

TURFGRASS FOUNDATION RECEIVES GRANT

The Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association (RMRTA) has awarded \$32,000 to the Rocky Mountain Turfgrass Research Foundation to fund turfgrass research and scholarships.

The research grant represents proceeds from the 39th Turf Conference and Trade Show held last December. More than 1,100 turfgrass professionals attended this conference, which featured 45 technical sessions and a keynote address from Dr. Elliot Roberts, formerly of the Lawn Institute.

AMERICAN GOLF CORP. ACQUIRES KEY WEST RESORT

American Golf Corporation, one of the largest golf course management companies in the world, has acquired the Key West Resort Golf Resort in Key West, FL.

The resort's par-70 course was constructed in 1923-24 and re-designed in the 1980's by architect Rees Jones. American Golf Corporation, founded in 1968 by David Price, manages over 150 golf facilities, including private country and resort clubs, public courses and practice centers in 22 states throughout the country.

"DEAD AIR SYNDROME" RESEARCH GREEN STARTED

The Georgia Turfgrass Foundation Trust broke ground May 3 on their flagship research project, the "Dead Air Syndrome" bentgrass cultivar evaluation green, at the Atlanta Athletic Club in Duluth, GA.

The project is a 5-year trial of current and new bentgrass cultivars under the stress of poor air circulation, a problem faced by golf courses in the Southeast, to help determine superior putting green turfgrasses. Evaluations will be conducted by research scientists at the University of Georgia's Griffin Experimental Station and golf course superintendents. This is the first scientific bentgrass study done in cooperation with a university turfgrass research proposal on private land managed to greens quality standards.

NETLON APPOINTS DISTRIBUTORS TO SUPPLY ADVANCED TURF IN U.S.

Netlon Limited, based in the United Kingdom, has appointed seven distributors to supply Netlon advanced turf in North America.

Advanced turf provides natural turf with loadbearing capacity, durability and resistance to soil compaction. The high water-infiltration rate and enhanced stability reduces waterlogging, prevents ponding, and ensures that turf damage is smaller. It is used in areas that must

withstand frequent use or heavy loads, such as golf tees, greens, walkways, parking lots, spectator areas, horse-racing tracks, sports fields, and fire-access and service roads.

The turf has been installed in several major sports venues in the U.S. and around the world, including: the Santa Anita Race Track in Los Angeles; Belfry Golf Course, the location for this year's Ryder Cup Competition, and Woburn Country Club, home of the Dunhill Masters, both in the U.K.; and the stadium at the Melbourne Cricket Club in Australia.

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EXPLORING EQUIPMENT

Skid-Steer Loader Selection

Powerful and versatile, skid-steer loaders often operate under adverse conditions. These highly maneuverable machines work well in tight spaces. In sports field construction, where moving rocks, earth, and sod and other heavy objects is commonplace, skid-steer loaders can save the day.

Here are a few skid-steer loader basics, courtesy of the Melroe Company, manufacturers of the Bobcat loader line, to consider when you begin to search for the right machine:

Rated Operating Capacity. The rated operating capacity of a skid-steer loader is the equivalent of one-half a load that would cause the unit to tip forward (statically) at maximum reach. This capacity reflects a load that a machine can handle under normal operating conditions.

Performance. Skid-steer loader performance depends on a number of factors besides engine horsepower. Other vital variables include weight distribution, tread-width-to-wheelbase ratio, axle torque, breakout force, pushing force and engine torque.

The most accurate measure of engine power is net horsepower. However, it's crucial for the machine to transfer that power to the wheels as efficiently as possible. That's where the other variables enter the equation.

For example, an engine that develops high net torque at low rpm has better lugging capacity, which is needed for digging and pushing. To provide a more accurate method of analyzing actual loader power, always cite horsepower at specific rpm. Axle torque is a direct measure of torque available at the axles. Axle torque must be adequate so that the loader can put its power to work at the wheels.

A measure of applied power in digging or excavating application is called breakout force — the prying force exhibited by the bucket. Another variable, pushing force, is a function of machine weight and traction.

The weight distribution and tread-width-to-wheelbase ratio should allow for easy turning or skidding under load, eliminating the need for excessive horsepower. Such "balanced" design also increases the life of tires and the drive train.

Serviceability. Loaders that provide easy access to regularly maintained components help keep productivity high. For example, tip-up operator cabs and swing-out tailgates greatly enhance serviceability of hydrostatic and engine components. The easier it is to perform routine service, the most likely it is to be performed on schedule.

Attachment Capability. Since versatility is the hallmark of skid-steer loaders, attachment capability is a vital consideration when purchasing one. Not only should the loader be able to accept a variety of implements, but attaching and removing them should be quick and easy, without the loss of strength and security.

