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Circle No. 102 on Reader Inquiry Card

JOB TALK

Garden retreat a safe haven for patients

Designing a garden for victims of Alzheimer's disease required knowledge of the symptoms and patients' special needs. Safety was the top priority.

by Craig R. Brown, ASLA

■ In 1988, The Renaissance, a suburban Cleveland, Ohio, retirement community, decided to add a courtyard for its elderly residents afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

The Arbor Garden opened in the spring of 1990, and it now offers a soothing, stimulating and secure escape for patients who require special attention.

HWH Architects Engineers Planners, Inc. of Cleveland was chosen to handle the project. The biggest concern of the board of trustees was that the designers realize the ways Alzheimer's can affect its victims, and that the design be executed accordingly.

Knowledge of victims' behavior patterns would be necessary, not only for the patients' safety and enjoyment, but to maximize the experience for other visitors and minimize the amount of required supervision.

Alzheimer's victims are easily bewildered by simple skills, which can lead to extreme frustration that can thrust the victim into panic or harmful behavior. Designers had to protect the patient from himself, and still have enjoyable surroundings.

Two items were most important: patients must be kept away from walls or from seeing beyond the courtyard. A glimpse of the outside could frustrate patients who realize they can no longer move about freely. They might also try to escape by climbing

walls, fences or trees, risking injury or disorientation and panic.

Walkway design was important; the garden would need paths that permit both leisurely strolls and frenetic pacing—frequent traits in victims who try to diffuse the nervous energy often associated with Alzheimer's.

These walkways would need to double back on themselves, returning to a central location. Singular avenues that lead to landscape features or seating areas could confuse or disorient some patients when they reach a "dead end," and simply forget to turn around.

The courtyard was installed in a corner of the assisted-living residence hall. Architects designed a curved brick wall about six feet high, matching the original brick.

An old-fashioned garden arbor is the focal point of the courtyard. It's situated on a central access outside the main sliding glass doors that lead from the patients' recreation area. The arbor itself is a massive, wood-frame structure supported by eight-foot high brick piers.

The arbor is visible from anywhere in the garden, so patients can always remain oriented to their surroundings. The walkway leads to and through the arbor from several directions and also has glider seats set underneath. This allows users to sit and rest in filtered shade while observing other people, birds, flowering shrubs or hanging, rustling vines.

The surface walkway, although not as visually attractive as the arbor, is arguably the most important design element. Concern was for the type and color of material to be used. Because users are primarily elderly and physically handicapped, only minor grade change was acceptable. The pavement was made as smooth as possible, with no joints or cracks to trip us wheelchairs, canes, crutches or walkers.

Asphalt was ruled out, despite its smooth surface. The drawback was the heat it would generate on warm summer days, especially in the small, enclosed garden space.

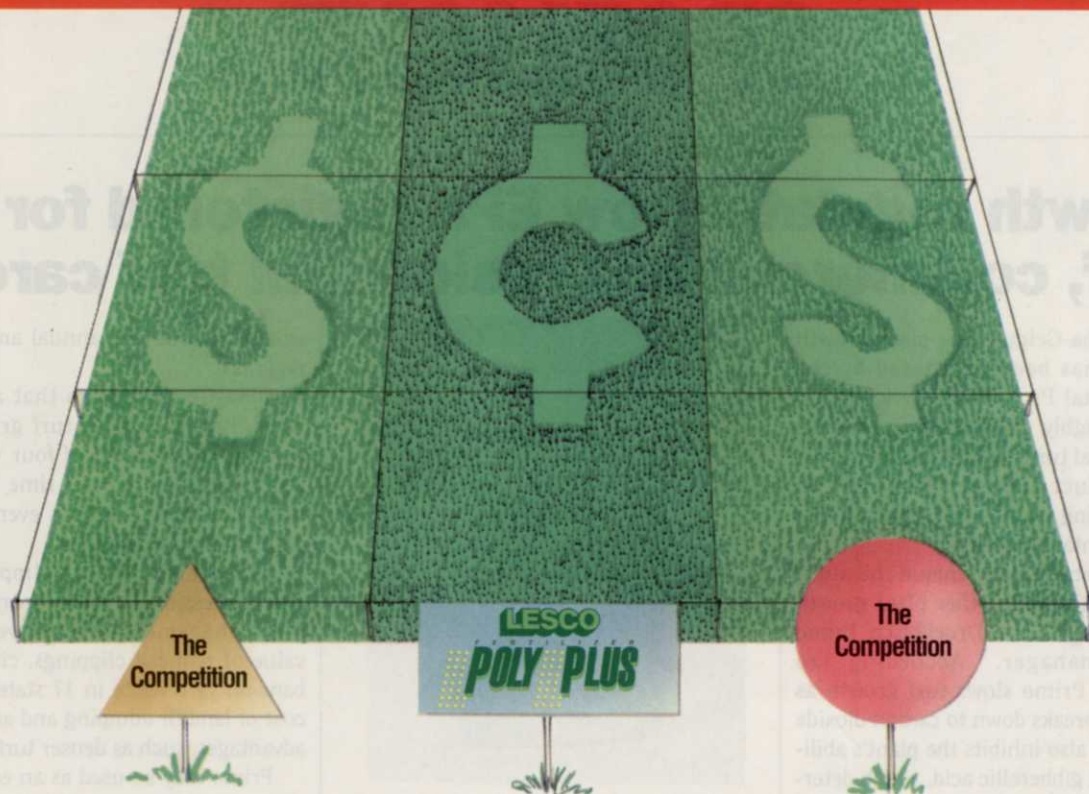
An extra-thick concrete surface was chosen, slightly pitched for runoff, but otherwise level. The base material was carefully installed and compacted to minimize subsequent movement or settling. The full perimeter of the walkway was then sub-drained to collect sub-surface moisture before it could seep under the concrete, minimizing any freeze-thaw action from harsh northern climate. A rose-colored admixture softened the glare, and only cost about 25 cents more per square foot.

