# Now it's easier to make your greens come true.

We improved the only true Greens Conditioner.

No one else offers the patented features of the Jacobsen Turf Groomer<sup>™</sup> greens conditioner. And now, we improved on the best. We did it by making the Turf Groomer easier to use and more durable. And that makes a big difference when you've got a lot of ground to cover.

The improvements begin up front. The exclusive front roller has a larger diameter for reduced rolling resistance, higher side frame clearance and improved durability. It works even better to "pucker up"

horizontal runners and plant leaves, readying them for clipping. And now Jacobsen offers two blade spacings: the standard .280" for most green applications, and an optional .500," which works well where nearby traps have coarse grain sand.

The Turf Groomer's larger, thicker, six point knife blades are even stronger for longer life. They rotate *through* the slots in the front roller, cutting horizontal runners and cultivating strong, erect grass plants.

A quick up/down blade adjuster has four positions in %" increments so you can condition each green exactly the way you want. Or, you can raise the blades to skip grooming. And a Micro Depth Adjustment dial lets you fine tune cutting heights by increments of .007" without tools.

Every Turf Groomer greens conditioner comes with a sealed aluminum drive housing to prevent grass, debris and moisture build-up in the heavy-duty 1" belt drive system.

For faster, truer putting and healthier, hardier greens, look to the new Jacobsen Turf Groomer. For a free demonstration, contact your Jacobsen distributor.

Or contact Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc., Racine, WI 53403. Now it's easier to make your greens come true.

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Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc.

# PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA SPECIAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE & SHOW NOVEMBER 6-9, 1989



# NEW DIRECTIONS! NEW OPPORTUNITIES! WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE 90s

Don't let the future be a gamble! Plan for your company's growth into the next decade by being part of THE EVENT of the lawn care season: the 10th Anniversary Conference and Show of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. Bet on a sure winner — **PLCAA/Las Vegas '89!** — four unforgettable days in the entertainment capital of the world. Non-stop excitement, education, celebration and jubilation await you November 6-9!

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• **CELEBRATE!** PLCAA's Conference and Show is always the lawn care industry's event of the year, but **PLCAA/Las Vegas '89** will be something special — the official 10th Anniversary celebration of the founding of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America. You won't want to miss the exciting 4-day round of special events planned to mark this milestone in lawn care history.

• EDUCATE! Three tracks of education will help you "Plan Your Business" into the '90's, with discussions of employment, water, finances, government regulations, and pesticide safety. Ample opportunities will allow for informal information exchange among colleagues.

 EVALUATE! The latest in lawn care products and technology await your inspection. Over 160 manufacturers, suppliers and distributors will be on hand, eager to answer your questions and demonstrate the tools you need to keep a competitive edge.

Each morning of the Conference and Show we will present a New Product Expo. Learn what will be state-of-the-art in the 1990s and how your business can profit from new technology and new chemistry.

• **PARTICIPATE!** This 10 year celebration of lawn care comes around only once, so don't miss it! Don't wait to hear about it from your friends, be there to experience for yourself what all the excitement is about. Experience Las Vegas, spectacular showplace of America where the Stars come out to play every night.

Watch your mail in early summer for registration information, or call PLCAA for information 1-800-458-3466, and mark your calendar for a trip to Las Vegas!



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Technical Resource Manual

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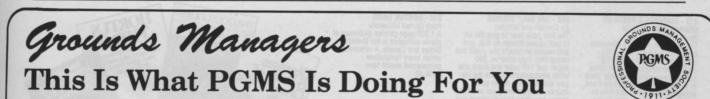
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If you haven't checked out the Professional Grounds Management Society recently, then you're in for a surprise. We're offering a bundle of new benefits that make joining PGMS more rewarding than ever! Here's what we've been up to and how you can benefit:

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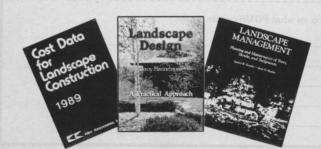
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# **PROBLEM MANAGEMENT**

by Balakrishna Rao, Ph.D.

