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FLORIDA FORMS COUNCIL TO REPRESENT GOLF INDUSTRY

Negative and inaccurate publicity about the golf industry has Florida developers, golf professionals and superintendents, and suppliers up in arms. They have decided to fight back and have joined together to form the Florida Golf Council (FGC).

"The public perception of golf as a "rich man's game" rather than an industry must be changed if the industry is to grow," said Tim Hiers, past president of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association (FGCSA). Golf is a five billion dollar a year industry in the state. Hiers said that the importance of golf as an industry in the state has not been adequately communicated to government regulators and the media. FGCSA donated the first \$2,500 to support the new council.

FGC's first move was to organize a successful Golf Summit in Orlando in October. Florida Governor Bob Martinez topped a list of summit speakers which included many state regulatory officials, PGA Tour Commissioner Deane Beman, PGA of American CEO Jim Awtrey, and leaders of all major golf organizations in the state.

The council hopes to raise funds to carry out a broad mission statement. One of its missions is to keep a close watch on legislation and coordinate a unified response. This may require a state lobbyist. Only Arizona and California employ lobbyists in their state capitols. Only Michigan and Florida have now held state golf summits.

The biggest legislative challenge comes from environmentalists. The council hopes to become a clearing house for technical information and research on the environmental impact of golf courses. "Golf is good for the environment," insists Ed Seay with Palmer Course Design. "A well designed and maintained golf course is one of nature's benefactors. Golf course designers have no vested interest in harming the environment. We want to protect, enhance, reestablish and renew it." Seay emphasized that lawmakers and government agencies need to be educated *before* they pass laws that critically affect the industry.

"We believe that other states should explore both councils and summits for golf," said Nancy Oliver, spokesperson for the FGC. She is coordinating the activities of FGC during its developmental stage and can be reached at (407) 688-0800.

PESTICIDE INDUSTRY UNITES TO COORDINATE DEFENSE

Tired of facing battles with regulatory agencies alone, manufacturers, distributors, and users of specialty pesticides have united to form Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE). Established as a committee within the National Agricultural Chemicals Association (NACA), RISE will act as an umbrella organization to address environmental, health, and safety issues facing the \$1.3 billion industry.

"We are constantly bombarded by federal, state, and local issues, regulations, legislation, and misinformation," said Bill Liles of Ciba-Geigy. "This constant attack on our industry has cost us all valuable resources. In most cases, our defense has been weak and poorly focused due to a lack of a central, coordinated effort."

Allen Haws of Mobay Specialty Products Group, said, "It is extremely important that we work together as an industry for an improved environment and a standard of living that we all enjoy. User group association working in cooperation with RISE will be the key to the success and the future of the specialty pesticide industry."

RISE's efforts will support the position that judicious use of pesticides can prove positive in the care, maintenance, and protection of public health and property in the urban, suburban, and industrial environ-

ment, said Haws. "It is our mission to be responsible to the public and support the industry."

The organization will serve as a clearinghouse of information on specialty markets, and will dispense this information to promote and expand opportunities for the industry. It will lobby at all levels of government, develop an intensive education campaign aimed at the public, and create end user programs on proper pesticide uses and handling.

A membership drive has begun in order to seek industry support and to create a large, strong voice of authority in the public and private sectors. Membership categories include basic manufacturers, formulators, distributors, end users, associations, media, and equipment manufacturers. Those joining before January 31, 1991, will hold charter member status. Participation in RISE will help pool the resources necessary to present a strong defense during future challenges.

Information about joining RISE is available from Newton Royster at Ciba-Geigy, (919) 632-7059; Allen Haws at Mobay, (816) 242-2364; Paul Mingle at Lebanon Chemical Corp., (717) 273-1687; Joe Wolf at Fermenta, (216) 354-4264; or Owen Steven at Knox Fertilizer, (219) 772-6275.

NCA INTERVENTION RESULTS IN TAX SAVINGS

Recent intervention by the National Club Association (NCA) with the IRS may save tax-exempt private clubs thousands of dollars in penalties under the U.S. Supreme Court's *Portland Golf Club* decision relating to Revenue Ruling 81-69. According to the NCA, a trade association which represents directors, officers, and owners of clubs nationwide, the savings for an average club with a \$10,000 unrelated income tax liability could range up to \$4,500 annually.

According to a recent reply from the IRS to the organization, private clubs will escape estimated tax liability if they filed a Form 990 or 990-T showing net investment income for tax years ending before the June 21, 1990 *Portland Golf Club* opinion. The IRS also ruled that the estimated income taxes paid in the subsequent year must at least equal the tax liability reported on the Form 990-T for the preceding year.

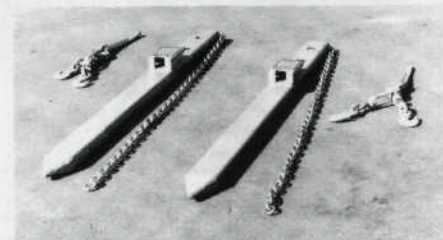
The instructions from the IRS should cancel all underpayment penalties if a club files a statement that it relied on the *Cleveland Athletic Club* decision for not making estimated tax payments, the NCA said.

"I am pleased that NCA has succeeded in obtaining this fair enforcement of the *Portland Golf Club* decision," stated Harold Berman, chairman of the NCA's Legal/Legislative Committee. "This is another example of NCA's continuing efforts to represent our members' interest before the government."

