

SHORT CUTS

LANDSCAPING

Carpenter takes on North Carolina DOT

Joe Carpenter of Landmasters, Gastonia, N.C. has filed an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals in his case against the state and federal departments of transportation involving minority set-aside regulations.



Carpenter

The case involves the federal Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) regulations, which mandate that at least 10 percent of funds for public works projects be awarded to minority firms. Carpenter is challenging their constitutionality on grounds that provisions of the Surface Transportation and Assistance Act create a system of racial preferences in awarding public contracts for highway construction projects.

Carpenter, former president of the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, believes that these programs result in a system of racial quotas which prime contractors must fulfill to avoid a risk of losing federally-funded state contracts.

More than 20 lawsuits have been filed challenging the constitutionality of the 10 percent quota requirement, which was originally implemented as part of the Public Works Employment Act of 1977. In 1982, the Surface Transportation Assistance Act was passed with such a quota.

RESEARCH

Thatch build-up is found in fescues

Researchers at the University of California/Riverside report more thatch build-up than expected in new turf-type tall fescue varieties included in the three-year-old National Variety Trial there.

Thatch was present in all 39 tall fescue varieties included in the trial, ranging in thickness from 0.64 to 1.14 inches.

"Generally, the pasture-type varieties developed the least thatch, while the newer turf types, including dwarf varieties, accumulated the most," reports Matt Leonard, Ph.D.

continued on page 14

THE FATE OF N... What happens to the nitrogen you're applying to the turf three or four times a year? According to Marty Petrovic, Ph.D., of Cornell University, about 60 percent of the nutrient is taken up by the plant, under ideal conditions. Here's where the rest goes: 14-20 percent is stored in the soil, 21-35 percent is stored in the thatch, 7-15 percent is lost to the atmosphere and anywhere from 2-85 percent is lost due to denitrification. Petrovic revealed these statistics at the 65th anniversary Lofts Seed Field Day.

DISEASE UPDATE... Agri-Diagnostic Associates has improved its popular turf disease detection kit. Formerly, the test took 3½ hours; the new test takes just 10 minutes. The kit, which uses the same technology, will be available April 1, 1989, according to Vonnice L. Estes, who is in charge of market development. For more information, write 2611 Branch Pike, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 or call (609) 829-0110.

THEY'VE BEEN ENDO-ED... You want a perennial ryegrass with high insect-resistant endophytes present? Try these: SR 4000, SR 4100, Citation II, Commander, Dasher II, Repel or Sunrye. According to 1986 national tests conducted by C. Reed Funk, Ph.D., at Rutgers University in 1986, these varieties were highest in endophyte content.

VIDEO ARTICULATE... Mike Tanzini and Greg Frank have been selected by WXXI-TV, Channel 21 in Rochester, N.Y. to participate in "New York Lawn & Garden," a weekly question-and-answer show. Viewers are encouraged to submit samples of problem plants and insects for diagnosis and recommendations. Along with Tanzini and Frank, cooperative extension agent Jim Wilmot answers the questions. The panel also answers call-in questions and plans several remote broadcasts from area malls for on-camera questions and answers. Tanzini and Frank, vice presidents of Ted Collins Tree & Landscape, were selected from open auditions.

DETOUR TO DISNEY... For the first time in Walt Disney World history, landscape professionals can get an in-depth look at the entire Disney World horticultural operation in the new "Landscape Magic" seminar. Experts from the Disney staff will serve as instructors and guides for the three-day seminar, which begins Jan. 29, 1989. Registration fee is \$685, which includes special rates on accommodations at the Contemporary Resort. For more detailed information, write Seminar Productions, Disney World, Dept. PR, P.O. Box 10,000, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830, or call (407) 828-1500.

OVER THE COUNTER... LawnAmerica Inc. has completed an initial public offering of its securities with South Richmond Securities Inc. as the underwriter. The offering consisted of 500,000 units priced at \$3 each. Each unit consists of two shares of common stock and one common stock purchase warrant. LawnAmerica is a full-service lawn/landscape company based in Tulsa, Okla.

Finally, A High Capacity Mower That Doesn't Handle Like a Lawn Mower

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Operating the 580-D is incredibly easy. Only Toro provides an adjustable tilt steering wheel and column. All controls are at the operator's fingertips, even cruise control.