## Identifying mildew disease

**Problem:** Every year on oak trees we see whitish powdery growth on the lower surface of the leaves. We also see a number of small, black specks present in this area. Is this caused by mites? What can be sprayed to control this? (Ohio)

**Solution:** From your description of the symptoms, the problem you are dealing with appears to be caused by a fungus that causes powdery mildew disease. The black structures you have been seeing are probably not mites, but are the fruiting bodies of the fungus that contain fungal spores. Several different powdery mildew fungi attack oak. These include Sphaerotheca lanestris, the most troublesome mildew producer. Others include Erisiphe trina, Microsphaeria alni and Phyllactinia corylea.

An application of fungicides like Acti-done PM, Benlate or Karathane is recommended to manage the powdery mildew disease problems.

It is possible that mites may also be present on the same plant. For detecting mites, shake the leaves over some white paper or cloth. If there are many mites, they will fall and begin to crawl on the white surface. Mites have eight legs while insects have six legs. Mites leave a staining mark on the white surface when crushed. Verify this possibility just to be sure.

If the problem is identified to be due to mites, an application of dormant oil during early spring or an application of miticides such as Kelthane in mid-June and again two to three weeks later should help minimize the problem.

# **Controlling poison ivy**

**Problem:** We have a major problem with poison ivy plants in some of our clients' properties. What is the best way to control these. Can we use Roundup? (New York)

**Solution:** Treatments with amitrol (Amizole, Aminotriazol or Weedazol), a post-emergence herbicide, reportedly provides excellent control of poison ivy. It is a non-selective herbicide designed to be applied onto the foliage of perennial broadleaf weeds like poison ivy. It will be absorbed by the leaves and translocated to the stems and roots. It is very effective against poison ivy. Avoid contacting desirable, non-target plants because it will turn the leaves yellow, white and then brown.

Use amitrol as a spot treatment for perennial weeds like poison ivy in or near nursery crops or landscaping. For best results, treat weeds at full leaf, about four to six feet high, and before blooming.

Check with your county extension agent for clearance to use this product in your area. All registrations for the use of amitrol on food crops, including pastures, have been cancelled. Avoid using it in an area where there is a chance of food or feed contamination. A waiting period of six to eight weeks is required before planting any plant material.

Roundup is also registered for managing poison ivy plants. For managing these apply four to five quarts of Roundup per acre as a broadcast spray or as a 2 percent solution with hand-held equipment. Remember that Roundup will be absorbed through actively growing green leaves. Therefore, thorough coverage is necessary. Repeat applications may be needed for good results. Fall treatments should be made prior to leaves losing green color.

## Why power rake?

**Problem:** Why power rake, since power raking does little to reduce thatch? (Colorado)

**Solution:** You are right: power raking does little, if anything, to reduce thatch. I don't believe that any professional turfgrass manager or lawn care professional would be recommending power raking to reduce thatch, except under certain situations.

Those who believe in the misconception that the clippings can contribute to thatch development may perform this. However, power raking might be useful in removing excess dead blades or plants that are present, often due to infrequent mowing. This can occur if the turf is allowed to grow tall before mowing, which deposits excessively long clippings. In this situation, blades will decompose slower than if they are mowed frequently.

Ideally, turfgrass should be mowed whenever growth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch taller than the recommended cutting height for a particular cultivar. A good mowing schedule and practice will eliminate the need for removing long clippings.

The areas damaged by insect and disease or abiotic stress factors may also be benefited by power raking to remove the dead or matted blades. **LM** 



Balakrishna Rao is Manager of Technical Resources for the Davey Tree Co., Kent, Ohio.

Questions should be mailed to Problem Management, LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT, 7500 Old Oak Boulevard, Cleveland, OH 44130. Please allow 2-3 months for an answer to appear in the magazine.