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FUNGICIDE

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ON THE COVER: SPRINGWOOD GOLF CLUB, YORK, PA, IS DUE TO OPEN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, 1998. SUPERINTENDENT IS KENNETH M. PEPPEL, CGCS. COURSE DESIGNED BY AULT CLARK & ASSOCIATES. PHOTO BY JOHN R. JOHNSON OF JOHNSON DESIGN.

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LANDSCAPE management

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MEANS BUSINESS

'People of the Year' have always led the charge



Terry McIver

TERRY McIVER
Editor-in-Chief

This month, we present to the Green Industry our "People of the Year" recipients for 1997.

What an excellent quartet of Green Industry leaders: Tom Lied; Jeff Bourne; Dr. Roger Funk; and Paul Latshaw, Sr.

The criteria for the "People of the Year" award is that a Green Industry professional exhibits a history of contributions to the Green Industry during the course of a career or during a significant portion of that career.

Our winners have done just that, and show no sign of slowing down. They're long-ball hitters. Team players. Coaches. Managers.

Tom Lied, president of Lied's Landscape Design and Development, has been a regular contributor to the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, including being a co-founder of the group in 1962. He learned the business from his father, Delmar, and is one of those people who never looked back. He knew his career path and interests, and attacked his work with excitement and vigor.

Jeff Bourne, our grounds management winner, is in charge of about 6000 acres of property and 3000 parcels of dedicated open space in Howard County, Md. He is responsible for an operating budget of \$13 million, including 600 employees (career, part time and contractual).

Paul Latshaw—his son is also Paul—could be called a "Tournament Specialist" in the superintendent ranks. Throughout his career, he has prepared several country clubs for championship play, with great results. His most recent was the U.S. Open Championship at Congressional CC, where he has been superintendent since 1993.

Dr. Roger Funk of the Davey Tree Expert Co., has been a leader in horticultural science and plant health care for Davey since 1973.

He has authored numerous papers on horticultural topics, and has brought some very good ideas to the table in the interest of reduced product use and "plant health care."

Besides a definite tendency towards excellence, our "People of the Year" share something else in common. Each one entered the Green Industry at a very early age, and knew early on that this was where they wanted to be; where they wanted to make their marks; where they wanted to make a difference.

Lied started in his father Delmar's nursery company as a young boy. After earning a degree in horticulture, Lied went back to serve the company, and began his career full throttle. He was also a co-founder of ALCA.

Latshaw was fresh out of the Navy, and had turned from a potential occupation of poultry farmer when in 1962 he started at a Pennsylvania golf course.

Bourne's involvement with grounds began as a student of Community and Outdoor Recreation at Springfield College, Springfield, Mass.

Roger Funk joined the Davey Tree Expert Co. in 1973 as a horticulturist. He's been there ever since, and has been the technical force behind it's initiatives into the concept of Plant Health Care and other lawn care/tree care-related programs.

We congratulate our "People of the Year" for 1997. We know we could find four times that number on any given day, because there are many committed Green Industry Professionals out there who have made life-long contributions.

The "People of the Year" will receive their awards during the Green Industry Expo in November and GCSAA show in February. To learn more about them, see the story that begins on page 17. **LM**

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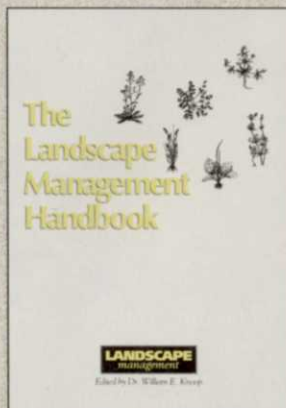
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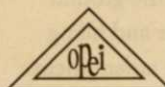
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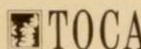
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Circle 112

Va. buttonweed in bentgrass, fescue

Virginia buttonweed has become established on bentgrass skirts and fescue fairways on our golf course. We applied Confront to areas around the green; it appeared to have killed the weed, but one year later we noticed it had returned. In addition, Confront killed the bentgrass. We have tried weeding, but with little effect. Nothing has been applied to fescue areas fearing that the applied product may kill the grass there also. And these areas have a great deal of Virginia buttonweed.

—KENTUCKY

The confront herbicide is labeled for use on both bentgrass and fescue. It is a postemergent herbicide. In my opinion, it helps manage the Virginia buttonweed present at the time of application. Recognize the fact that this is a difficult weed to manage. Often, repeat applications at two- to three-week intervals may be needed to help manage this weed.

You say that you noticed weeds a year later. It is possible that the new weeds might have appeared from seeds which can remain viable for 10-15 years in the soil. New seeds can also be introduced from adjacent areas.

Since Confront is labeled for bentgrass use at 1 pt./acre, it is unlikely that is caused this problem at the recommended rate. However, if it was not used according to label guidelines, problems may occur.

Check your records for mixing and gallonage application

rates. The bentgrass kill you mentioned also could be related to a disease like Pythium blight or some insect damage.

As far as fescue, you may be referring to coarse fescue or tall fescue. Confront is also labeled for use on fescue. There should not be any problem if it is used according to label guidelines.

Tall fescue clumps a problem

How late can we apply Lesco-TFC to manage tall fescue as a weed in Kentucky bluegrass lawns?

—PENNSYLVANIA

A Lesco representative says Lesco-TFC herbicide can be applied as long as the soil is not frozen. After treatments are applied, tall fescue plants may not show severe declining symptoms or die during the fall season of the treated year. Instead, the tall fescue plants usually disappear the following spring. Reports indicate that fall applications are better than spring because during the fall season root absorption increases.

Also, tall fescue would be more susceptible to TFC herbicide because of decreasing temperature.

Treating tall fescue in the fall can allow Kentucky bluegrass and other desirable turfgrasses to fill in during spring.

Avoid treating areas that have ryegrass as a component of turfgrass in the lawn. Lesco-TFC herbicide will remove perennial ryegrass from Kentucky bluegrass.

Another option for the tall fescue clumps is to dig them

out. These areas can then be seeded with certified seed mixes. Where this is not practical and chemical approach is highly desirable.

Read and follow label specifications for better results.

Tree soil compaction

Older trees on the town commons are suffering from years of soil compaction. What can we do?

—OHIO

There are only a few things that can be done to relieve compacted soils. Where practical, try to correct compaction with hydraulic pressure. Soil injecting, root feeding tools can be used. The key is to get the water pressure deep into the root zone to break up the compacted soil. In most situations, the active roots of plants will be in the top 18-24 inches.

Another approach is to drill vertical holes in the ground using a soil auger and filling them with loose amendments like mulch or peat moss. If poor drainage appears to be a problem, filling these holes with pea gravel would be useful. Reports also indicate that radial trenching within the dripline of trees and filling with amendments will allow good drainage and aeration for the root systems.

The best way is to recognize the potential for compaction from traffic or construction, and provide corrective measures and treatments before the anticipated compaction occurs. **LM**



BALAKRISHNA RAO

Manager of Research and Technical Development for the Davey Tree Expert Co., Kent, Ohio

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Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear in the magazine.