

## PENNEAGLE Creeping Bentgrass

13th hole, North Course, Des Moines Golf and CC

# // SINCE WE REPLACED OUR BLUEGRASS FAIRWAYS WITH PENNEAGLE, PLAYER SATISFACTION IS UP 500% //

Bill Byers completely renovated all 36 fairways at Des Moines Golf and CC over a period of three years ... nine in 1985, nine in 1986 and the remainder in 1987.

Three days after spraying the existing bluegrass/Poa annua fairways with a non-selective herbicide, Penneagle

*Bill Byers, CGCS  
Des Moines Golf and CC, Iowa*



was slit-seeded into the surface. When play resumed in seven days, members had the option of playing from the germinating fairways or taking a drop in the rough.

Bill finds that lightweight mowing keeps the Poa population in control. "I used the clippings for garden mulch one year, that resulted in a terrific stand of Poa. This illustrates the effectiveness of removing clippings and seed heads."

Overall, the new Penneagle fairways require less water than trying to maintain the old bluegrass/Poa fairways, and Penneagle proved to be drought tolerant during the dry summers.

"Bentgrass fairways are in demand in our area. Other courses in Des Moines have

made the switch," says Bill, "And we find that our player satisfaction is up 500%."

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## 1991 BUYERS' GUIDE

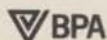
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# TRUCK



## Striking back at industry's 'good friends'

Our "good friends," the environmental activists, just won't give us a break, will they?

If events in northern Ohio are any indication of what's happening around the country, the lawn and landscape industry still has a lot of public relations work remaining.

The most recent abomination to appear in this part of the country was an editorial in the Cleveland Plain Dealer emblazoned with the headline "Watch out for toxic lawns" in no less than 48-point type. The author was identified as Kim Hill, a self-proclaimed "environmental activist" who, for years, has been a thorn in the side of the Ohio Pesticide Applicators for Responsible Regulation (OPARR).

About once a year, the outspoken Mr. Hill dredges up every conceivable piece of bad publicity the pesticide industry has endured since 1980, and assembles an article for the PD or any other such mass disseminator of information irresponsible enough to publicly air his distorted claims.

In the "toxic lawn" article, Hill resurrected the case of Navy Lt. George Prior, the National Cancer Institute's Kansas study, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, Agent Orange, diazinon waterfowl kills and—of course—the ghost of Spike the English bulldog.

The article concluded with this:

"Thousands of miniature Spikes now stand guard on poisoned lawns all across Ohio, warning of the danger. The ghost dog on each sign silently accuses the thoughtless people who order lawn chemicals, applicators who spread the poisons, and companies that threaten our health for financial gain."

This blatant emotional appeal aside, the article's bigger threat came from the author's failure to paint the entire picture in almost every instance.

So this intrepid editor—a self-proclaimed "environmental activist" in his own right—journeyed into the nether world of newspapers where, in another life, he once claimed a rightful spot and even won a few awards for his reporting and writing.

A three-and-a-half page letter refuting and clarifying every point of contention made by the illustrious Mr. Hill was written. To insure its validity, I enlisted the help of Elliot Maras, former editor of LAWN CARE INDUSTRY magazine, and Paul Skorupa of the Pesticide Public Policy Foundation (PPPF).

Five days after it was placed in the mail, I phoned the paper to see if, possibly, perchance, my letter would ever see the light of day again.

My phone call was answered with a recording: "Hope we haven't left you on hold so long that it seems like you've drifted out to sea..."

(To be continued)

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

**Jon Miducki**, Associate Publisher  
**Ann Langhenry**, Central States Sales Mgr.  
**Paul Garris**, N. Central States Sales Mgr.  
**Bob Earley**, Group Vice President  
Office: 7500 Old Oak Blvd.  
Cleveland, OH 44130  
(216) 243-8100  
FAX (216) 826-2832

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

**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: 233 North Michigan Avenue 24th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 938-2328  
FAX (312) 938-4850

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Carol Peterson**, Production Mgr.  
**Connie Freeland**, Prod. Supervisor  
**Linnea Olson**, Prod. Director  
**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

**EDGELL**  
COMMUNICATIONS

Richard Swank, Chairman; Robert L. Edgell, Vice 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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|                                       | CBS II blend      |
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| Improved Chewings fescue              | Shadow            |
| Improved Sheeps fescue                | Bighorn           |
| Improved creeping fescue              | Flyer             |
|                                       | Fortress          |
|                                       | Shademaster       |
| Improved tall fescue                  | Apache            |
|                                       | Bonanza           |
|                                       | Eldorado          |
|                                       | Monarch           |
|                                       | Murietta          |
|                                       | Olympic           |
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|                                       | Triathalawn blend |
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# When you have grub control this effective, you have grounds to celebrate.



