Two years after the Salt Creek flood, Butler's fairways look terrific!

> Oscar Miles, CGCS Butler National GC Oak Brook, Illinois

Seventh fairway during the Western Open, 1989.

Penneagle and Oscar Miles make Butler National GC 'picture perfect' again!

"Before the 1987 Western Open, Butler National was primped and trimmed to perfection for its date with the pros and television cameras" says Oscar Miles, "then 9½ inches of rain drenched the course. The resulting flood deposited tons of silt that dried and destroyed the grass beneath.

"After the cleanup that required thousands of manhours, high pressure hoses, squeeges and helicopters for drying; the process of reseeding began.

"Based on Penneagle's excellent performance before the flood, I chose to reseed with this bentgrass. After two years, the new stand appears better than before. With our time-proven maintenance program, we mow our fairways at 7/16" and have a good working layer of Penneagle with virtually no thatch.



After two years, Penneagle produces a good working layer with no thatch buildup.

"In preparing for the 1989 Western Open, we compared the course to a Van Gogh painting, and the crew's efforts were to enhance the work of art by meticulous touchup on the frame. The result was a 'picture perfect' course that caused the players and announcers to rave.

"Now if I could only get the announcers and writers to call 'Penneagle' by name ... you can't plant *just any* bentgrass and expect it to perform like Penneagle."



Seventh fairway before the rain delayed 1987 Western Open.

Oregon Certified PVP 7900008 Penneagle is one of the 'Penn Pals'



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LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT



Cover illustration by Larry Kassell

COVER STORY: WINTERIZING EQUIPMENT

by Jay Holtzman. Like your body, landscaping equipment can last longer if you take care of it year round. Shenandoah Valley Golf Club has found secrets that increase its machines' lives.



BIO-CONTROLS FOR THE GREEN INDUSTRY by Dr. John D. Briggs. Bio-rational agents available to the

landscape manager are growing in availability and importance. Here are some available products. Part I of II.

38 COMMON SENSE WEED CONTROL by Phil Christian III. Is it possible we chemi

by Phil Christian III. Is it possible we chemical applicators are caught in our own web of 'weed-free' marketing jargon and quick-fix chemicals? Come on, industry, let's get real.



LANDSCAPE MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Morris Lee Martin of Alfred L. Simpson & Co. believes education, higher pay scales and industry organizations can help solve Atlanta's workforce problems.



GETTING THE MOST OUT OF A TRADE SHOW

by Ed Wandtke. Trade shows have evolved from an excuse to party into essential business gatherings. By carefully planning your shows, you'll get more out of them.

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LM

Editorial Staff





Jerry Roche Exec. Editor Terry Mclver Assoc. Editor

LM Editorial Advisory Board

Mg. Edit





Doug Chapman Horticulturist Dow Gardens Midland, MI

J.R. Hall Kon Extension Agronomist Prol VPI & SU Hor Blacksburg. VA Cal

Kont Kurtz Professor Horticulture Cal Poly-Pomona

EDGELL



Harry Niemczyk Professor Ohio State University Wooster, OH

♥BPA

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT (ISSN 0894-1254) is published monthly by Edgell Communications, Inc. Corporate and Editorial offices: 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44130, Advertising Offices: 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44130, 111 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601 and 3475 Lenox Road, N.E., Suite 665, Atlanta, Georgia 30326. Accounting, Advertising Production and Circulation offices: 1 East First Street, Juluth, Minnesota 55802. Subscription rates: \$25 per year in the United States: \$50 per year in Canada. All other countries: \$100 per year. Current issue single copies (pre-paid only): \$2.50 in the U.S.; \$5.00 in Canada; elsewhere \$10.00; add \$3.50 per order for shipping and handling. Back issues, if available, \$10; add \$3.50 per order for shipping and handling (pre-paid orders only). Office of publication: Edgell Communications, Inc., 1 East First Street, Juluth, Minnesota 55802. Second class postage paid at Duluth, Minnesota 55806 and additional mailing offices. Copyright® 1989 by Edgell Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, P.O. Box 6198, Duluth, Minnesota 55806.