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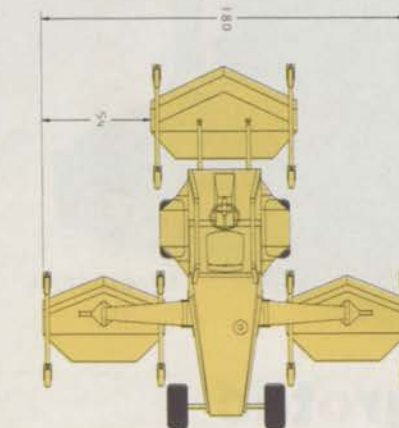
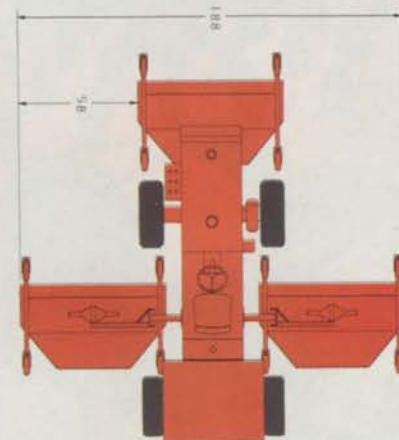
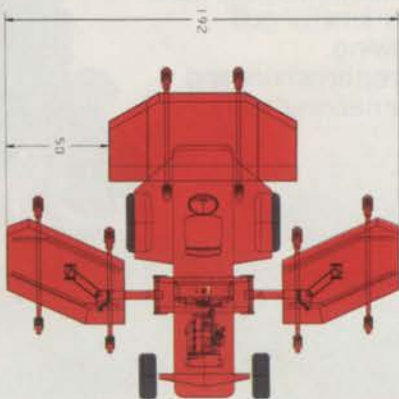
Digital read-outs display vital engine/machine functions at the touch of a button.

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Capacity Mower That Like A School Bus.



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TORO

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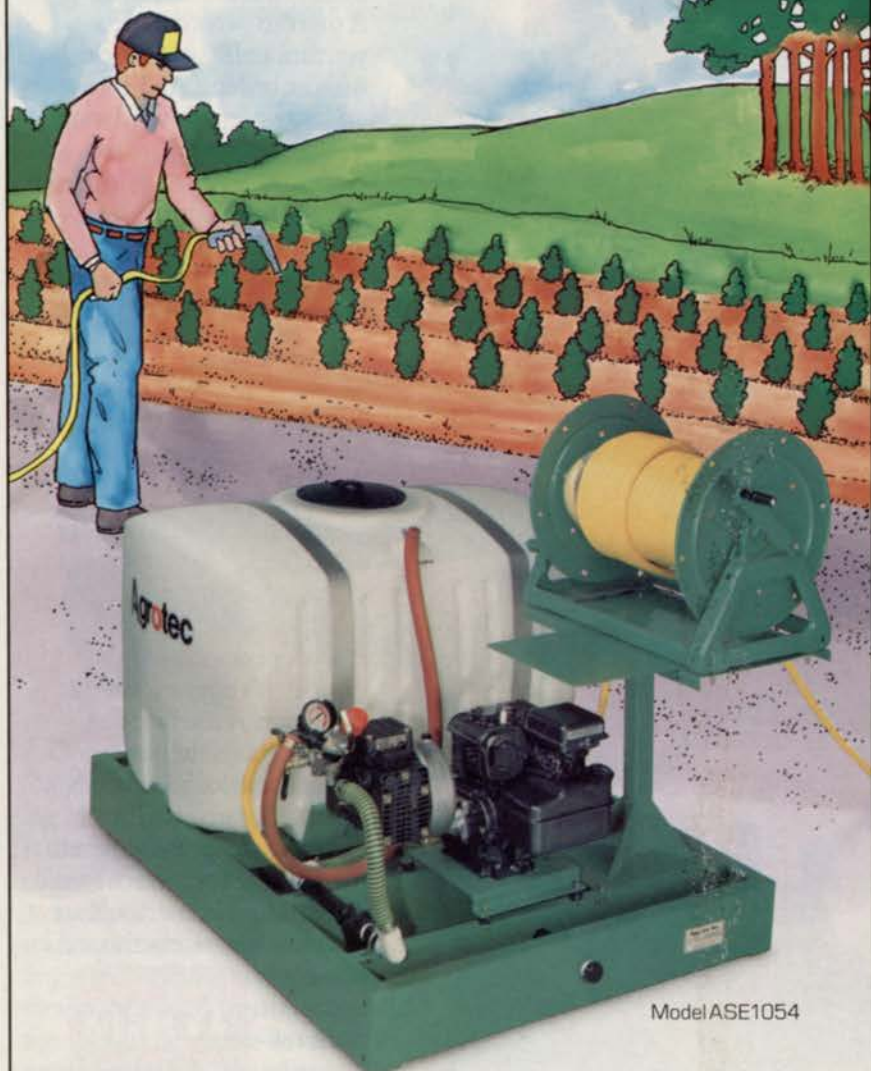
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THATCH from page 11

