

## "Talking about PennLinks is like talking about my kids...I could go on forever."

A few of Tom Walker's words on PennLinks:

<sup>44</sup>The first thing that impressed me about PennLinks was its pleasant color. And our longer 5/32" cut promotes good root growth and reduces chance of scalping.<sup>99</sup>





"In less than a year, PennLinks' roots reached a depth of 14 inches in our compacted soil. This increased carbohydrate reserve helps carry PennLinks through stressful times."

One of the 'Penn Pals'



"PennLinks' fine texture and upright growth allows a longer cut with less grain and a respectable speed. You just can't ask for a better putting green grass."



And about his boys: "I couldn't have done any better there, either."

Tee-2-Green Corp. • PO Box 250, Hubbard, OR 97032 • 503-981-9574 • FAX 510-981-5626 • 1-800-547-0255 Circle No. 164 on Reader Inquiry Card FEBRUARY 1990, VOLUME 29, NUMBER 2

# NA



#### COVER STORY: **FLORIDA'S BEST**

by Terry McIver. The leading golf course superintendents in the Sunshine State are driven to perfection by personal pride and golfer demand for exquisite conditions.

Cover illustration by Joel Rogers



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58

69

92

94

#### weed-free grass, that's what. **COOL-SEASON PRE-EMERGENCE WEED CONTROL** by Tom Fermanian, Ph.D. Identification, proper cultural practices and efficient herbicide applications are essential in order to control unwanted plants.

WARM-SEASON PRE-EMERGENCE WEED CONTROL

by Tim Murphy, Ph.D. What do you get when you cross pre-emergence

herbicides with proper maintenance practices on warm-season turf? Beautiful,

**'L' WORDS FACE INDUSTRY IN THE '90s** by Will Perry. No one can escape today's onslaught of litigation and legislation in the green industry. But there are ways to sidestep many of the minefields that

#### **EARLY-SEASON FERTILIZATION** by Roch E. Gaussoin, Ph.D. Applying the right fertilizer at the right time is an important step toward growing high quality turf.

- **SHOUT 'SPRING!' WITH COLORFUL BULBS** 76 by Ann Reilly. Myriad bulb varieties will turn up the color volume on spring landscaping displays.
- LOW-MAINTENANCE PARKING LOTS 84 by Doug Chapman. A noted horticulturist tells landscapers how to create functional and cost-effective parking lots by using 'holistic' plants.
  - WHERE IS THE NEXT CUSTOMER? by Rudd McGary, Ph.D. In your own backyard, that's where. And using word-ofmouth advertising combined with a frontal assault on neighbors usually means new business.
  - LIME: SIMPLE AND CHEAP, BUT SO EFFECTIVE by Stephen J. Donohue. Nitrogen fertilization should be countered occasionally by lime, which safely and effectively reduces soil acidity.



#### **ADVERTISING SECTION** STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING WATER TODAY AND TOMORROW

The practical uses and benefits of Aquatrols Water Management Products are highlighted in this special eight-page supplement.

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could land you in court.

#### DEPARTMENTS

- 4 As | See It . . .
- 8 Green Industry News
- **14** Letters
- **15** Events
- **16** Short Cuts
- **30** Athletic Turf
- 98 Jobtalk
- **100** Products
- **114** Classified
- 124 Ad Index
- **126** Problem Management

#### LM **Editorial Staff**





Edito

**Jerry Roche** Edit

Mg. Edito

#### LM **Editorial Advisory Board**

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COMMUNICATION

Doug Chapman Dow Gardens Midland, MI

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## This Time, We Did Competition, We O

To make a dramatic turnaround in your productivity, put yourself behind the wheel of the machine that outmaneuvered them all: The new Groundsmaster® 220-D or the new gas-powered 224 from Toro. No other out-front rotary mowers are as maneuverable, as effortless to operate or provide as much trim productivity.

Fourlink power steering is your link to unmatched maneuverability. Now operators can make sharper, easier turns with less fatigue. This makes trimming around any obstacle quick and almost effortless.

