T





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For complete information see your Rain Bird dealer, or write: Rain Bird Sales, Inc. • Turf Division, 145 North Grand Avenue, Glendora, California 91740.



MILWAUKEE from page 50

year to predict other problems and needs.

The golfization of turf grads

When Quast graduated from the University of Massachusetts turf program he knew little about becoming a superintendent. Leo Cleary, brother of W.A. Cleary of Somerset, NJ, hired Quast to work on the company course. He taught him the ropes of being a superintendent. Now Quast tries to do the same thing for recent turf graduates at MCC.

Each year Quast meets some of the best turf graduates in the country when he attends state and national turf shows and teaches at Jacobsen's student seminars. He picks one or two at a time to learn the ropes at his course. After two years they are ready to be superintendent almost anywhere says Ouast.

Steve Blendell, a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, recently left the assistant superin-

"No one chemical is a panacea for all turf diseases." Quast

tendent position at MCC to be superintendent of another Milwaukee area course. Mike van Sistine, a Michigan State University graduate moved up to assistant superintendent. His previous responsibility was to manage the installation of the new irrigation system. Karen Bruning, a graduate of ABAC, Tifton, GA, is quarterbacking the Poa annua reduction program.

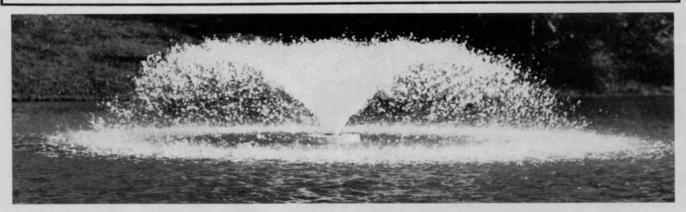
Quast believes strongly in the

GCSAA certification program for superintendents. He is also editor of the newsletter of the Wisconsin chapter of GCSAA. He knows that much is gained by working with other superintendents and with suppliers, such as the Jake HF-5 basket arrangement which is now on the market. He not only wants superintendents to think for themselves, but to think together.

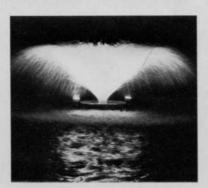
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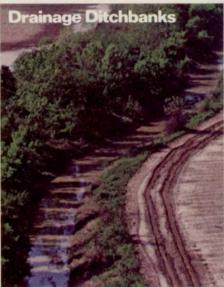
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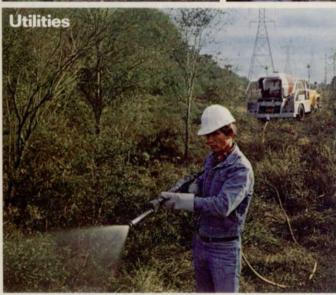
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LANDSCAPE MANAGER - a growing Great Lakes firm is looking for an experienced person to take control of day to day operations of this full service company. Must have extensive knowledge of all phases of landscape maintenance and construction. Duties include job bidding, selling maintenance contracts, dispatch and supervising crews. Excellent benefits including profit sharing for the right person. Send resume and salary requirement to: Nature's Way Landscaping, 15025 Hall Road, Mount Clemens, Michigan 48044.