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AS I SEE IT ...

How much of my money do you want?

What would you say if I told you that I would be willing to pay you more than you want to be paid? You'd jump at the chance, right? Green Industry, you're not jumping. Not yet, anyway.

If I were Mr. Middle Income, my household would be pulling down a tidy annual sum, even though both my wife and I would have to hold down separate jobs. And, because of those demands, we'd have little time to spend with each other and with the kids. So we'd be looking for shortcuts in our day-to-day lives.

We'd hire a "domestic engineer" to vacuum every week. We'd have the local pizza joint deliver dinner once or twice a week. When the carpets got dirty or we detected the presence of an abominable insect somewhere inside our beloved walls, we'd call the appropriate specialists.

We'd maintain this philosophy so we could spend evenings, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays as a family. We'd play "Trivial Pursuit" after dinner; we'd watch "Indiana Jones" movies together; we'd take weekend excursions, especially during the summer.

And do you know what? We might not even realize what we'd be paying our lawn specialists. Whatever it was, we'd think, it was certainly worth it. Our lawn would be neat, trim, devoid of weeds—the envy of our neighbors. And all we'd have to worry about would be turning the sprinklers off and on.

Well, friends, many of your own customers are Mr. (or Ms.) Middle Incomes. They're people you're mighty interested in keeping. And how do you do that?

Number one, most important of all: you're going to have to pay your employees better wages because they're your direct pipeline to those valued customers. We're talking pretty hefty raises, too, for basically unskilled labor.

And, upon hearing this nasty bit of news, the first thing you say to yourself is, "I can't afford it!"

But you can. You can afford to compete with the McDonalds' of the world for that unskilled labor. You can afford to pay your linelevel help \$10 or \$15 an hour.

Do you know why? Because of all the Mr. and Ms. Middle Incomes out there. People who value their time more than their money, to a point. (Don't let your costs climb over what a second income might be able to afford.)

Here's the real secret. Pay your employees more now, before you lose the good ones to competitors; pay them now, before the personnel crunch hits the industry. You can either horde the good ones now, or wait in line three years from now.

All you have to do is ask your customers for a little more money.

Jerry Roche

Jerry Roche, executive editor



EDITORIAL STAFF

Jerry Roche, Executive Editor Will Perry, Managing Editor Terry McIver, Associate Editor Office: 7500 Old Oak Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-8100 FAX (216) 826-2832

MARKETING STAFF

Dick Gore, Publisher Office: 3475 Lenox Rd. N.E. Suite 665 Atlanta, GA 30326 (404) 233-1817 FAX (404) 261-7022

Jon Miducki, National Sales Manager Marsha Dover, Midwest Sales Manager Barbara Thomas, Eastern Sales Manager Bob Earley, Group Vice President Office: 7500 Old Oak Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-8100 FAX (216) 826-2832

Robert Mierow, W. Coast Representative Office: 1515 NW 51st Street Seattle, WA 98107 (206) 783-0549 FAX (206) 784-5545

Tom Greney, Senior Vice-President Office: 111 East Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60601 (312) 938-2317 FAX (312) 938-4850

SUPPORT STAFF

Carol Peterson, Production Mgr. Connie Freeland, Prod. Supervisor Lynn Williams, Graphic Design Jackie Eisenmann, Circulation Super. Bonnie DeFoe, Directory Coordinator Gail Parenteau, Reader Service Mgr. Office: 120 West Second St. Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 723-9200 FAX (218) 723-9223

David Komitau, Graphics Coordinator Ted Matthews, Promotion Director Office: 7500 Old Oak Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44130 (216) 243-8100

Robert L. Edgell, Chairman; Richard Moeller, President; Lars Fladmark, Executive Vice President; Arland Hirman, Vice President/Treasurer; Thomas Greney, Senior Vice President; Ezra Pincus, Senior Vice President; Joe Bilderbach, Vice President; James Gherna, Vice President; George Glenn, Vice President; Harry Ramaley, Vice President.