To give you even more cutting control, Groundsmasters feature a single knob deck-totractor weight transfer system. A twist of the wrist is all it takes to balance cutting unit flotation to height of cut and traction needs. The result is better traction and better flotation without scalping.

When it comes to engine size, Toro gives you the power of choice. The new Groundsmaster 220-D features a 20 hp liquid-cooled, 3-cylinder Mitsubishi diesel engine. The new Groundsmaster 224 gives you the same engine in a gas model, providing you with the durability diesels are known for, but with more power. Both give you all the speed and power needed for the most demanding jobs.

The Groundsmaster 220 also is available with a 20 hp air-cooled gas engine.



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## 't Overpower The maneuvered Them.

A small, compact wheelbase provides a small uncut trim circle and tight turnaround enabling you to trim close around any obstacle. Just what you need to get into or out of tight areas.

> With all these performance features, it's obvious why the new Groundsmaster 220-D and 224 are so popular. And why Toro is the leader in out-front riding rotary mowers. To request a demonstration, call your local Toro distributor or contact Toro at the



address below.

The Professionals That Keep You Cutting

A patented, heavy-duty carrier frame with floating cutting decks allow the cutting units to follow ground contours for a superb quality of cut. For added cutting control, there are three decks to choose from: 72", 62" or 52". And the 52" is available with an optional grass collection system.

The Toro Company, Commercial Marketing Services, 8111 Lyndale Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55420.

## AS I SEE IT...

### The name of the game is the name

#### Have you looked at your name lately?

Benjamin Kubelsky once looked at his and decided it'd never make the grade in the competitive radio business. Executives at Allegheny Airlines grew distraught with a bottom line that was red. In each case, a new name helped change the public's perception and thus more easily gain acceptance of the product. Jack Benny became one of the all-time most popular radio and television performers. And USAir's bottom line turned very black indeed shortly after its name change.

"The name of the game is the name—and don't forget it," relates Harry Wayne McMahan, an independent commercial consultant in Escondido, Calif. "Here is where all advertising starts."

In the new, more sophisticated landscape market, "Joe's Mowing" may not cut it any more. We at this magazine, obviously, favor the term "Landscape Management" over less sophisticated names.

One flip through the Associated Landscape Contractors of America membership directory proves our point. Most of those upscale businesses employ the word "landscape" in some manner: Davis Landscape Contractors, A.J. Chiancone Landscape & Nursery, Thornton Landscape and Ground Control Landscaping, for instance.

(Just because you're in the private sector doesn't mean that you've got to settle for a title with less panache, either. Tom Sprague, who takes care of the 20 acres at Edgell Communications' Cleveland headquarters, likes the ring of "landscape supervisor.")

There is a flip side to a name change, however. If you've been around a long time and your name has become synonymous with quality—no matter what name you're using now—there's no sense changing it. And remember that if you're considering upgrading your name to attract new business, it might not hurt upgrading your service at the same time.

As we embark on the final decade of the 20th century, then, you might ask yourself: "Is the name of my business really in step with the times?"

Jerry Roche

Jerry Roche, executive editor

## LM

#### **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

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#### A BLEND OF FOUR PREMIUM PERENNIAL RYEGRASSES FROM TURF-SEED, INC. FOR WINTER OVERSEEDING, LAWN RENOVATION, ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PARKS.

## Dark Green, Drought Tolerant, Insect and Disease Resistant Turf... Naturally!

## **Citation II**

- · Contains a high level of endophyte that enhances insect resistance.
- · Very good resistance to leaf spot, brown patch, crown and stem rust, tolerance to red thread.
- · Rich dark green color with good mowing quality.
- Excellent heat and wear tolerance

### Saturn

- · The number 1 variety in the 1986 National perennial ryegrass trial.
- · Dark blue-green colored low growing variety.
- Improved heat tolerance, and resistance to leaf spot. brown patch and stem rust.
- · Very good performance in California overseeding trials.

## Charger

- Improved resistance to leaf spot, brown patch, stem and crown rust. Tolerance to red thread.
- · Good performance under low fertility and improved color and growth under cool weather conditions.
- Early maturity and tested as 2HH.

### 246 Sunrye

- · Very dark blue-green colored turf-type variety.
- Dwarfer growth habit than other varieties in overseeding trials in Palm Springs area.
- Improved resistance to leaf spot, brown patch, and stem rust.
- · Contains a moderately high level of endophyte to enhance insect resistance.

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1-800-247-6910





## Introducing the fine art of broadleaf weed control. New Gallery."

Look closely. This may be the last time you'll see these broadleaves on display.

Elanco introduces the unique preemergence broadleaf weed control for golf courses. New Gallery 75DF. An original work of art. And science. With a new chemistry so advanced, it outdates postemergents, saving you time and labor costs.

The Gallery collection includes 44 of your toughest broadleaves such



as spurge, chickweed and white clover. With no reproductions allowed.

All you'll see is masterpiece turf. Free from broadleaves. And free from injury. New Gallery is actually more tolerant to all major species of cool and warm season turf, including bentgrass, than other herbicides. And there's no risk of off-site damage to nearby ornamentals. Discover the fine art of broadleaf weed control with new Gallery. See your Elanco distributor. Or for a free brochure, call toll-free: **1-800-352-6776.** 

Elanco Products Company A Division of Eli Lilly and Company Lilly Corporate Center Dept. EM-455, Indianapolis, IN 46285, U.S.A. Gallery\*—(isoxaben, Elanco)



## **GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS**

FEBRUARY 1990, VOLUME 29, NUMBER 2



LANDSCAPING

## Leaving grass clippings saves vanishing landfills

MOLINE, Ill. — More than 25 states have passed or are studying legislation to change the way people discard their grass clippings and leaves, say the people at John Deere & Company. And landscape maintenance contractors can play a key role in helping keep the 16,400 landfills in the U.S. open.

"Grass clippings can be distributed across the lawn most of the time," says Bob Tracinski of Deere. He recommends that lawns be mowed frequently enough to remove only the top one-third of the grass blade.

Tracinski says that short clippings deteriorate quickly and return nutrients to the soil. He and other experts estimate that a season's worth of grass clippings is equal to one application of

most commercially-available fertilizers.

Tracinski also claims that homeowners need to be educated on the relationship between clippings and thatch. "Thatch is caused by feeding a lawn too often and encouraging the roots to stay near the surface to get nutrients easily," he astutely notes. "Watering too lightly forces the roots to stay near the surface to reach the moisture."

Cities and towns have begun to consider clipping legislation because landfills are filling up rapidly. It's estimated that half of the country's landfills will be closed by the year 2000. And new landfills are being created slowly because of strict licensing procedures



Landscapers need not pick up clippings, as is pictured here. It's less trouble and just as healthy to leave them—as long as too much isn't leaf isn't cut at a time.

that take a long time to complete.

According to studies, landscape waste accounts for nearly 20 percent of the trash in landfills.

"I've been recycling lawn debris at my home for about 10 years," Tracinski says. "In fall, I dump the chopped leaves under a row of pine trees at the back of my yard and spread them out. They blend with the fallen pine needles and produce a forest floor effect. The rest of the year, I either distribute the grass clippings or compost them."

Deere has free booklets on lawn care and composting available by writing: Recycling Booklets, 1400 Third Avenue, Moline, IL 51265. □

#### INSURANCE

## GCSAA develops a low-cost plan for underground tanks

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Increasing concern over stifling insurance premiums has led the Golf Course Superintendents Association (GCSAA) to develop a lowcost plan for underground storage tank liability insurance.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards that will be in effect this coming October will require businesses that dispense petroleum products to take increased financial responsibility for potential leakage or spill incidents and long-term pollution. That responsibility adds up to about \$1.5 to \$2 million per tank, or premiums of \$25,000 to \$40,000 per tank—more than most golf courses can afford.

"We're going to be offering an insurance program that will allow courses to insure their underground storage tanks at extraordinarily reasonable rates," says Pat Jones, GCSAA director of communications.

"We're forming a riskretention group among GCSAA members, allowing them to work with their golf course to determine if their club needs protection." *continued on page 11*