—The author is manager of site planning, HWH Architects Engineers Planners, Inc.



The Arbor Garden walkway returns to a central area. The planter is for patients who like to grow flowers or vegetables.

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PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

Growth regulator now EPA-registered for golf, commercial and residential turf care

■ Primo, Ciba-Geigy's new plant growth regulator, has been registered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use on highly maintained commercial and residential turf, and golf courses.

The product had been through two years of testing by all user groups under an Experimental Use Permit.

"Primo features new, unique chemistry that's not available in other plant growth regulators," says Bernd Druebbisch, Primo product manager. According to Druebbisch, Primo slows turf growth as needed, and breaks down to carbon dioxide and water. It also inhibits the plant's ability to produce gibberellic acid, which determines cell elongation and internode length.

Use on all turf species—Primo may be used on all major warm- and cool-sea-



son turf species, including bahiagrass, common and hybrid bermudagrass, centipedegrass, St. Augustinegrass, zoysiagrass, bentgrass, Kentucky bluegrass, red

and tall fescue and annual and perennial ryegrass.

Ciba-Geigy reports that at standard rates, Primo reduces turf growth by 50 percent for a period of four weeks. This reduces the amount of time required to mow a property, perhaps even helping to eliminate mowing cycles.

Primo also reduces clippings. Lawn care professionals, landscapers and mowing management firms have noted the value of reduced clippings, citing landfill bans on yard waste in 17 states, increased cost of landfill dumping and aesthetic turf advantages, such as denser turf.

Primo may be used as an edging material around ornamental beds, trees, curbs and other areas, and will not injure non-target plants or trees.

Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card

PRODUCT REVIEW

Drainage matting product is perfect for use on decks

Enkadrain is a lightweight, durable alternative to gravel for landscape planters, roof decks and plaza slabs, Akzo Industrial Systems says.

By replacing the conventional four to six inches of gravel, the Enkadrain matting offers landscapers considerable savings in weight and cost of hauling.

The matting is described as a polyester filter fabric heat-bonded to a resilient nylon matting of open, three-dimensional construction.

During rainy weather, the filter fabric allows water to drain, while holding back the adjacent soil. By providing proper drainage, problems can be avoided.

According to Akzo, Enkadrain helps prevent root rot and promotes even more root development in planters of any size.

Circle No. 192 on Reader Inquiry Card

Artificial bentgrass divot-proof, suitable for range use

A new simulated bentgrass tee surface has been developed by U.S. Indoor Golf Inc., according to president Irving Bookspan.



The surface features two inches of polypropylene filled with three types of aggregate fiber. It has a shock pad underneath with a simulated rootzone and vertical draining system.

Bookspan says golfers can't take divots

from the tee turf, and placing tees into it is easy, no matter what the weather conditions.

The holes produced by the tees are naturally refilled by the aggregate fibers when the tees are removed.

The surface is also perfect for driving ranges, and a similar, low-maintenance simulated bentgrass surface has been developed for greens, according to Bookspan.

Circle No. 193 on Reader Inquiry Card

Turf-type tall fescue gets plant protection status

Pickseed West, Inc., recently announced that the United States Department of Agriculture issued Plant Variety Protection to Shortstop turf-type tall fescue.