These are but a few of many considerations to keep in mind when buying or leasing a skid-steer loader. Others to contemplate are dealer selection and the manufacturer's service and parts network. Also, consider depreciation and resale value — slow depreciation and high resale value are often the marks of a high-quality piece of equipment. □

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Chemical Tools for Lakes and Ponds

continued from page 21

Navigate (Applied Biochemists Inc.). A granular 2,4-D ester formulation specifically labeled for aquatic use. This is a systemic herbicide that selectively controls certain troublesome aquatic species such as water milfoil, coontail, water lilies and several emergent shoreline species. It is best used early in the season, before plants mature. Follow label instructions for water-use restrictions.

Reward (Zeneca Inc.). Formerly Diquat under the Valent label, this is a fairly broad-range contact herbicide that can be used on a variety of submerged, floating and emergent species. Water-use restrictions are: 24 hours no swimming and 14 days no irrigation, stock watering and domestic use. There are no restrictions on fish consumption.

Rodeo (Monsanto). Rodeo is a systemic herbicide containing glyphosate.

It is effective in controlling a wide variety of shoreline, emergent and floating leaved aquatic species. A selection of dosages are provided on the label for species-specific control ranging from grasses to woody vegetation. It is necessary to utilize an adjuvant in conjunction with Rodeo to insure proper coverage of foliage and enhance plant uptake. No water-use restrictions follow treatment.

A variety of chemical "tools" are available to manage most aquatic vegetation problems.

Sonar (Dow-Elanco). A systemic aquatic herbicide containing fluridone as its active ingredient. Although it can be used to control a wide range of species, dosage rates can be adjusted to provide selective control of particularly troublesome plants. There are no restrictions on fishing and swimming following treatment. Consult the label for irrigation restrictions, which vary, depending on dosage and use site. □

Editor's note: Jim Schmidt is a product manager for Applied Biochemists Inc. in Milwaukee, WI.

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May, 1993 33

ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

HERBICIDE

Reward aquatic and noncrop herbicide is fast-acting and compatible with an aquatic weed management program. It dissipates from the environment after it has controlled major aquatic weed pests such as water lettuce, hydrilla and water hyacinths.

The product works on unwanted weeds in and around buildings, golf courses and right-of-ways. Available in four 1-gallon containers, Reward also comes in a 110-gallon EZ-Handler returnable container for larger uses.

ICI PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS

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HARROW

The Parmiter flexible harrow not only covers the seed and firms the soil for fast, uniform germination and growth, it smooths and levels the ground as well.

When used to incorporate herbicides or fertilizers, the harrow works the elements into the soil, where they resist wind and water erosion. Used as a root aerator, it stimulates growth for better water infiltration and root development.

Drawbars are from 4 to 16 feet wide. When used with connectors to couple sets together, a working width of 24 feet can be achieved.

PARMITER

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POWER RAKE

The Thatch-O-Matic power rake has a 5-hp engine to help it cut a 19-inch path through built-up thatch. A handle-mounted clutch, throttle controls and easy height-adjustment features are designed for operator comfort.

Three-reel options for lawn-care operations include: spring tines for dethatching; knives for verticutting and controlling creeping grasses; and flails for heavy-thatch removal and lawn renovation.

PARKER SWEEPER COMPANY

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SURFACE ASPIRATING AERATOR

The 1-, 2- or 3-hp Toro surface aspirating aerator circulates and mixes oxygen throughout ponds and lakes 2 to 12 feet deep. The custom-molded polypropylene float allows adjustable aspirator angles for operation in any water depth. Bubble flow may also be directed to specific pond areas. Decorative rock covers are available to help make the unit inconspicuous.

AQUASCAPE TECHNOLOGIES

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HERBICIDE

Dimension herbicide, designed for use by golf course superintendents, lawn care operators and landscaping professionals, controls pre- and post-emergent crabgrass and broadleaf weeds such as goosegrass, foxtail, spurge and oxalis. It can be applied over a wide variety of turfgrass without fear of injury, will not harm ornamental plants adjacent to treatment areas, and will not stain buildings, sidewalks, equipment or clothing. It also binds tightly to the soil, has low potential for groundwater contamination or surface runoff, and provides longer control than other pre-emergence crabgrass herbicides.

MONSANTO COMPANY

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WATER FILTER BRUSH

With Amiad's Brushaway, water filters can be cleaned while the filtration system is operating. The Brushaway, which easily retrofits to existing filters, has a series of nylon brushes that can be inserted into the filter screen. The handle outside the lid rotates the brushes inside, thereby brushing away particles from the filter screen. The particles are then expelled through the manual flush valve. Amiad's filtration products are used in farm, drip, landscape and golf course irrigation, recycling, and waste and municipal water-treatment facilities.