DYLOX controls armyworms, bagworms, and stink bugs on your trees, shrubs, and flowers as well as controlling cutworms and sod webworms on your turf.

OFTANOL also controls billbugs, cutworms, chinch bugs, *Hyperodes weevil*, and sod webworms.

To identify grub populations, look for patches of wilted, dead or dying turf. Grub-infested turf has pruned roots which make it easy to pull back like carpet.

Some of the most celebrated courses in the country turn to Mobay products for grub protection.

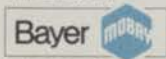
For preventative treatment, there's OFTANOL® Insecticide. It controls grubs longer than any other product available. Apply it in the spring before grubs show up. After all, spring rains and temperatures can mask a grub problem.

Or apply a pre-damage application of OFTANOL when grub eggs hatch and activity begins (usually right after a drought-breaking rain in the early fall). But only apply OFTANOL once a year. If you've already used it in the spring, treat with DYLOX® Insecticide.

Of course, if grub damage turns up, apply DYLOX followed by heavy watering. DYLOX controls grubs in as little as 24 to 48 hours.

For more information, contact your Mobay distributor or Mobay sales representative. They can help you make your turf look great. And that makes you look great. Which is cause enough to celebrate.

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## LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

### GOLF

# Is golf course construction heading for a slowdown?

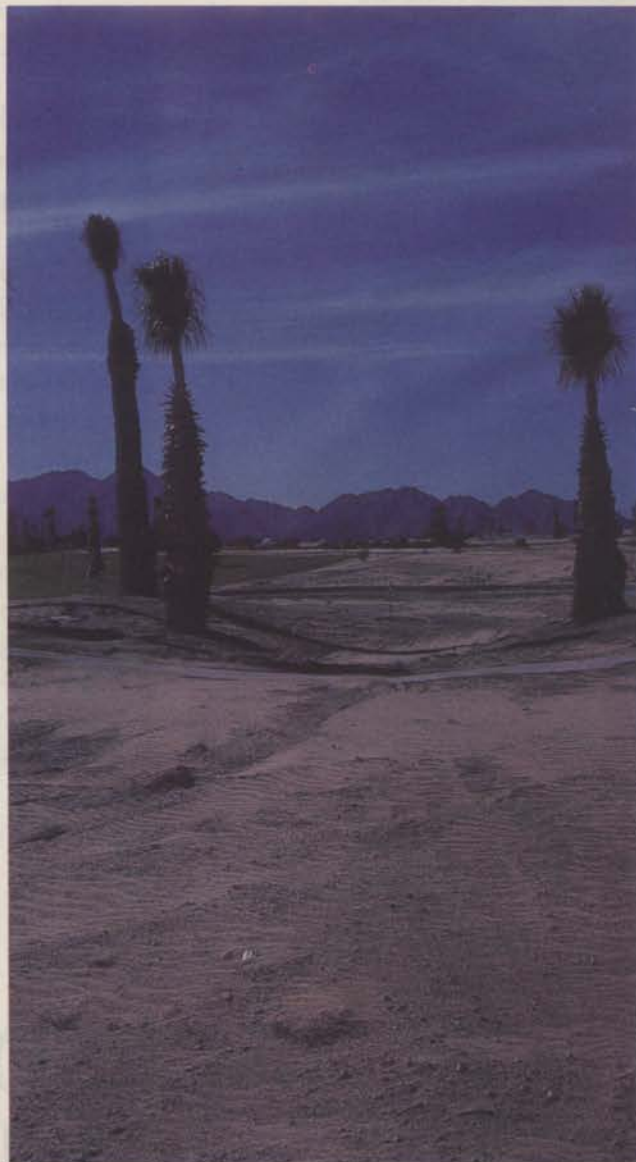
Despite a goal set forth by the National Golf Foundation of building one new golf course every day in the U.S. to meet golfer demands, the golf course construction market could be softening a bit.

According to The Lannert Group of St. Charles, Ill., hyperinflated land prices and the tightened availability of money for financing may well herald a swan song for sprawling large residential developments, especially those built around golf courses.

"This is the current situation, even though the game of golf is so popular that courses can't be built quickly enough to keep up with demand," says J. Christopher Lannert. But he says that, in coming months, relatively few developers will be able to buy land to build golf courses, with or without the residential aspect.

"The type of large-scale development that has been fueling the economy and inflating land prices is currently dying out," he notes. "This is occurring because of high land costs, inflationary interest rates and municipal and county approvals that take too long.

"In the future, we'll generally see more phase-by-phase developments. It simply is too difficult for the individual developer to get



Lack of affordable land and high interest rates may put construction like this in Palm Desert, Calif., in jeopardy.

a \$20 million land loan to finance his large-scale golf course project."