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NO. ADVERTISER 101 American Minerals	PAGE
101 American Minerals	34
102 Aquatrols Corp. of America	55
103 Bareho	86
103 Barebo	27
105 Bunton Co	14.15
	. 14,15
106 Chevron Chemical Co	35
207 Ciba-Geigy Corp	23
107 J.A. Cissel Co	82
173 Country Mfg	63
108 Cushman	28. 29
107 J.A. Cissel Co. 173 Country Mfg. 108 Cushman 109 Cushman 110 Dedoes Industries	60, 61
110 Dedoes Industries	43
111 John Deere & Co	1 5
	4, 5
112 Ditch Witch Equipment	25
113 Dow Chemical U.S.A CV 171 Elanco Products Co 172 Elanco Products Co	
U.S.A	2, p. 1
171 Elanco Products Co	70
172 Elanco Products Co	71
205 Estech	83
116 Excel Industries	77
117 E-Z-Go/Div. of Textron	72
	70
164 Four Star Agricultural Svcs	/0
165 Four Star Agricultural Svcs	/8
119 Fuerst Bros. 120 Grasshopper Co. 121 Clifford B. Hannay & Son	73
120 Grasshopper Co	84
121 Clifford B. Hannay & Son .	38
204 Howard Price Turf Equip.	13
204 Howard Price Turf Equip. 123 Hypro/Div. of Lear Siegler	73
124 International Seeds	64
124 International Seeds	04
125 Jacobsen/Div. of Textron 126 F.D. Kees Mfg. Co. 127 Lebanon Chemical Corp. 166 Lofts Seed Co. 210 Milliken Chemical	0110
of Textron	.CV3
126 F.D. Kees Mfg. Co	42
127 Lebanon Chemical Corp	26
166 Lofts Seed Co	CV 4
210 Milliken Chemical	62, 63
121 Monganto Co	10 11
131 Monsanto Co. 132 Nat'l. Mower Co. 133 Northrup King	50
100 Northwen King	7
133 Northrup King	/
134 Oregon Fine Fescue	
Comm	51
136 PBI/Gordon Corp	. 52, 53
137 Penntine Perennial	
Ryegrass	59
138 Pickseed West	74
130 Prontice Drug & Chem	80
017 Dain Bird Chrinkler Mfg	95
217 Rain Bird Sprinkler Mfg. 211 Ransomes 142 Regal Chemical Co. 143 Rhone-Poulenc 144 Royal Coach Sprinklers	44 45
211 Hansomes	. 44, 45
142 Regal Chemical Co	57
143 Rhone-Poulenc	. 46, 47
144 Royal Coach Sprinklers .	37
168 Solo	90
145 Spraying Systems Co	50
146 Stauffer Chemical	3
147 Tee-2-Green Corp	21
147 Tee-2-Green Corp	21
148 Toro Co	9
150 Turf-Seed	39
151 Turf-Seed	81
152 Union Carbide Ag.	
Products	31
153 Union Carbide Aq.	
Products	79
169 Velsicol Chemical	87
154 Vermeer	32
155 Vermoor	30
155 Vermeer	
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ZOYSIA from page 26

by itself without extensive preemerge or post-emerge herbicide programs. It required little summer "pampering" and when fall frosts came it went dormant near the time play fell off anyway and besides, even dormant and offcolor it still provided an excellent playing surface with practically no fall care.

No overseeding, no fall fertilization, no widespread herbicide treatments or even mowing -- it literally was one less turf area for the golf course superintendent to worry about when it went dormant.

Negative aspects

The negative aspects of zoysia management were far offset by the positive benefits. Even the problem of fall, winter and early spring color was solved by good communication programs with the golfers.

By stressing the advantages of

lower short and long term fairway maintenance costs and zoysia's outstanding summer performance, even the average golfer realized that there was no perfect fairway grass for the transition zone, but, when all factors were considered, zoysia made the best sense and was probably the best compromise grass available.

There are some negative aspects of zoysia, namely cost and speed of the establishment program.

Zoysia is slow to establish when planted into existing stands of cool season grasses. Depending on the management program and the weather, it sometimes takes four to five years for the zoysia to spread and provide a good turf cover. Zoysia does not grow well in shade.

Its performance on shady tees and shady fairways is not very good.

Commercially-grown zoysia sod is expensive to purchase. Because Meyer zoysia must be established vegetatively either by stolons, plugging, row planting or strip sodding and most of these planting materials must at some time be purchased, establishment costs run high. The supply of zoysia sod is limited and the demand and cost of zoysia remain high.

Another area where zoysia does not perform well is when it is planted into any area contaminated with patches of bermudagrass. Generally, on a one-to-one basis, bermudagrass, because of its aggressiveness, will out compete and tend to dominate zoysia in a mixed stand. Only when winterkill is experienced on the bermudagrass or when a very careful and precise zoysia management program is followed will zoysia tend to dominate in a mixed stand with bermudagrass.

Zoysia is clearly not for all golf courses in all situations and careful consideration must be given before establishing any zoysia program. WT&T