Leonard, UCR botany and plant sciences staff research associate, said that the thatch build-up was noticed while soil cores were being taken to measure tall fescue rooting depth. This triggered a sampling of the 39 varieties for thatch thickness.

Cluster analysis produced two significantly different groups of fescues with respect to thatch thickness and four groups of varieties based on turf texture. Results by variety are presented in an article titled "Thatch Accumulation in Tall Fescue Varieties," in the UC publication *California Turfgrass Culture*, Vol. 37, Nos. 3, 4, 1988.

"Thatch thickness and turf texture were positively correlated," Leonard notes, "supporting the hypotheses that the new, finer textured tall fescue varieties tend to accumulate more thatch than the older forage varieties." The UCR study is not considered to be conclusive, he added, but it does point out a trend in tall fescue thatch accumulation that warrants further study.

ACADEMIA

Ohio State offers equipment curriculum

A college program that teaches technicians to operate outdoor power equipment will be offered at The Ohio State University.

Horticultural Power and Equipment Technology will be taught at OSU's Wooster branch, beginning in the fall of 1989.

Students completing the two-year program that includes an internship will receive an Associate of Applied Science degree.

General education courses including communications skills, math, physics and microcomputers will be balanced with hands-on and classroom studies of engines, hydraulics, power transmission, and servicing specialized horticultural equipment.

In addition, the students will receive basic training in one of three areas: turf, landscaping or nursery.

Anyone interested in more information about the program can call Fred Lendrum at (216) 264-3911 or toll-free in Ohio (800) 647-8283. The address of the OSU-Wooster campus is 1328 Dover Road, Wooster, OH 44691.

LAWN CARE

Tru Green buys Texas operation

Tru Green Corp. has purchased Greenkeeper Inc., a San Antonio-

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based lawn care company with branches in Oklahoma City, Dallas, Austin and Houston. Tru Green has nearly doubled its size through acquisitions since last year. This move marks the second time this year that the company has acquired a competitor with revenues of more than \$1 million.

The Greenkeeper name will be kept for the time being, says company founder James Eckhardt. The company's 55 employees will also remain and Eckhardt will continue to run the operation.

Eckhardt says he was not actually looking to sell when Tru Green approached him. "A lot of it was the people," Eckhardt says. "There's going to be a lot of opportunities for our employees."

BUSINESS

Florida helps fill drought damage gap

Reports from nursery plant producers in the Midwest indicate the drought of 1988 and searing heat may have inflicted heavy damage.

Earl Wells, executive vice president of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association (FFGNA) said initial indications received this fall point to a 30 percent loss of nursery plant materials in the Midwest. Most nurseries in the impacted areas do not have irrigation.

Wells says that Illinois, Indiana and Michigan were hit particularly hard. He adds that Florida growers will move to fill the gap left by the drought damage.

"We're certainly sympathetic to the drought victims of those states," he says, "but at the same time, if there is a need to be filled, Florida would be in a position to supply some types of plant material which are compatible with conditions in those states."

Florida is a major supplier of woody ornamental plants to many Northern states and the largest supplier of foliage material in the nation.

GOLF

Who to maintain your course for?

Superintendents of golf courses which host professional events must make up their mind: Are you maintaining your course for tournament and guests, or are you maintaining it for the everyday player?

This revelation from Daniel Pierson of Cherry Hills Country Club in Englewood, Colo., site of three Opens and two PGA championships.

"The first year I was here, we tried to alleviate some of the complaints from members by reducing some of our tournament conditions," says Pierson, who moved his fairway mower settings from 1/4-inch to 9/16-inch. "It sure takes off a lot of pressure from the everyday comments you get from members. They really recognize that we're doing it for them, and they appreciate it."