News from the American Society of Golf Course Architects is also on the pessimistic side. In a recent environmental impact survey by the organization, 39 of 40 firms indicated that they had experienced difficulties in obtaining permits for projects because of environmental concerns by governmental agencies.

"This survey vividly demonstrates the impact that environmental concerns have on the golf industry," says ASGCA president Dan Maples, "and the need for the industry to work with key agencies to develop mutually-acceptable guidelines that will be interpreted uniformly throughout the country."

Fifty-six percent of the ASGCA member firms cited wetlands as the primary problem they encountered in the permitting process. Other areas of concern were habitat, nitrates/chemical contamination, groundwater protection and pesticide use.

The ASGCA survey also determined that new golf course projects have experienced the most delays because of objections by the Corps of Engineers. Local planning commissions were also cited as bot

*continued on page 12*



PEOPLE

## Dudeck joins LM advisors

CLEVELAND — A.E. Dudeck, Ph.D., has been added to LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT's Editorial Advisory Board, replacing Dr. Robert Shearman, who resigned when the University of Nebraska promoted him.

Dr. Dudeck has been professor of turfgrass science at the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences since 1974. Prior to that, he worked at the university's Agricultural Research and Education Center in Ft. Lauderdale and at the University of Nebraska with a federal roadside beautification grant.

At Florida, Dudeck's ap-



Dr. A.E. Dudeck

pointment is 60 percent research and 40 percent teaching. His specialties are turf breeding and selection, water quality/environmental and composting.

The new LM advisor earned his Ph.D. from Penn State University. □

PRODUCTS

## New pesticides get label tests

WASHINGTON, D.C. — New control products designed for the landscape/nursery market are being considered for labels by the U.S. EPA.

They are Barricade pre-emergence herbicide, SAN 619 fungicide and Crusade insecticide. In a related action, the EPA has labeled Pennant pre-emergence herbicide for southern turf.

● Sandoz Crop Protection unveiled Barricade and SAN 619 at a series of product introduction seminars this summer.

Barricade (prodiamine) is the most active of all the dinitroaniline herbicides, says Dr. Tom Breggar of Sandoz, meaning that less of it will be needed to get weed control. It will feature long residual control of grasses and broadleaf weeds. It is expected to be registered for turf uses in 1991, says Mike Minford of Sandoz.

SAN 619 (cyproconazole) is yet to given a trade name. It's a systemic

fungicide for golf courses and commercial growing establishments. Initially, not all turf diseases will be on the label, but a more extensive label will be developed. It will reportedly come in a water-soluble, pre-measured packet that covers one acre.

● ICI Americas has begun a test program at golf courses nationwide for Crusade 5G. Crusade, which can be applied to both cool- and warm-season grasses, controls chinch bugs, sod webworms, earwigs, cutworms, white grub larvae, mole crickets and billbugs.

Product manager Greg Gergen anticipates full distribution for the 1991 season.

● Pennant's new label includes uses on bermudagrass, bahiagrass, St. Augustinegrass and centipedegrass. It controls yellow nutsedge, crabgrass, goosegrass and many other broadleaf and grassy weeds. □

# NEWS BRIEFS

**THE FRUITS OF LABOR...**Jonathan Green of Farmingdale, N.J. reports research taking place at its new research farm in Aumsville, Ore., will soon bear fruit. The 48-acre facility is being used for the production of foundation seed, and the evaluation of new varieties for seed yielding potential before they are placed in commercial production. The company says it is working on experimental turfgrass varieties released by Rutgers University. In the next few years, it plans to release improved Kentucky bluegrasses, fine and tall fescue and turf-type perennial ryegrasses.