Dr. Jerry Pepin, Pickseed's executive vice-president says Shortstop is a slower-

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PRODUCT REVIEW

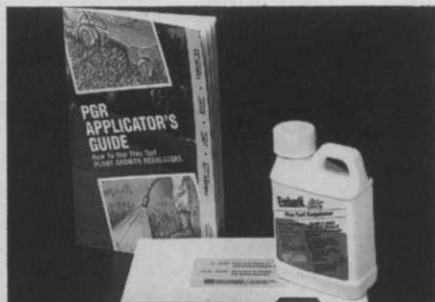
growing, uniform variety, with very dark green color and medium fine leaf texture.

Shortstop performed well in the recent National Tall Fescue Test, ranking first overall among 65 varieties for lowest vertical growth rating. Shortstop also ranked in the top five for turf quality, genetic color, leaf texture and brown patch resistance in the 1991 results of this test.

Circle No. 194 on Reader Inquiry Card

Kit gives a preview of new turfgrass growth regulator

PBI/Gordon Corporation is offering a turfgrass growth regulator preview kit



containing a 124-page booklet, 14-minute video and free product for up to 4000 sq. ft. of turf.

The kit is available to turf managers, lawn care operators, and mowing contractors interested in learning how Embark Lite Fine Turf Regulator can reduce the time and expense of mowing, trimming and clippings disposal.

Circle No. 195 on Reader Inquiry Card

EPA grants approval for turf herbicide label update

Monsanto company has obtained approval from the Environmental Protection Agency for an updated label for Dimension turf herbicide. The revisions further define and expand application procedure information and precautions.

The updated label includes recommendations that Dimension not be applied to turf that has been stressed from temperature extremes, lack of moisture, improper fertilization, soil pH imbalance, use of other chemicals, insects, diseases or mechanical operations.

According to Monsanto, best results are obtained when Dimension is applied to turf that has a well-developed rooting sys-

tem using conventional liquid application equipment with flat-fan nozzles.

The updated label includes turfgrass species distinctions for applying Dimension to certain varieties of creeping bentgrass, fine fescue, bermudagrass and colonial bentgrass. The new label includes a warning for application to older varieties of creeping bentgrass such as Carmen, Cohansey and Seaside, colonial and browntop bentgrasses and Tifgreen or 328 hybrid bermudagrass due to potential for turfgrass injury.

Circle No. 196 on Reader Inquiry Card

New utility vehicles rugged, stable, with good traction

John Deere's "Gators" are new all-purpose turf and off-road vehicles. Their design is rugged, with aggressive traction, stability and light maneuverability.



The 10-hp Gator 4 x 2 has on four wheels, with 2-wheel drive and differential lock. A single-cylinder, air-cooled engine supplies the power. The cargo box is 10 cu. ft., and hauls up to 500 lbs.

The 18-hp Gator 6 x 4 rolls on six wheels and has a 4-wheel drive and differential lock. It's powered by a twin-cylinder, liquid-cooled engine. The larger model has an 11 cu. ft. cargo box hauls 800 lbs. Total payload capacity with operator and passenger is 1200 lbs.

Halogen headlights are standard. Other features include rack-and-pinion steering and internal wet disk brakes.

Circle No. 197 on Reader Inquiry Card

Five-gang fairway mower cuts low to the ground

The new five-gang fairway mower from Jacobsen Division of Textron, the LF-3810, cuts a 115-inch swath with five, 7-inch diameter, 10-blade reels.

Thanks to the company's down-pressure spring system, the mower follows ground contours more precisely for a qual-



ity cut, even with heights as low as 3/8-inch, and mowing speeds up to 7.5 mph.

The mower's 389-hp diesel engine is isolation mounted between the front drive wheels for quiet operation, less vibration and better traction.

Circle No. 198 on Reader Inquiry Card

Companies sign pact to research, market fungicide

The O.M. Scott & Sons Company has signed an exclusive agreement with Sandoz for tolcolfos-methyl fungicide, also known as Risolex.

Scotts has been screening tolcolfos-methyl fungicide since the 1980's. The agreement between the two companies leverages Sandoz's strong position in control technology, and Scotts' applied research, development and marketing strength.

Risolex is being touted for its brown patch and snow mold control attributes, whether alone or in a fungicide pre-mix. Effective on both cool- and warm-season turf, Risolex has the potential to be the active or component ingredient in up to six products in the company's line.

Registration for Risolex is anticipated to occur in early 1994. Product sales could begin in 1995.

Circle No. 199 on Reader Inquiry Card

Material handlers carry the big loads, are easy on turf

Mustang Manufacturing Co. is promoting the payload capacities of its material handlers: from 20 to 91 cu. ft. (one to six tons), ideal for larger golf course projects.

continued on page 110

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

**Cover-to-cover
readership,
every month,
from read-
ers who
count!**

Dear Editor,

Feb. 2, 1993

I'm writing this letter, to let you know, how much your magazine has meant to me. I own a small company in Campbellsville, Kentucky. I started my lawn care company in February, of 1989. From day one, I've done everything by myself. I started out just mowing, trimming shrubs, whatever I could get. Two years ago, I started into the chemical lawn care. Last year I bought out, a nearby company to get their accounts. At one time, I was mowing over (70) seventy lawns a week, 50/50 residential/comm., plus spraying about (60) sixty clients, (5) times a year.

Now, I only mow around 40 lawns per week, covering (12) counties, because I have almost (300) clients I spray, (a few industrial), (most of Central Kentucky). Plus, I signed a new contract last year to take over grounds maintenance at nearby Campbellsville College. It's a 50 acre facility, which covers mowing, tree/shrub care, athletic fields and chemical applications. I mow alot of my commerical accounts at night where feasible. To give me more time in the day, to spray lawns; or be at the college. I like doing it all myself, including all office work and bookkeeping, because I always know what's going on, what I've completed, and where I stand financially. I'm very busy, and need all the help I can get.

As you can see, I get useful advice and suggestions from when I read your magazine, I really appreciate your magazine. It has helped me several times in the past. Articles on expanding and using more services, to maybe just a small tip in a special department. I just wanted to let you know that your magazine doesn't just get thrown over on a shelf, it gets read, cover to cover.

Thank you, so much!
Yours Truly,

Rob Harris

owner/operator
HARRIS LAWN CARE
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Campbellsville, KY 42719



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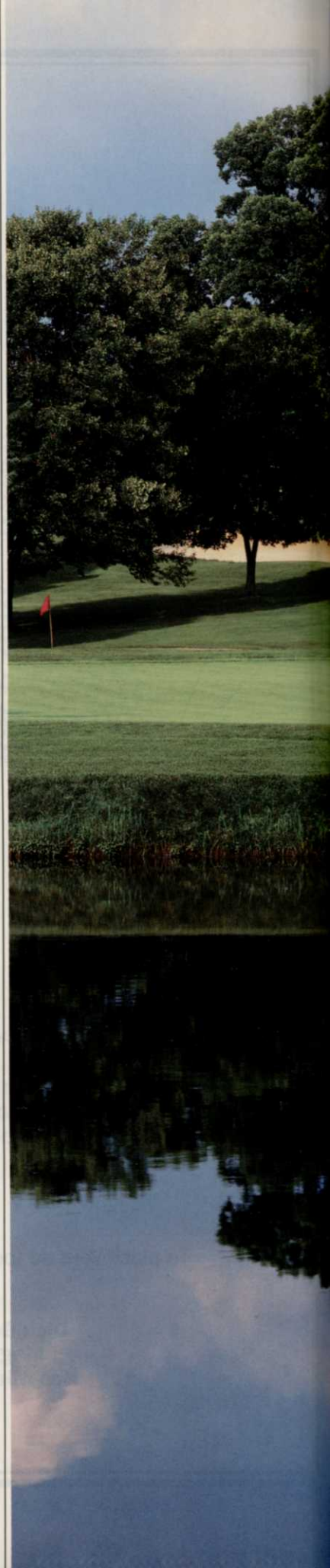
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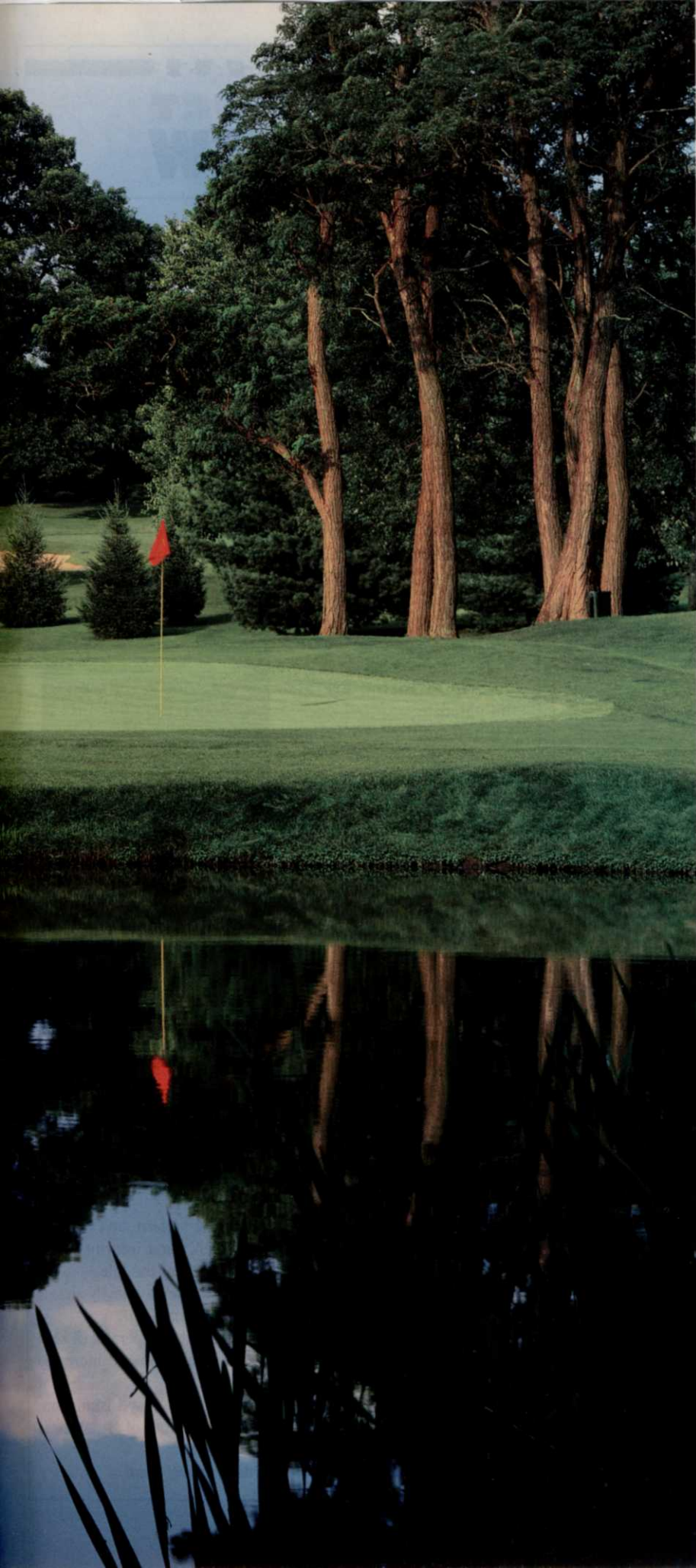
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For more information, contact Miles Inc., Specialty Products, Box 4913, Kansas City, MO 64120. (800) 842-8020.

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Circle No. 127 on Reader Inquiry Card

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SHOWCASE
**PRODUCT
 REVIEW**

Mustang says golf course superintendents have found material handlers particularly useful for reconstructing greens and sand traps, as well as a general utility vehicle for hauling material. Most importantly, Mustang says these vehicles can carry maximum capacity loads across turf without causing damage.

Several models of two- and four-wheel drive material handlers are available. The two-wheel drive models have rear-wheel steering, and the four-wheel drive models have up to 30 degrees articulation and 10 degrees oscillation.

Circle No. 200 on Reader Inquiry Card

New broadleaf herbicide is dry-sprayable

Encore DSC (dry sprayable concentrate) is the newest broadleaf herbicide marketed by PBI/Gordon. Encore is a patented formulation containing MCPA.

Packaged in dissolvable, water-soluble bags, the product reduces worker exposure and requires no measuring. Container disposal problems and triple-rinsing are also eliminated.

When applied to foliage, Encore DSC provides a broad spectrum of weed control and may be used on most types of lawns except St. Augustinegrass and dichondra.

Treated areas may be seeded safely three to four weeks after application.



Circle No. 201 on Reader Inquiry Card

Soil temperature control system installed

A soil temperature control system raise temperatures below ground, resulting in better turf growth, according to BioTherm, makers of Turf-Temp.

Tubing is placed in an even pattern across the green area, and is connected to special manifolds below the skirt. A choker layer of sand is added, and 12 inches of rootzone mixture.

The supply and return lines are then connected to the heat module discreetly located away from the green.

A water mixture circulates through the system, and multiple soil sensors below the surface of the green, send information to the electronic soil thermostat located at the heat module.

The Turf-Temp was recently installed under a heavily-shaded green at the Palos Verdes Golf Club in Petaluma, Calif.

Superintendent Steve Young reports that temperatures have gone from 39 to 50 degrees, with improved color and increased leaf growth.

The system's Megatube is super flexible for easy installation. The tubes are resistant to chemicals, and each foot of Megatube is under warranty for 10 years.

Circle No. 202 on Reader Inquiry Card