"And I haven't heard anybody give us any complaints about flier lies. The lower handicap members were very concerned that we would, in going to higher cut fairways, have worse playing conditions for them. So far, it hasn't worked that way."

The tees, however, are a different story.

"We kind of sold our soul a little bit," Pierson notes. "I water to support conditions of play and not to support agronomic conditions. I consider that a bit of a compromise."

SEED

NuMex closer to landscape market

Seed yield on a variety of Bermudagrass developed at New Mexico State University has brought the grass a step closer to commercial use.

Arden Baltensperger, professor of agronomy and horticulture who developed NuMex Sahara, says the grass produced a good seed yield on a breeder field. Since June, approximately 100 acres of foundation field have been planted in Arizona and

LANDSCAPING



John Moulder (left), president of Moulder Bros., receives a bronze plaque from Duané Bartlett, president of parent company Earthmark Industries, commemorating Moulder Bros.' 50th year in the landscape industry.

Moulder honored for 50 years of service

Glendale, Calif.-based, Moulder Bros. recently celebrated its 50th year in the landscape contracting industry.

The half-century has been a distinguished one, growing from a door-to-door operation started by Paul and John Moulder in 1937 to a corporation which did \$20 million in business in 1987.

The company received numerous design awards over the years. Twice John Moulder, who took over full responsibility for the company in 1970 after Paul passed away, travelled to the White House to receive special citations. The company's work also received recognition from three national industry organizations and four California industry groups.

Moulder Bros. touch has reached such projects as Dodger Stadium, the J. Paul Getty Museum, Sea World and portions of most southland freeways in the Los Angeles area.

As John Moulder nears retirement he is beginning to turn over operations responsibilities to his management staff, which totals 150. Undoubtedly, the transition will be smooth and Moulder Bros. will continue to prosper beyond the end of its first century of business.

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southern California.

"I hope this new variety will be of good use on golf course fairways, city parks and other large areas where seeding is the preferred method of establishment," Baltensperger notes. (See Nov. 1987 *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT*.)

Royce R. Richardson, president of Farmer Marketing Corp., notes that in 1987 some 70,000 NuMex Sahara plants were hand-planted on the 2.5-acre breeder field. "It's all up and it looks very good," Richardson says. "We will have certified seed available to the public in July 1989."

The company was to begin taking orders for NuMex Sahara seed at the Western Seedsman Association trade show in Kansas City Oct. 29 to Nov. 1. The company plans a major advertising campaign.

Correction

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT's September Buyers Guide incorrectly listed Sandoz Crop Protection as Zocon-Sandoz Crop Protection. Sandoz manufacturers Mavrik Aquaflo for turf and tree insects, and Pentac Aquaflo for mites.

For future reference, please adjust your copy of the Buyer's Guide accordingly.

GOLF

Lyon to run for GCSAA presidency

Dennis D. Lyon has been selected by a nominating committee to run for president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). The election will be held at the annual convention and trade show Feb. 13, 1989 in Anaheim, Calif.

Lyon is a certified golf course superintendent for the City of Aurora, Colo., Golf Division.

Running for vice president will be Stephen G. Cadenelli of Metedeconk Golf Club, Jackson, N.J. and Gerald L. Faubel of Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club.

Nominated to run for directorships are Gary Grigg of Shadow Glen Golf Club, Olathe, Kans.; Randy Nichols of Cherokee Town and Country Club, Dunwoody, Ga.; Michael Wallace of Hop Meadow Country Club, Simsbury, Conn. and Randy Zidik of Rolling Hills Country Club, McMurray, Pa.

The president and vice president are elected to one-year terms and the directors to two-year terms. Three directors will be elected. The president will appoint a secretary-treasurer after the election.

In related news, the GCSAA mem-

bership surpassed 8,000 for the first time in history this August.

"I believe the association's high visibility within golf is one factor contributing to growth," notes president John A. Segui. "At the same time, our continued increase in membership has also allowed the association to provide more benefits and services, which in turn has steadily attracted still more members."

GOLF

GCSAA to offer management system

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has contracted with Hall-Kimbrell, an environmental consulting firm, to develop an environmental management system for the golf course industry.