AMIAD FILTRATION SYSTEMS

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CONTAINMENT LINERS

Permalon HDPE containment liners provide leak-proof protection for all landscaping, soil-erosion, drainage and irrigation applications. The liners are designed to fit round or rectangular tanks, for above- or below-ground installation. A multi-layered, cross-laminated construction gives them more strength and elongation properties than liners having twice the bulk weight. They are flexible, lightweight, puncture- and tear-resistant, UV-stabilized and free of harmful chemicals.

REEF INDUSTRIES INC.

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GREENS ROLLER

Olathe's model 395 greens roller hydraulically transforms from the rolling mode to the transporting mode. The roller is powered by an 8-hp engine with a 6-mph transport speed and is equipped with three stainless steel rollers to ensure proper weight distribution. It has an approximate PSI reading of 4.9 pounds per square inch without an operator. A single directional foot pedal controls all four directional operations. The seat adjusts for easy access to the engine hydraulic pump, filter and belts. Benefits include: extended mowing cycles, increased stimpmeter readings, consistency in green readings, smoother surfaces, longer cutting height and deeper root growth.

OLATHE MANUFACTURING INC.

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FUNGICIDES

Echo 90 DF (dry flowable) broad-spectrum fungicides have a new chlorothalonil formulation. It is registered for use on a wide variety of turfgrasses, ornamental plantings and conifers.

The product provides excellent suspension, mixing, compatibility, tenacity, stability and shelf life. Particle size, determined by a standard particle measuring system, ensures good coverage.

SOSTRAM CORPORATION

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ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

ATV SPRAYER

The Turf Choice 55-gallon ATV sprayer can be used with garden tractors and all-terrain vehicles to apply fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides to grass, trees, shrubs and hard-to-reach ornamentals. It features: flotation tires that maximize weight distribution and minimize "footprint;" a 12-volt electric diaphragm pump that delivers 3.5 GPM and up to 50 PSI; a new manifold that regulates pressure from 5 to 50 PSI; a standard 25-foot-by-3/8-inch gun hose with a hand gun that has an adjustable spray pattern tip; a 15-foot spray coverage breakaway; a fading boom that provides for wide-swath applications; a non-corrosive poly tank with a 5-inch screw-on lid and an adjustable hitch.

**TURF CHOICE, DIVISION OF
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SEEDED ZOYSIAGRASSES

Turf Merchants Inc. has developed a new line of seeded zoysiagrasses, dubbed the "zen" line. Zen 100, Chinese common *Zoysia japonica*, has a medium texture and a medium dark-green color and is chemically treated for faster germination. Zen 200CS, the first-generation seed from Meyer zoysia, was previously only available as vegetative sprigs. Zen 300CS, a two-clone synthetic variety, has better genetic color and fall color-retention than Zen 200CS. It can be mixed with a cool-season grass such as tall fescue or overseeded onto existing turf. Zen 400CT, a two-clone synthetic variety with medium leaf texture, has a more upright growth habit than Zen 200CS and is less thatchy. It is best used mixed with a cool-season grass such as twilight, taurus or avanti turf fescue at the rate of 4 pounds of tall fescue to 1 pound of zoysia. This ensures year-round green when the zoysia is dormant. The Zen 100 and 200 CS are available now; Zen 300CS and 400CT will not be available until the fall of 1994.

TURF MERCHANTS INC.

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SCOREBOARD

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Classified Advertising Rates: \$55.00 per inch payable in advance. One inch minimum (about 50 words). Send copy with check for \$55.00 at least four weeks prior to issue date to: **sportsTURF**, 68-860 Perez Road, Suite J, Cathedral City, CA, 92234, or fax to (619) 770-8019. Blind box numbers are available. Special borders and rules will be billed at display advertising rates. Classified ads are not commissionable.

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ADVERTISER INDEX

A-G Sod Farm.....	16
Air-o-lator.....	19
Amiad USA.....	25
Aquamaster.....	17
Aquascape.....	20
Aquashade.....	21
B-H Sales.....	29
Bannerman.....	32
Befco, Inc.	23
Bucyrus Equip. Co., Inc.	12
Con Wed Plastics.....	12
Cygnat Ent.	21
Cygnat Turf.....	11
Forestry Suppliers.....	13
Hunter Ind., Inc.	3
Iowa Export/Import.....	16
Kasco Marine.....	33
Kifco/Ag Rain.....	33
Kubota Tractor.....	2
M. Putterman.....	33
McCord Auto Supply, Inc.	24
Partac Peat Corp.....	26
Pennington Enterprises, Inc.	36
Reef Industries, Inc.	25
STMA.....	5
Ty-Crop Turf Equipment.....	31
West Coast Turf.....	15