JANOSIK JOINS GOLF CORP.

Jim Janosik has been appointed West Coast director of agronomy for Golf Corp., Inc., Dallas, TX. The company operates 40 golf facilities nationwide. Janosik will be responsible for 12 facilities in California and Arizona, with two more under construction.

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GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE SHORT COURSE

The fifth annual Ohio State University Golf Course Maintenance Short Course will be held on January 7-11 at the Parke Hotel in Columbus, OH. The course will provide basic, general information on golf and turfgrass maintenance. Emphasis will be placed on principles of agronomy, soils, entomology, and plant pathology.

This short course is designed for all golf course personnel, including golf course employees, foremen, assistant superintendents, and superintendents seeking training in the basics of golf-turfgrass maintenance. Attendees will qualify for recertification credits from the Ohio Department of Agriculture for Licensed Pesticide Applicators. Certified Golf Course Superintendents will qualify for continuing education units from the Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America.

For additional information contact Sue White, (614) 292-7457 or the Department of Conference and Institutes, (614) 292-4230 for course registration.

DESIGNER SELECTED FOR DOUBLE CREEK

Mike Young Designs, Watkinsville, GA, has been named the golf course architect for Double Creek Country Club in Snellville, GA. Construction on the 18-hole private course is scheduled to begin in early 1991.

The course's design is characterized by a low profile that takes advantage of native rock outcroppings to enhance the beauty and challenge of the layout. The par 72 course will measure 6,950 yards.

COURSE REMODELING THRIVES

In addition to the increased emphasis on new golf course construction during the past two years, hundreds of courses are remodeling, according to Dan Maples, president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA).

"Many older courses recognize the need to renovate their greens, tees, fairways, and bunkers," notes Maples.

In many cases, Maples adds, the master plan is implemented over a three- to five-year period to spread out costs and minimize disruptions to players.

ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

FRONT MOWER



The F2400 front mower is equipped with a 24-hp, four-cycle, three-cylinder, vertical liquid-cooled diesel engine. The unit's hydrostatic transmission works together with its front differential lock and four-wheel-drive to provide traction and smooth operation on uneven or slick terrain. In addition, the hydrostatic transmission per-

mits the operator to easily select ground speed.

A tight, 60-degree rear-wheel turning angle and offset cutting ability enables the unit to mow around bushes and trees. Its shaft drive increases durability and reduces maintenance.

Several front mowers are available for the F2400, including 60- and 72-inch models and 60-inch flail unit. The front mowers offer good visibility and ease of operation.

All main levers and indicators are conveniently located. A tilt steering wheel and power steering reduce operator fatigue.

To ensure operator safety, the F2400 is equipped with an interlock safety switch to stop the engine should the operator leave the seat while the PTO clutch is engaged. A roll-over protective structure is also standard.

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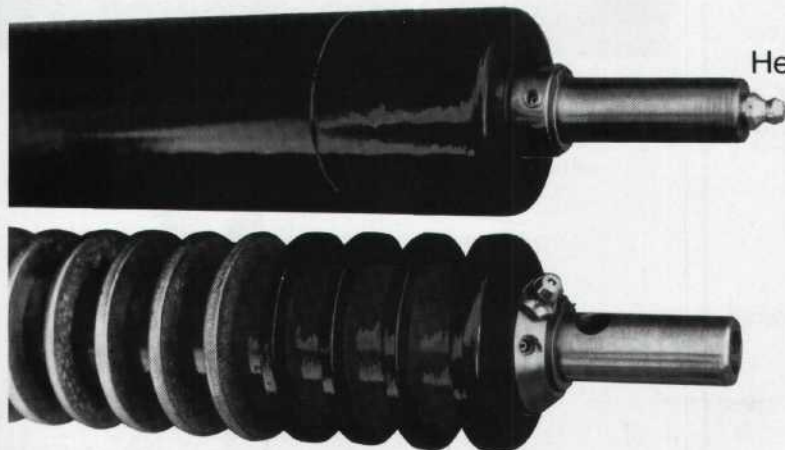
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ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

AERATOR/SLIT SEEDER



The Olathe Model 84 Walk-Behind Aerator/Slit Seeder's reverse-action clutch increases operator maneuverability and ease of operation. The unit is powered by an 18-hp engine.

Features include the Shatter Blade, which requires less power while bringing up more topdressing, and remote seed shut-off that enables the operator to shut the feed off at any time. One handle engages

the blade and sets depth. Rear-wheel drive helps prevent surging.

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REMOTE VALVE OPERATORS

Weather-matic's Remote Valve Operators can be used for site testing, maintenance, quick-cooling golf course greens, and manual central control. They work with microprocessor and electro-mechanical controllers.

The remote units come in 12-, 24-, 36-, and 42-station packages. Each package includes a universal receiver, transceiver, pig-tails, a plug-in charger, and a carrying case.

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Surface soil conditioners are available for three different applications.

Surface Regular, for skinned areas, will prevent puddles and alleviate dusting. The product helps keep playing surfaces smooth and cushioned.

Designed for use on turf areas, Surface Plus can be applied after core aerification or as a topdressing. It will keep soil porous, retain nutrients, stimulate deep root growth, and reduce the frequency of watering.

Surface Quick Dry can be used for spot maintenance on both skinned and turf areas. The easy-to-apply product absorbs water quickly and helps keep sports fields in top condition.

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