The package will include an environmental self-audit questionnaire and notebook along with videotape training materials designed to provide management assistance. The materials deal with subjects like pesticide use, storage and disposal, underground storage tank regulations, OSHA requirements and general risk management. Completed self-audit materials will be individually reviewed by Hall-Kimbrell's profes-

continued on page 22

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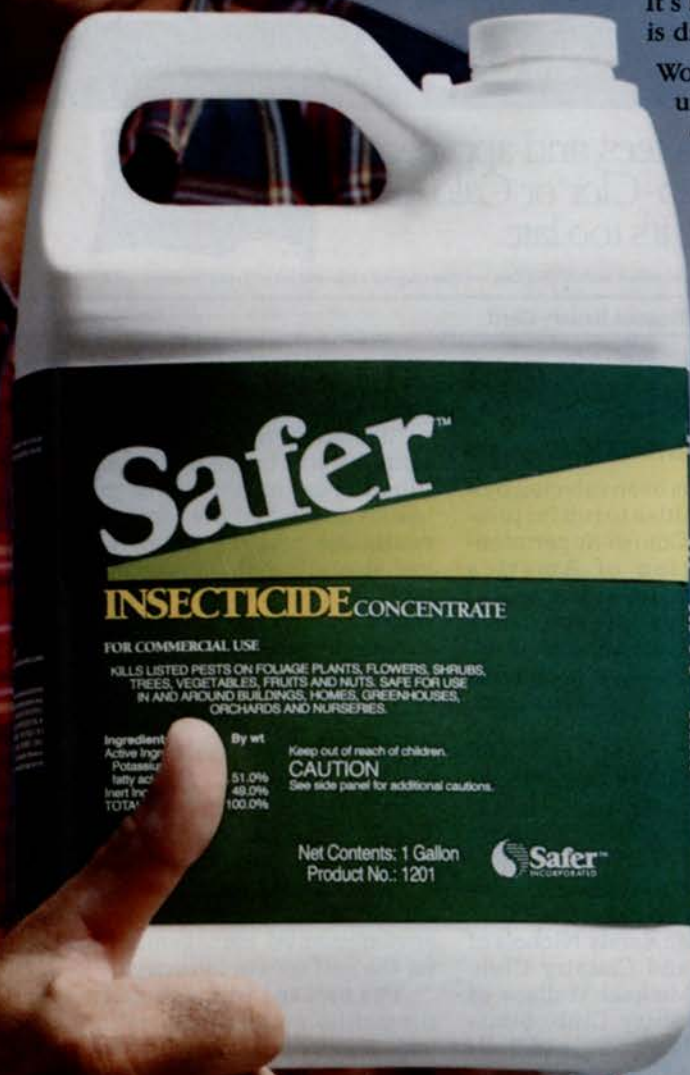
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 Hopkinsville, KY
 (502) 886-3087

LOUISIANA
Louisiana Nursery Outlet
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 Baton Rouge, LA
 (614) 272-9795

Landscape Nursery Gdn. Supply
 331 Rock Rd.
 Hammond, LA
 (504) 567-1171

MARYLAND
Shemin Nurseries
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 Spring Rd.
 Burtonsville, MD
 (301) 412-1220

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Pest Mgt. & Supply Co.
 Amherst, MA
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Griffin Greenhouse Supp.
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New England Arborware
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 Weston, MA
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Shemin Nurseries
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Shemin Nurseries
 100 Weyerhaeuser Dr.
 Mahwan, NJ
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Helena Chemical Co.
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Bissett Nursery Corp.
 323 Long Island Ave.
 Hortsville, NY
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Helena Chemical Co.
 Lima, NY
 (716) 624-3495

Esco
 580 W. Hoffman Ave.
 Lindenhurst, NY
 (516) 226-5115

Agway, Inc.
 Milton, NY
 (914) 795-2551

Al Saffer & Co.
 Pearl & Williams St.
 Port Chester, NY
 (914) 937-6565

Agway, Inc.
 Syracuse, NY
 (315) 477-6264

OHIO
Helena Chemical Co.
 Bowling Green, OH
 (419) 354-0253

B.F.G. Supply Co.
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 Burton, OH
 (216) 834-1883

Leatherman's, Inc.
 1203 Tuscarawas
 St. E.
 Canton, OH
 (216) 452-8866

OKLAHOMA
Weyerhaeuser Garden Supply Magnolia Seed Division
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 Oklahoma City, OK
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Pacific Horticultural Supp.
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 Gresham, OR
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Western Farm Service
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 McMinnville, OR
 (503) 472-1464