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If you've been sacrificing ease of operation for high capacity, it's time you saw the revolutionary machine that gives you both: the new Groundsmaster 580-D from Toro. Call your local Toro distributor to see the Groundsmaster 580-D or contact Toro at the address below. You'll see firsthand how productive and versatile

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GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

NOVEMBER 1989, VOLUME 29, NUMBER 11



GOLF

After visit by Hugo, Charleston courses look like 'war zone'

CHARLESTON, S.C. — A week after Hurricane Hugo tore into the South Carolina coast, golf course superintendents expressed awe over its destructive power, and thanks that the death and damage toll was not what it could have been.

Up to 90 percent of the trees were gone on many South Carolina courses. Salt water intrusion, downed power and telephone lines, damaged or destroyed buildings and courses strewn with debris were the major problems faced by superintendents.

The courses that sustained the most damage are those within a 75-mile radius of Charleston Harbor, especially those on the neighboring islands to the north. The Sept. 21 storm slammed into South Carolina there and moved inland to Columbia, where it turned north toward Charlotte, N.C. It left behind a wide swath of destruction that may cost \$3 billion to repair.

"It looks like a war zone," said Tom Cannon, superintendent of Patriots Points Links, an 18-hole, 7,100-yard public course right on Charleston Harbor. "I was in the Vietnam War and I've seen a lot of devastation there. I've also had a couple of brushes with hurricanes. But the damage that was done to the Charleston area was awesome and unbelievable. It's just absolutely devastating."

Damage to Patriots Point Links was typical of that endured by many other area courses. Ninety percent of the trees on the course were gone or damaged. The 16th hole, a par three that jutts out into Shrimp Creek, was submerged, as were the fairways of the 17th and 18th holes. Also, half of the maintenance building was destroyed and the pump house was flooded after its roof was blown off. There was trash everywhere.

"People are scattered all over here and vonder." said Cannon of his employees. "I've got together a small base crew and everybody is pitching in. It's an extremely stressful situation because everyone has friends or relatives that were hit really hard. Morale is fairly high, though. Most people are over the shock and have grit their teeth and are ready to start digging out from this storm.'

Tony Brown, superintendent of The Country Club of Charleston, said that his course may have been spared severe saltwater damage because of

the heavy rains before and after Hugo. "There has been ample opportunity for that salt water to run off or be flushed into the soil," said Brown. "It's kind of strange; a lot of areas submerged by salt water aren't showing a lot of damage."

Brown and Cannon credit local media and Civil Defense officials for providing enough warning of the storm's direction and fury. "They probably saved several hundred thousand lives," said Brown.

Dr. Paul Alexander, a turf specialist at Horry-Georgetown Tech in Conway, S.C., urged area superintendents to run a salinity or soluble salts test as soon as possible. Bermudagrass registering more than 1,500 ppm or bentgrass more than 950 ppm need to be flushed thoroughly or the grass will die.

"The only thing you can do is pump those areas out and replenish them with fresh water. On tees and greens get out there with gypsum and make that application to tie up the salts in the soil," observed Alexander.

"The big thing that saved us was that the storm moved so rapidly we didn't get the anticipated rainfall of 10 to 15 inches."

Dr. Tim Bowyer of



Numerous evergreen trees like these at the Oaks Plantation Athletic & Country Club were sheared off at mid-trunk by the damaging winds of Hurricane Hugo.

Southern Turf Nurseries sent a letter to superintendents. "Salts may be leached from the profile through the application of gypsum," he wrote. "Regular ag gypsum can be applied at the rate of 1-2 tons per acre. This will provide little negative effect on soil pH while at the same time freeing sodium from the sodium profile and replacing it with calcium."

The president of Car-