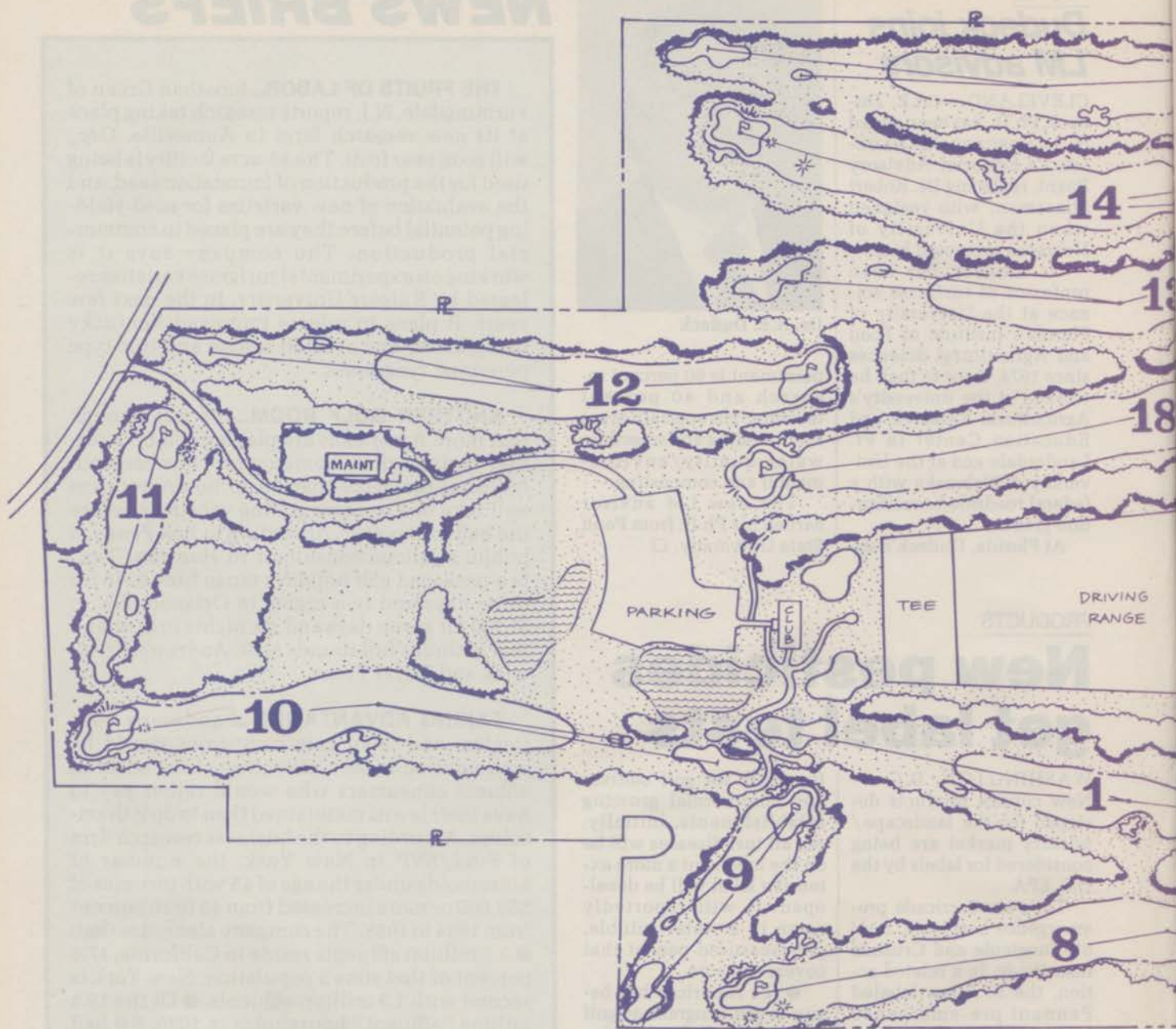
**ANOTHER GOLF BOOM...**It's not enough that more Americans are playing golf on a regular basis in their hometowns. Now research indicates that more than 20 million Americans will take one or more golfing vacations before the end of the year. According to **Bob Penny**, a public relations consultant in Houston, Tex., pre-packaged golf holidays range from \$148 for three days and two nights in Orlando, Fla. to \$1,100 for seven days and six nights in Scotland that includes full rounds at St. Andrews, Prestwick and Royal Troon.

**TAKING ADVANTAGE?...**Landscape contractors and lawn care companies would be well-advised to take advantage of the boom in affluent consumers who would rather pay to have their lawns maintained than to do it themselves. According to the business research firm of Find/SVP in New York, the number of households under the age of 45 with incomes of \$50,000 or more increased from 45 to 50 percent from 1984 to 1988. The company also notes that: ● 2.7 million affluents reside in California, 17.8 percent of that state's population. New York is second with 1.3 million affluents. ● Of the 19.3 million "affluent" households in 1988, 6.9 had incomes of \$75,000 or more per year.

**DOLLARS FOR PLOTS...**The turfgrass research program at Penn State University received \$125,000 from the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council for the 1990 research year. According to **Dr. Tom Watschke**, the money will be used to support the Landscape Management and Water Quality Research Center and other areas of the turf program, including the Joseph Valentine Turf Research Center.

**A NEW MILESTONE...**Chalk up the 10,000th member for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. She is **Norma M. O'Leary**, super at Silver Bay (Minn.) Country Club. The association's membership has doubled in seven years.





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to promote vigorous seedling growth and root development. And its homogenous, free flowing, high density particles provide even distribution of required nutrients.

You don't have to worry about it burning or quitting early, either. HD Starter uses a readily-available phosphorus source (monoammonium phosphate) to stimulate rapid response and safely transform newly seeded areas into thick, attractive turf. While controlled-release nitrogen assures sustained, vigorous top growth.