Alfred Teufel Nursery
 12345 N.W.
 Barnes Rd.
 Portland, OR
 (503) 646-1111

Wilbur-Ellis Co.
 3145 N.W. Yeon
 Portland, OR
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 Woodburn, OR
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E. C. Geiger
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 Barleysville, PA
 (215) 256-6511

Agway, Inc.
 Kittanning, PA
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Wetsel Seed Co.
 Rt. 422
 Kittanning, PA
 (412) 545-7181

D&L Grower Supplies
 546B E. 28th Div.
 Hwy.
 Lititz, PA
 (717) 627-6737

Fisher & Sons
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 (215) 644-3300

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 New Brighton, PA
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Shemin Nurseries
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 Oaks, PA
 (215) 666-0596

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 West Chester, PA
 (215) 430-1214

SOUTH CAROLINA
Piedmont Farm & Nursery
 113C Belton Dr.
 Spartanburg, SC
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 Memphis, TN
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Growers International
 707 Demel
 Schulenburg, TX
 (409) 743-6522

BWI Texarkana
 Texarkana, TX
 (214) 838-8561

UTAH
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 Spanish Fork, UT
 (801) 789-8643

VIRGINIA
Wetsel Seed Co.
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 (703) 434-6753

Imperial Nursery
 8309 Quarry Rd.
 Manassas, VA
 (703) 631-8133

Helena Chemical Co.
 Mt. Crawford, VA
 (703) 234-9358

Necessary Trading
 420 Salem Ave.
 New Castle, VA
 (703) 864-5103

Helena Chemical Co.
 Tasley, VA
 (804) 787-2033

Helena Chemical Co.
 Winchester, VA
 (703) 667-2371

Blackwell Seed & Chemical, Inc.
 Hwy. 15
 Wyaliesburg, VA
 (804) 735-8141

WASHINGTON
Wilbur-Ellis Co.
 8643 S. 212th
 Kent, WA
 (206) 872-6920

Roof Care
 14909 N.E. 40th St.
 Redmond, WA
 (206) 883-3878

Steuber Distributing Co.
 Snohomish, WA
 (206) 856-2626

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ATHLETIC TURF

On the road again

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT technical advisor Kent Kurtz, Ph.D., executive director of the Sports Turf Managers Association, recently returned from a trip to England and Scotland. Kurtz visited the Institute of Groundsmanship (IoG) trade show, saw tennis at Wimbledon, racing at Ascot, soccer at Wembley Stadium and had a chance to visit with old friend John Souter. Watch for Kurtz's observations in an upcoming article in this magazine.

"I had fun," Kurtz says. "I've got plenty to write about."

Clay leads to less maintenance

The artificial OmniTurf infield at Boardwalk & Baseball in Orlando, Fla., is doing well, thanks in no small part to George Toma, who took several weeks last spring preparing for the Kansas City Royals' first spring training season there.

Toma and the stadium crew used gumbo clay under the surface of the pitcher's mound and home plate to improve footing. As a result, the crew has reduced its daily repair work from six inches to only one inch.

A winning baseball facility...

"The secrets of groundskeeping are being told."

That said by Jim Anglea of Texas Rangers Stadium during a talk at the Sports Turf Managers Association meeting recently. Anglea told the association membership some secrets himself.

"The key to success is drainage. You've got to get the water off the field," he said. And the way to do that is to put a crown on the field from centerfield to home plate. Anglea does it with a laser grader.

Anglea also said, "You have to improvise. You've got to change your schedule."

STMA gets together

The Sports Turf Managers Association annual meeting will be held at Vero Beach, Fla. from Jan. 13-15, 1989. Included in the meeting at the NL West champion Los Angeles Dodgers training complex will be educational sessions, a trade show and an awards banquet.

Dodgertown features 27 golf holes, a conference center and guest rooms for attendees. For more information, contact Melissa Merritt at the STMA. Phone (714) 981-9199.

Field fertilization

Getting the right fertility program for a baseball or football field is not an easy task. Especially if you've centerfielders who can run 4.5 forties and offensive linemen checking in at almost 300 pounds.

"To maintain the grass, you've got to fertilize it like you would a fairway—knowing that it will be abused," says David Frey of Cleveland (Ohio) Stadium. Team schedules, weather, and traffic from special events all contribute to make application a complex decision.

Next month, Frey and veteran athletic turf manager Harry Gill of Milwaukee County (Wisc.) Stadium share some of their "tricks of the trade" in the pages of LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT.