



The BONNIE GREENSWARD

OUR 95TH YEAR

2020 VOL. II



Best Management Practices for Pennsylvania Golf Courses

July 2020

The Pennsylvania State BMP will cross the finish line in the coming weeks. This will conclude a years-long collaborative effort by a broad team representing leaders across the state and the industry. Keep an eye on your inbox for more details and get ready to plan your own facility BMP!

>>HIGHLIGHTS

UNION LEAGUE NATIONAL.....	4-6
RENOVATION DURING CRISIS.....	14

>>EVENTS

ALL TENTATIVE AND PENDING

MEMBER-GUEST TOURNAMENT: NEW DATE

[Click here for new guidelines](#)

July 13

Huntingdon Valley Country Club

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFIT OUTING

August 10

Rock Manor Golf Club

MEMBER-MEMBER TOURNAMENT

September 14

Squires Golf Club

GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

TBD

Rolling Green Golf Club

PAGCS ANNUAL MEETING

November 2

Whitemarsh Valley Country Club

>>OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Doug Rae
Applecross Country Club
doug@applecrosscc.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Darren Farrar
Old York Road Country Club
darren.farrar87@gmail.com

TREASURER

Greg D'Antonio
Concord Country Club
gdantonio@concordclub.org

SECRETARY

Mark Rubbo
Spring Ford Country Club
markrubbo@comcast.net

>>BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Mulhare, Director
White Manor Country Club
mmulhare@whitemanorcc.com

Tim Edwards, Director
Rivercrest Golf Club
tge@rivercrestgolfclub.com

Greg Eisner, Director
Fieldstone Golf Club
eisner128@gmail.com

Pat Michener, Director
Bidermann Golf Club
pmichener@vicmead.com

Bill Corcoran, Industry Representative
VENTRAC
BCorcoran@VENTRAC.com

Nick Sujkowski, Assistant Outreach
Concord Country Club
nicksuj@gmail.com

Rich Sweeney, Golf Chairman
Plant Food Company
rsweeney@plantfoodco.com

Jeff Haas, Co-Chairman,
Golf Cart Services
jhaas@golfcartservices.com

>>PAGCS OFFICE

Kristen Liebsch
Executive Director
Newsletter Editor
484-467-5298
kliebsch@pagcs.org

>>THE PM

So the last time I wrote, I explained how exciting it would be to operate a golf course with no golfers and quickly realized it stinks. As I write this, it's the middle of June 2020, and we are currently in the "yellow phase" of Governor Wolf's reopening plan. To be honest, it's great to have golf back open again. There is nothing better than having members stop you just to say how great the course is playing or how great of a job the staff and I are doing. That is what makes being in the golf industry so great: the satisfaction you get when you see people enjoying a round of golf. It's what drives us every day to get our ass out of bed and do it all over again!



Now don't get me wrong, the different phases of opening golf back up have had their learning curves. First we had to pull everything off the golf course, put foam in cups, turn cups upside down – if you could touch it, it was pulled off or you were restricted from touching it, like a pin. To watch the golf course go from no play, to double the amount of cart traffic was interesting. Let us just say, it was great to see play back, but I wished we could have had two people to a cart. That changed during the yellow phase, but from what I am seeing, many are still enjoying their own cart. It's a policy that we put in place here at Applecross during the yellow phase that players could still have their golf cart if they chose.

We just got word that we will enter the "Green phase" here in the Philadelphia five county region come June 26th. I think everyone has many questions on what we can do. Most of the rest of the state of Pennsylvania is already in the "green phase," and I am hearing different things. Some golf courses are going back to having cups without foam, bunker rakes, water, etc. Some are saying they will not be putting these types of things back out for the remainder of the year, waiting to see what happens.

Mainly the green phase is more of a food and beverage/dining opening. The guidance for golf is vague, but the good thing is we can have outings again, of course with social distancing. The last thing we need is to have another surge or spike in COVID-19 cases. That could put us right back to where we were in March and April. As you know, the state formed the P.A.G, Pennsylvania Alliance for Golf. I sat in on another conference call this week to discuss the future of this organization, and every attendee from across the state feels it's best for us to keep it going to help answer many questions we have, and to have a voice with state legislature. We plan to try to meet three times a year, one on a Zoom call and the other two on a conference call. Please do not hesitate to forward to the PAGCS Board of Directors any questions, and we will do our best to get answers and research what everyone else is doing.

Looking forward to our schedule of events, we are booked for Huntingdon Valley Country Club on Monday, July 13th. It has been awhile since we have all been together but I hope to see everyone back out enjoying the comradery. In August, we originally had zero events, but we will have the rescheduled PAGCS Scholarship Outing at Rock Manor Golf Club on August 10 instead. The rest of the scheduled events from September to November will remain the same. September will be our Member-Member-a "Once in Lifetime Event" held at Squires Golf Club. October will be at Rolling Green Golf Club for the annual PAGCS Championship, and November we will have Annual Meeting at Whitmarsh Valley Country Club. The Christmas celebration and toy drive fundraiser will be determined as we draw closer to the event. We did find out that Duffer's Pub shut down for good, so it will definitely not be there.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Keep your fingers crossed that our COVID numbers remain low in the state so we can continue to meet. Again hats off to Darren Farrar for working hard on scheduling and rescheduling these events. We plan to push the PAGCS Family Night at the Phillies to next year, along with our PAGCS Team matches. The War at the Shore is still TBD.

I cannot give thanks enough to all the sponsors during these tough times. The service level has been phenomenal and the drop off and curbside pick-up have been great—many thanks for everything. So keep those masks and hand sanitizers handy, because I do not think we are out of the woods yet! Stay safe, social distance, and adhere to the guidelines from the CDC to stop the spread of this virus. If you have any questions or comments about your experience with the Association, please feel free to contact me or any other PAGCS board member. And keep an eye out for those ABW's....I have been seeing many this season! ♦

Thank you,

—Doug Rae

THE 2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS IS OPEN. THE DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

Full information is available on the website: <https://pagcs.org/turf-scholarship/> Please direct any questions or concerns to PAGCS President Emeritus Derrick Wozniak at dwozniak@radleyruncc.com

The PAGCS is proud to provide scholarships to current turf students who are or have been employed by PAGCS golf course superintendents.

These scholarships are funded by the generosity of benefactors Frank T. Shuman, George E. Ley, and PAGCS members and supporters via the annual PAGCS Scholarship Tournament. This year's benefit tournament will take place Monday, August 10, 2020 at Rock Manor Golf Club—keep an eye on your inboxes and the website for more information and registration.

>>ISSUE GUIDE

ASSISTANT'S CORNER.....	4-6
HEADING TO 100	7
AS SEEN ON THE BLOG.....	8
LABS TO LINKS	9-12
FIRST GREEN UPDATE	13
GCSAA.....	14
BELTS, BEDKNIVES, & BOLTS	16
PETS OF THE PAGCS	18
USGA	19
FACILITY FOCUS	20
MEMBER NEWS.....	22-25
FIRST TEE	26
PA ALLIANCE FOR GOLF.....	28
PLAN FOR PLAY	29



EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

by Nick Sujkowski, PAGCS Assistant Representative to the Board

For this edition of the Assistant's Corner, I visited with Riley Wales, Golf Course Superintendent at Union League National Golf Club. Union League National is a private golf course located in Swainton, New Jersey – formerly Sand Barrens Golf Club. The property was purchased by the Union League of Philadelphia in 2017 and has been undergoing some major renovations ever since. Here is a synopsis of that visit:

How did you get into turf?

I grew up on a golf course. My father is a superintendent in the Pittsburgh area [Ron Wales, Lindenwood Golf Club] and for as long as I can remember, I was always with him on the golf course. For some reason, when I was 18 and graduating high school, I thought I wanted to be a teacher. I went through the education program at Penn State and it wasn't until my last semester student teaching that I realized it wasn't for me. The only logical choice for me was to pursue a career in the golf industry. I kept working on the golf course at home right after graduating from Penn State and also continued my education through the Penn State World Campus and got my turf degree in 2018.



#1 Sherman Course During Grow-In



#1 Sherman Course Aerial After



#9 Grant Course Before



#9 Grant Course After

When did you start at Sand Barrens? Explain your progression since being there.

I started working as the Assistant Superintendent at Sand Barrens Golf Club in March 2016 after moving out here with my wife, who grew up in this area. I was in that role until October of 2017 when the Union League of Philadelphia purchased the property, and it became the Union League National Golf Club. They hired a Director of Agronomy in October 2018, I moved into the Course Superintendent role in January 2019, and served as interim Director from June 2019 to November 2019. Needless to say, it's been a bit of a whirlwind.

Please give the readers some background on the property and the renovation project at hand.

Sand Barrens Golf Club was originally a Hurdzan/Fry design that opened in 1997. After being purchased by The League in October of 2017, we began a small facelift that consisted of minor bunker work, tree work, and fairway expansions. The membership enjoyed the changes so

Continued on next page



Union League National

much that it turned into the large-scale rebuild that we are in the midst of. The project now includes reconstruction of all playing surfaces, seeding greens and fairways to 007 Bentgrass, and sodding tees to Penn Trio. We have also added massive amounts of water to the property and a landform [locally known as Mt. Dana] that consists of over 1 million cubic yards of fill from the ponds that were created. Golf architects always say this property is a mix of Pinehurst, Calusa Pines, and Pine Valley, but it's so unique that it can really only be described as Union League National.

Please describe the golf course maintenance team at ULN.

The saying "it takes a village to raise a child" also apparently holds true for building a golf course. There's not a day that goes by that I'm not thankful for the turf team and crew that puts in the hard work that makes what we're doing possible. With Scott [Bordner] as our Director, myself as Course Super, Pat Haughey as Grow-In Super, and our team of assistants: Mark Harrison, Nate Horvath, Ryan Moore, and Craig Stout, we have plenty of well-trained eyes on the property helping us to succeed. We also have a great intern this summer, Juan Hafner, who worked with Scott when he was at Chicago Golf Club, and he has been a great asset to us. Our crew consists of about 40 members, some part-time morning shift, and some full-time workers. Every day here is busy but having enough people is the only way we make it work.



Riley and Milo

What challenges have you and the team faced during the renovation?

As with any project, we have had our fair share of challenges. My tenure as interim Director was not without challenge, especially being thrown into the position in the middle of summer. We also had a fairly inexperienced staff last season [we doubled our staff, forcing us to hire some folks with no golf course experience], so that added to the already challenging summer that we had. There have also been too many curveballs to count with the construction. Halfway through, we decided to seed fairways instead of sod, of course during my interim tenure, so we had to figure that out on the fly. The company we were using for our bunker liner also went out of business halfway through our project, so we had to call another audible and figure out how we were going to maintain consistency in our bunkers with two different products. On top of all the changes, managing a staff of 40, in addition to 30 contractors, and most days about 10 irrigation installers isn't for the faint of heart. Add the 10 person sod crew and that's almost 100 people to manage each day. As I indicated in my last response, thank God for the team we have. I certainly couldn't have done it by myself; they deserve way more credit than they could ever get.

What has been the most valuable lesson you have learned? How has your experience at ULN prepared you for your future career?

I would say that the most valuable lessons I've learned come from my time as interim Director. It's one thing to work as an assistant and help a Superintendent make calls, but when you're thrown into the fire during the heat of the summer and in the middle of a grow-in, you learn quickly what to do and what not to do. I certainly learned both, admittedly the hard way at times. I was fortunate to have my father as a resource to bounce ideas off. I spoke with him on the phone almost every day, and he made a few visits here while I was interim as well. I also couldn't have done it without Nate and Craig that summer. Craig jumped right in and took on the grow-in as his responsibility and Nate was a great resource to bounce ideas off of because of his experience at high-end clubs. I've also learned to expect nothing to go as planned

and to not get frustrated by curveballs and last-minute changes. "Expect the unexpected" definitely became our mantra last season, and in a way continues as our mantra now. I tell most people that I feel like I've gained about 10 years of experience in two years working on this project, as has everyone else around me.

Riley and the Union League National team have 12 more holes to renovate this fall before their project is complete, but if the remaining work is anything like what has been done already, it will surely be a sight to see. Kudos to the ULN team, I personally can't wait to see the final results of this transformation! ♦

[Nick Sujkowski, Assistant Superintendent at Concord Country Club and PAGCS Assistant Superintendent Liaison to the Board, can be reached at nicksuj@gmail.com]

ASSISTANT'S CORNER

Anyone who would like to be featured in the next edition of the Assistant's Corner, please contact Nick at nicksuj@gmail.com

INNOVATIVE FERTILIZER

derived from plant-based protein

An innovative fertilizer derived from plant-based protein hydrolysate. This plant-derived fertilizer is rapidly absorbed by leaves, shoots, and roots then translocated throughout the plant. Amino Pro V promotes abiotic stress tolerance, stimulates photosynthesis and promotes increased root mass. Are you ready to add Amino Pro V to your balanced agronomic program? For more information, visit www.harrells.com.



Give Eric a Call Today!
ERIC SHILLING
eshilling@harrells.com
(267) 784-4407



Harrell's
Growing a Better World®

www.harrells.com | 800.282.8007

Healthy playing surfaces,
PROTECTED ECOSYSTEMS
AND IMPROVED
water quality
isn't environmentalism.

IT'S THE FUTURE.

Learn more at branchcreekgolf.com



>>HEADING TO 100

HEADING TO 100

In January of 1964, the USGA recognized Joseph Valentine [pictured right], aged 78 at the time, for his discovery of "Merion bluegrass." Joe served as Merion's superintendent for five decades and was succeeded by son Richie [left]. Continuing this long standing "family of turf tradition" are Richie's sons, Tom and Rich. Thank you!

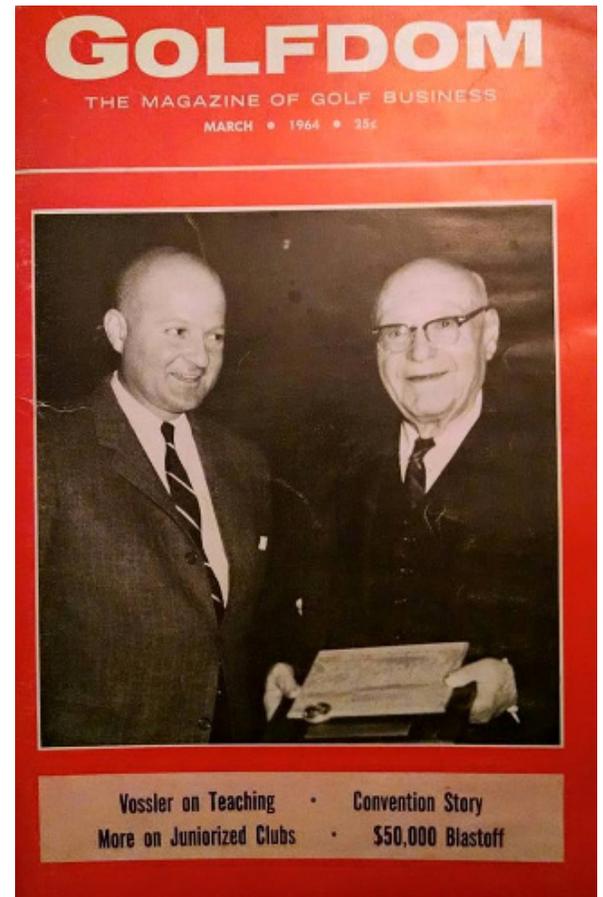
Click this link to read more coverage from the NY Times about the award:

<https://www.nytimes.com/1964/01/25/archives/grass-developer-gets-golf-award-u-s-g-a-honors-retired-greenkeeper.html>

NINETY-FIVE, GOING ON 100!

The PAGCS will turn 95 in September. And there's lots to celebrate this year!

Check out the feature about ValentineEast in this issue.



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY NEED AND BUDGET

Aquatrols®

Tom Valentine
Territory Manager
tvalentine@aquatrols.com
(610) 299-4470
www.aquatrols.com

Classic Turfgrass Solutions
Tony Gustaitis C.G.C.S
Tonygus@comcast.net 484-614-0999

Safety training and compliance for grounds maintenance facilities

Weekly plant tissue monitoring

GOLF SAFETY
Golf

Turf Dietitian

Sample. Log. Analyze. Map.

Pogoturfpro.com



**PROS DON'T
PROCRASTINATE**

**ORDER
ONLINE
TODAY**



>>AS SEEN ON THE BLOG

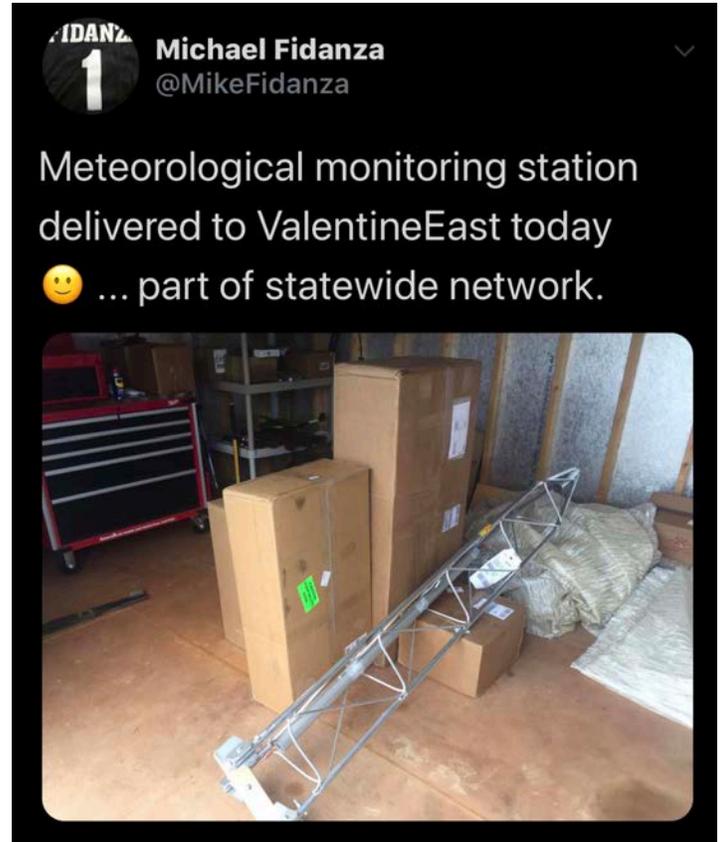


PennState
Berks

This weather station at Valentine East will be part of the Pennsylvania Environmental Monitoring Network (PEMN). This project is led by Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

A Pennsylvania Environmental Monitoring Network (PEMN) is being created to fill information gaps on current weather and water conditions across Pennsylvania and lead to more efficient agricultural producers, energy use, provide for public safety, improve water quality, and enhance education. Twenty standard surface weather stations, providing observations of temperature, relative humidity, pressure, wind speed and direction at 2 m above ground, and rainfall, will be augmented by sensors to measure solar radiation, soil moisture and soil temperature at multiple soil depths down to 50 cm, and a sky camera, and data collected every 1 min in real-time over a cellular network. Stations at Penn State Agricultural Research Centers will also have temperature and wind observations at 10 m above ground in order to estimate surface heat flux, which can be very beneficial to agricultural research. The geographic placement of stations is still under discussion, but the intent is to place PEMN stations at many commonwealth campuses as well as locations in between current National Weather Service observation sites to fill in coverage gaps.

[Click here to read more.](#)



**PLANT
FOOD
COMPANY, INC.**

www.plantfoodco.com
609-448-0935 | 800-562-1291

Connect With Us & Grow!

Mike Janzer
(215) 280-6252
mjanzer@plantfoodco.com

Rich Sweeney, CGCS
(609) 580-0402
rsweeney@plantfoodco.com

**Premium
Liquid
Fertilizer**

For The Playing Surface Perfectionist



FUNGICIDE RESISTANCE: FAQ'S AND FRAC

by Peter H. Dernoeden, Ph.D.

The development of turfgrass pathogens that are resistant to fungicides is well documented. High risk turfgrass diseases for resistance include dollar spot (several fungicides); gray leaf spot (a few), anthracnose (a few) and Pythium blight (one fungicide). The main problem revolves around managers continuously using fungicides of same modes of action to target the same disease. The simple solution to avoid resistance is to rotate fungicides having different modes of action (MOA) and/or tank-mixing unrelated compounds. All documented cases of fungicide resistance in turf have been confined to golf courses. I am unaware of any formal reports of fungicide resistance issues in lawns, sports turf or in sod production.



Gray leaf spot is a devastating disease of perennial ryegrass - especially in untreated roughs.

Continued on next page



Dollar spot is the most common disease of turf worldwide and is most likely to develop a fungicide resistance problem.



Anthracnose is a nasty disease of annual bluegrass grown on golf greens.



We've got
EVERY
PRODUCT
YOU NEED
to keep your
business
GROWIN' ON

JUST ASK YOUR LOCAL SALES LEADER

Tom Currie 484-844-5214
tc@genesisgreensupply.com

Tom DeFino 302-354-2840
tomd@genesisgreensupply.com

WWW.GENESISGREENSUPPLY.COM | 717-759-8151

follow us



GENESISTURF GENESISGREENSUPPLY GENESISTURFGRASS



Gray leaf spot has emerged as a major disease of spring seeded tall fescue in sod production.



Pythium blight can ruin your day, but only Subdue has developed resistance to this disease.

To understand the complexities of fungicide resistance management, I need to preface this discussion by describing the different grouping of fungicides based on modes of action, chemical groupings, and FRAC codes. The Fungicide Resistance Action Committee (FRAC) is an international industry-based organization. A code system was developed by FRAC to assist end users in choosing compounds having different chemical modes of action. Each fungicide is assigned a number and the user simply chooses fungicides that have different FRAC codes when using pre-package mixtures or when tank-mixing or rotating fungicides.



Fig. 1 Briskway is a pre-pack mix of Heritage (FRAC 11) and a DM (FRAC 3).



Fig. 2 Navicon is a pre-pack mix of a DM (FRAC 3) and Insignia (FRAC 11).

Continued on next page

Maxtima® fungicide

THE DAWN OF A NEW DMI

A GAME-CHANGING DMI THAT BRINGS TURF SAFETY INTO THE MODERN ERA

Introducing Maxtima® fungicide, an advanced new turf-safe DMI that can be sprayed anywhere on your course for unrivaled broad-spectrum disease control. To learn more, visit betterturf.basf.com or contact Dave Schell at david.schell@basf.com, 410-800-8762.



Always read and follow label directions. May not be registered for sale or use in all states. Refer to label for registered uses. It is a violation to use product in a manner inconsistent with labeling. Maxtima is a registered trademark of BASF. ©2019 BASF Corporation. All rights reserved.

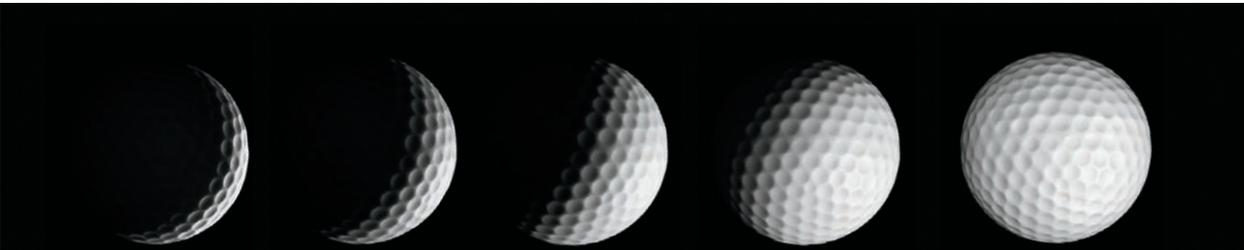
system was developed by FRAC to assist end users in chemical groupings are based on mode of action (i.e., biochemical sites of action that prohibit growth of targeted fungal pathogens) and each is assigned a FRAC Code number. It is important to note that today's fungicides don't kill pathogens, but instead they operate by preventing their growth and/or reproduction. High risk for resistance: fungicides usually target one specific biochemical function, such as respiration, mitosis, enzyme or sterol production, and other chemical and physiological processes. A smaller number of fungicides (usually contact materials) are multi-site—that is they may target two or more different biological functions affecting some aspect of growth or reproduction. Multi-site fungicides seldom develop resistance problems.

The MAJOR groupings are based on mode of action include DMI (demethylation inhibitors; FRAC 3; (e.g., Banner, Bayleton, Eagle; Tourney, Trinity, Tourq/Mirage and others); SDHI (succinate dehydrogenase inhibitors; FRAC 7; e.g., Emerald, Kabuto Prostar, Posterity, Velista, and Xzemplar); and the strobilurin's/QoI's FRAC 11; e.g., Heritage, Insignia, Fame, Pinpoint, others); and the phosphites FRAC 33; e.g., Signature and many other related compounds that can be labeled as fungicides or fertilizers). Other notable broad-spectrum fungicides that are unrelated include Daconil (many chlorothalonil generics, FRAC M5); 3336 (other thiophanate generics, FRAC 1); Secure (fluazinam, FRAC 29); Affirm/Endorse (polyoxin D, FRAC 19); and Fore (mancozeb, FRAC M3). Then there are those fungicides that only target *Pythium*-diseases including Banol (propamocarb,

FRAC 28); Segway (cyazofamid, FRAC 21); Signature (fosetyl-Al) and other phosphites, FRAC 33); and Subdue (mefenoxam/metalaxyl, FRAC 4). The below chart assembled by Genesis (adapted from North Carolina State University, Rutgers University and the University of Kentucky extension publications) provides a clear and easy to read summary of FRAC groupings and target diseases, which you should print and keep handy. Fungicide efficacy, based on target disease, also is rated for each disease and fungicide on a 0 (-) to 4 scale where 4= good to excellent level of control. Chart provided below.

Resistance occurs when a fungicide totally fails to control the target pathogen, but reduced efficacy is a prelude to resistance for some fungicides, especially the DMI's. There are two types of resistance: cross resistance and multi-resistance. Cross resistance occurs when a pathogen is not controlled by fungicides having the same mode of action. For example, dollar spot biotypes resistant to one DMI fungicide theoretically will be resistant to all other DMI fungicides. Multiple resistance is a phenomenon that occurs when a pathogen develops resistance to fungicides with different modes of action. For example, dollar spot biotypes have been shown to be resistant to Chipco 26GT (iprodione), Banner MAXX (propiconazole) and 3336 (thiophanate). In the case of DMI fungicides, development of resistance is gradual and may take ten or more years to occur. Conversely, as few as 4-5 consecutive applications of 3336 (with no rotations) can result in dollar spot resistance.

Continued on next page



The fungicide that holds strong for many moons.

Introducing Posterity® fungicide, the most active SDHI in the turf market that elevates the control of key diseases including **dollar spot** and **spring dead spot**. Posterity delivers power that lasts, holding stronger for up to **28 days** of dollar spot control, and setting a new standard for spring dead spot control. With Posterity, you can manage the toughest and most prevalent diseases with confidence.

Visit GreenCastOnline.com/Posterity to learn more.



#Time4Posterity

©2019 Syngenta. Important: Always read and follow label instructions. Some products may not be registered for sale or use in all states or counties. Please check with your local extension service to ensure registration status. GreenCast®, Posterity®, the Alliance Frame, the Purpose Icon and the Syngenta logo are trademarks of a Syngenta Group Company. All other trademarks used herein are the property of their respective company. 9LGG00561 03/19

The major source of resistance comes from a tiny sub-set of biotypes, that are “naturally” resistant (i.e., insensitive) to any particular fungicide. The consistent use of fungicides having the same mode of action overtime eliminates sensitive biotypes (on say a green), resulting in dominance of the once obscure insensitive biotypes. The dollar spot fungus is most likely to develop fungicide resistance. This is “genetically” amazing since the pathogen does not produce spores (i.e., there is no sexual or asexual reproduction via spores) and must rely on DNA exchanges by mycelial (tube like body of fungi) contact and fusion (anastomose) in soil, thatch or foliage. Fusion allows for exchange of DNA and thus the source of those genes or mutations responsible for resistance to develop.



The dollar spot fungus can produce copious amounts of foliar mycelium, but it does not produce spores.

Resistant biotypes of the dollar spot fungus first appeared in the late 1960's and early 1970's as a result of repeated usage of cadmium (e.g., Caddy and Kromad), mercury-based fungicides (e.g., Tersan OM and PMAS), and benzimidazoles (e.g., 3336 and Tersan 1991). Biotypes of the dollar spot fungus resistant to Chipco 26 (iprodione) and DMI fungicides were first reported in the 1980's and 1990's. In 2018, researcher's at the University of Massachusetts reported on Emerald (boscalid) resistance toward dollar spot in New England and Japan. Other documented resistant problems in turfgrasses have been associated with anthracnose (Heritage [theoretical cross resistance to all strobilurin's] and 3336 [a benzimidazole]); gray leaf spot (Heritage and theoretical cross resistance to all strobilurin's , and possibly 3336 [thiophanate]); and Pythium blight targeted by Subdue (metalaxyl and mefenoxam).

SDHI resistance in dollar spot populations has become a concern in our region, given anecdotal reports of Emerald failures. It should be noted that most resistance problems, when targeting dollar spot, have occurred in New England and the Upper Mid-west. Resistance in dollar spot populations is less common in the mid-Atlantic; conversely, resistance to Pythium blight (via metalaxyl) and gray leaf spot (via azoxystrobin) are more common in the mid-Atlantic..

Emerald was the first SDHI fungicide marketed, has a very narrow spectrum (i.e., mainly targets dollar spot and dead spot), and has historically been highly effective. Technically, if there is resistance to one SDHI (e.g., Emerald) there will be cross resistance to other SDHI's like Kabuto, Velista, and Xzemplar (note ProStar has no activity on dollar spot and is used mainly to target brown patch and fairy ring). The unusual aspect of newer SDHI's is that they have different chemical structures and most (other than Emerald and ProStar) target several different diseases. Despite potential dollar spot resistance problems

with Emerald, currently I am not aware of field reports of cross resistance to Kabuto, Velista or Xzemplar. Laboratory studies, however, have demonstrated that cross resistance among SDHI's can occur. Hence, superintendents should take the potential threat for dollar spot-resistance among SDHI's seriously, and implement sound resistance management strategies.

Resistance Management: The key to resistant management programs are to minimize the use of high risk compounds, and rotate and/or tank-mix fungicides of varying modes of action. Hence, a simple rule is to minimize the use of, or in the case of confirmed resistance, to avoid high risk fungicides and their mode of action relatives, especially at times when high risk diseases are active. Imposing a combination of resistant strategies uniformly is necessary to achieve their full biological effect including : 1) tank-mix and/or rotate fungicides or applying pre-pack mixtures with diverse modes of action; 2) restrict the number of applications of a high risk fungicides per season; 3) use manufacturers' recommended dose; 4) employ integrated pest management techniques; and 5) intermittently apply low risk and appropriately labelled fungicides like Daconil (chlorothalonil), Secure (fluazinam), and Fore (mancozeb). Fore may be a “weak sister”, but it has its place in resistance management programs targeting dollar spot, gray leaf spot and Pythium blight . Simply stated: *change the batting order often.* ♦

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS:

Fungicide resistance problems *are restricted to golf courses* where fungicides are used routinely. There are no formal reports of fungicide resistance in lawns, sports turf or sod production.

Disease pathogens most likely to develop a resistance problem include dollar spot (most common), anthracnose, gray leaf spot and Pythium blight.

Fungicides most likely to develop resistance include 3336 (and other thiophanate generics); DMI's; strobilurins/Qol's; Subdue (mefenoxam/metalaxyl); Chipco 26GT (theoretically Curalan [vinclozolin]); and SDHI's.

Preventive applications of fungicides using *different* FRAC groups (i.e., modes of action) are most effective in dealing with high risk diseases such as dollar spot, gray leaf spot and anthracnose.

Tank-mixings, rotating and use of pre-pack mixtures having varying modes of action (using FRAC Codes) vastly reduces the potential for resistance. Occasional rotation or tank-mixing low risk fungicides like Daconil, Fore and Secure further minimizes resistance.

Avoid high risk fungicides when dollar spot, gray leaf spot or anthracnose are active.

Use of high risk fungicides *curatively* can *accelerate* development of resistance.

Curative sprays should include two different modes of action (see FRAC Codes); preferably in combination with a low risk fungicides like Daconil, Secure and Fore (except anthracnose).



FIRST GREEN UPDATE

The GCSAA First Green Task Force met in June to begin mapping out plans to move First Green forward.

The committee aims to create a First Green Liaison volunteer position in each state to help grow the program and provide a mentor to superintendents/schools in each state.

Here are some additional initiatives discussed that could grow the program:

- Investigate blended/online learning units that provide teachers with resources to facilitate First Green learning beyond the field trip to the course.

- Building on established lesson plans: Create videos to support learning: At the end of the unit the students attend a First Green Field Trip.
- Get tool kits - (banners, lesson plans, all materials needed for the lessons) on the GCSAA Merchandise Store for purchase.



GOLF CART SERVICES, INC.
www.GolfCartServices.com
717.624.2900




SALES – PARTS – SERVICE



Jeff Haas • 717-752-4244 • jhaas@golfcartservices.com

GROWING GREENS FOR GOOD

Cushman’s “Growing Greens.” The program supports the PAGCS by donating \$50 for each Cushman Hauler utility vehicle purchased by a member back to the Association.

The new Cushman hauler has many exciting features, including a versatile glove box that makes room for larger items, optional outlets for smartphone and tablet charging, premium tires designed to maximize traction without damaging greens, and much more. To schedule a demo, contact Jeff Haas or TJ Hart.




Connect With Us!

Brian Gjelsvik (973) 670-7139 briang@seetonturf.com	Michael Linkewich (267) 688-8900 link@seetonturf.com	Stephen J. Rudich (610) 349-9519 steve@seetonturf.com	Bill Cimochowski (609) 923-4045 billc@seetonturf.com
Brian Bontemps (845) 239-7959 brianbontemps@seetonturf.com	Zach Brooks (914) 309-2373 zach@seetonturf.com	Tom Gosselin (610) 636-1404 tomg@seetonturf.com	

A VERY 2020 GOLF COURSE RENOVATION PROJECT

by Hal Phillips, [GCM] July 2020

GCSAA and GCM highlight PAGCS member Alan Fitzgerald and the renovation project at Ledgerock that began well before the pandemic and entered its final phases in the middle of it.

Few things were “normal” about a recent hole renovation at a Pennsylvania club, from the timing of the work to the financing behind it to a curveball known as coronavirus.

LedgeRock Golf Club accommodated more golfers on May 23, 2020, than on any non-outing day in the club’s 14-year history.

Yes, it was a beautiful, sunny Saturday in Mohnton, Pa., only three weeks after COVID-19 restrictions had been lifted. But there was another lure at play: May 23 was the day members at this private club got their first crack at their renovated 17th hole, a par-4 that for 14 years had proved the bane of many a scorecard.

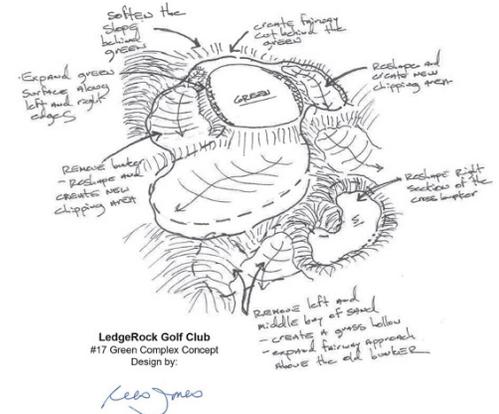


The 17th hole at Ledgerock Golf Club prior to this year’s renovation. A wide cross bunker in front of the green and thick rough behind it combined to make it the club’s most difficult. (Photo courtesy of Alan FitzGerald)

The reaction?

“Well, the immediate feedback – mostly texts – was very good,” reports Alan FitzGerald, GCSAA Class A superintendent at Ledgerock. “The president of the club made par there that first day, so he was very approving. The long-term, overall reception has been great, actually. We have a second phase of the same project coming up, so I hope the members remember how well they liked phase one.”

Very little about the recent renovation at Ledgerock could be described as typical; indeed, very little about this club is typical. Most renovation work in this part of the country is undertaken in fall. That allows construction crews the opportunity to work until the snow flies, and also allows new turf to incubate all winter and mature in early spring. At Ledgerock, ground was broken on the first phase of the two-part project



Rees Jones, Ledgerock’s original designer, oversaw the renovation of the club’s 17th hole, which included replacing the wide cross bunker in front of the green with a single small bunker on the right side and reimagining of the green complex itself. (Image courtesy of Ledgerock Golf Club)

in mid-February 2020, with plans to reopen the hole by mid-May.

In another twist, the project was largely undertaken by FitzGerald himself, using in-house crews under the direction of architect Rees Jones, who authored the original design at Ledgerock GC back in 2006.

What’s more, phase one was funded in a different sort of way – not via traditional member assessments, but rather voluntary membership donations. In fact, that’s one reason the work was authorized and ground was broken with such speed.

[Click here](#) to continue reading the article.

[Click here](#) to watch the interview with Alan FitzGerald.



The redesigned and renovated par-4 17th hole at Ledgerock Golf Club in Mohnton, Pa., opened to rave reviews from members in May. (Photo courtesy of Ledgerock Golf Club)



TBLOOM, LLC
 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
 AND STRATEGY



We've got you Covered



**Exteris™
Stressgard®**

Bayer CropScience LP, Environmental Science Division, 2 TW Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, 1-800-331-2867, www.backedbybayer.com. Bayer, the Bayer Cross and Stressgard® are registered trademarks of Bayer. Exteris™ is a trademark of Bayer. Not all products are registered in all states. Always read and follow label instructions. ©2017 Bayer CropScience LP.



Office: 610-327-3390 • Fax: 610-327-0581
1486 S. Hanover St. • Pottstown, PA 19465
www.aer-core.com

Bill Mast
Cell: 610-608-8319
bmast@aer-core.com

Steve Thompson
Cell: 610-972-5933
sthompson@aer-core.com

Specialized Turfgrass Services

- Top Dressing
- Sandmaster Drainage • Drill & Fill
- Deep Tine (Solid & Coring) • Traditional Shallow Coring
- Fairway Aeration with Clean-Up

Experience Our Difference!

Superintendents can rely on the Knowledge, Value, and Care of our Arborists.



Call or Text
610-265-6004
Mikek@shreinertrecare.com

Mike Kachurak
ISA Certified Arborist PD #2739A
ShreinerTreeCare.com

COATESVILLE COUNTRY CLUB

"This month's Employee Spotlight is on Herb Trammell. Herb began working at Coatesville Country Club in 1997. He is currently our longest tenured employee! He has a large family of children and grandchildren who he looks forward to taking to Wildwood for a week each summer. Herb is a big basketball and football fan. I also must mention that he is a Dallas Cowboys fan... Most times you will see Herb mowing our fairways here at CCC. He is responsible for the sharp mowing patterns as he mows all our fairways by himself 2 to 3 times per week. He also works most weekend mornings mowing the greens. Herb is one of the unsung heroes here at CCC. Make sure to stop and say "hi" next time you see him on the course. Thanks for all you do Herb!"





Aerate and Amend Without Cores

18 Greens per Day, Ready for Quality Rounds the Next Day



DryJect.com • 800-270-8873



Aerate, amend, play next day





Search DryJect | DryJect Technologies | @DryJect



INTEGRITY . QUALITY . SAFETY . CARE



Helping to make golf better in Philadelphia since '93!"



7th Hole
Aronimink Golf Club
Master Plan Restoration Completed May 2018
Hanse Golf Design

RESULTS

WORTH THE SWITCH



3 REASONS ANUEW™ PGR PERFORMS BETTER ON BENTGRASS
— TRIAL PERFORMANCE VS THE COMPETITION —

- Long-lasting and more active at lower application rates
- Only late-stage inhibitor to evenly regulate Poa in mixed stands
- Fast improvement of turfgrass density and appearance

// SEE RESULTS AT NUFARM.COM/USTURF

ASK YOUR REP HOW ANUEW PERFORMS BETTER ON RYEGRASS, POA AND BERMUDAGRASS, TOO.



Grow a better tomorrow

©2020 Nufarm. Anuew™ is a trademark of Nufarm.



Distributors of Turf Care Products

SALES TEAM

Tom Hunter

215-582-5545

tshunt1@verizon.net

Chris Friel

215-429-8084

chrisfriel@poconoturf.com

Chris Zelley

732-580-2683

chriszelley@aol.com

Matt Paulina

610-883-6108

mattpaulina@gmail.com

Andrew Harrison

443-547-0252

andrewpoconoturf@gmail.com

Bobby Steinman, CGCS

860-488-2822

bobby777@aol.com

Tim Joyce

631-601-5294

tim_joyce@aol.com

PETS OF THE PAGCS

NAME: Ramona

BREED: Rescue

AGE: year and a half

FACILITY: Concord Country Club

Matt Mount, assistant superintendent at Concord Country Club, along with his wife, rescued Ramona at four months old.

ABOUT RAMONA: She's happiest when she is on the golf course, her own little piece of paradise. Her favorite things to do are to run as fast as she can, chew random sticks and chase geese. She lives the good life. She is extremely well behaved: never barks, always listens to what she's told. All she wants to do is play, and she brightens everyone's mood at work—making the long daily grinds of a golf course employee that much better when you can spend your day with your best friend.



SHOW US YOUR FACILITY PETS?

Please send their information and photos to the PAGCS office. klibsch@pagcs.org

PERFECT RELEASE OF NUTRIENTS

HELPS PRODUCE
PLAYING SURFACES



WITH IDEAL CONDITIONS



Emerald Isle Solutions™

Count on Emerald Isle Solutions™ for economical liquid fertilizers that deliver results for all playing surfaces.

The 18-3-6 and 12-0-12 products are easy to apply and provide a complete micronutrient package, including both quick- and slow-release nitrogen. You'll reduce labor time while achieving the conditions you want — all from a brand you know and trust! Learn more at LebanonTurf.com or call **1-800-233-0628**.



Best of All Worlds®

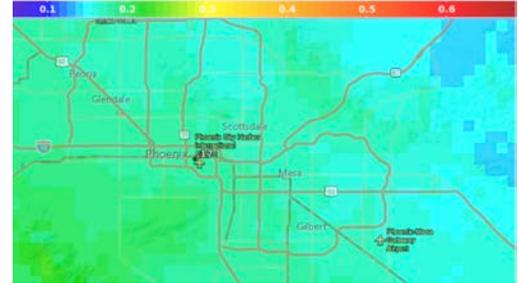


DON'T FRET, FORECAST REFERENCE ET IS RIGHT AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

by Brian Whitlark, agronomist, West Region [Green Section Record], June 19, 2020

Golf course superintendents use a variety of tools to help them schedule irrigation that meets the needs of the turf and provides quality playing conditions. One of the most widely used pieces of information is the past day's evapotranspiration (ET) rate, usually calculated by an on-site weather station. While this information is useful, many on-site weather stations are either located in an area that is not representative of the conditions on the golf course – i.e., located in close proximity to buildings, under shade, blocked from wind or on top of a hard surface – or the weather station is not properly functioning, or both. Consequently, the ET data from the weather station at many courses does not provide a good understanding of the actual watering needs.

A new alternative to weather station ET is forecast reference ET or FRET. The National Weather Service offers FRET data on the Graphical Forecasts page of their website. It is one of the options in the digital forecast database display and you can zoom in to find FRET information for your location up to six days in the future. The information is quite accurate, but it is a good idea to compare the data with the readings from your on-site weather station – assuming you have confidence in the data derived from the weather station. An ongoing study led by Dr. Benjamin Wherley at Texas A&M University recently confirmed the accuracy of FRET data and stated that, “Year-one results indicate National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecasted reference evapotranspiration (NOAA FRET) is a



This map shows how forecast reference ET (FRET) information is presented by the National Weather Service website.

reliable predictor of actual reference evapotranspiration (ET_o).”

Hopefully, using FRET will help you to more effectively schedule irrigation at your course. Best wishes to all and please do not hesitate to contact your regional USGA agronomist for more information on using FRET or any other agronomic practices. ♦

Irrigation + Landscape
 Turf + Land Management
 Outdoor Living
 Sports Fields
 Golf
 Sustainable Solutions

Your Exclusive
Rain Bird® Golf Supplier!

Follow us on social media:

Tim Riismandel Golf Sales Account Manager
267.600.5342, triismandel@ewingirrigation.com

Brad Helcoski Senior Regional Golf Sales Account Manager
484.901.9711, bhelcoski@ewingirrigation.com

Fred Rapp Northeast Regional Golf Sales Manager
848.225.4618, frapp@ewingirrigation.com

Brian Hurley National Rain Bird Golf Sales Manager
562.400.4656, bhurley@ewingirrigation.com

We look forward to helping you meet your golf course needs.
Ewing Irrigation & Landscape Supply is proud to serve as your exclusive distributor of all Rain Bird® Golf materials.

Ewing
Irrigation & Landscape Supply

RAIN BIRD

EwingIrrigation.com | 800.343.9464

JOHN B. WARD & CO.

ARBORESTS

Healthy Trees for Thriving Turf since 1957.

Large Tree Pruning

Insect & Disease Control

Ornamental Pruning

Plant Health Care

Tree Removal

Fertilization

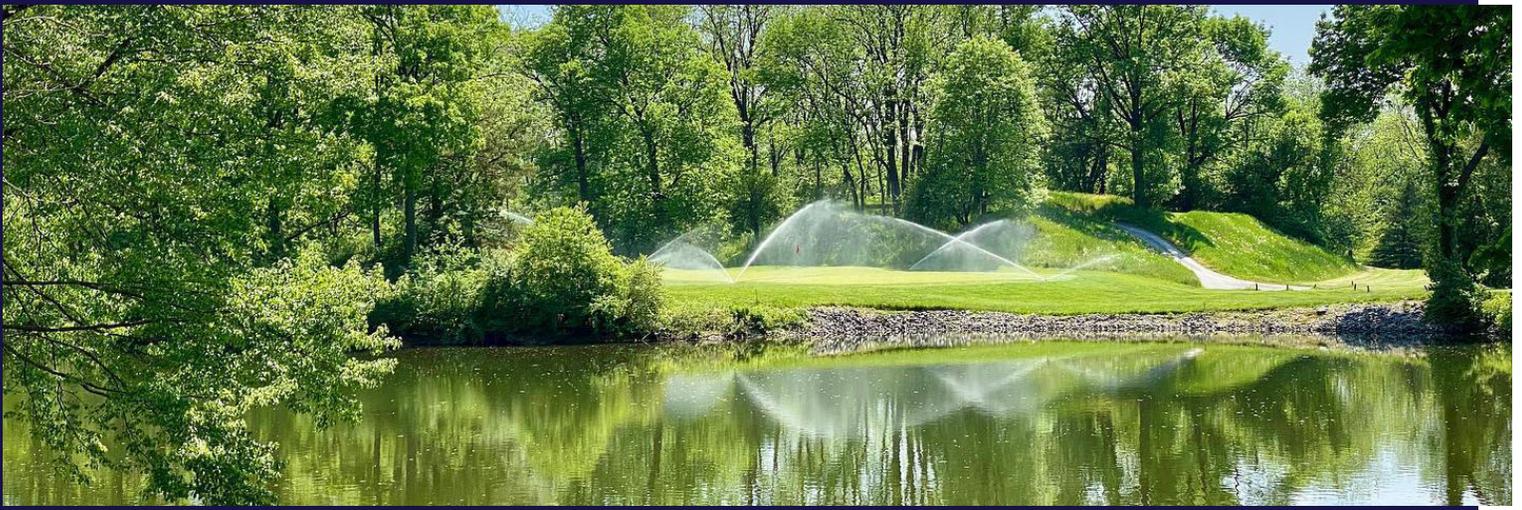
Contact Us 610.525.1562

www.johnbward.com

PO BOX 280, BRYN MAWR, A 19010

CARING FOR THE MAIN LINE'S CANOPY SINCE 1957

PAGCS.org 19



FACILITY FOCUS: Putting Out Fires

HOLE: Sunny #6

FACILITY: Iron Lakes Country Club

CONTRIBUTOR: Shane Miller, CGCS

We installed a new pressure maintenance pump (PM) earlier this year. I'm utilizing all the tools a superintendent has in our "toolbox" to battle this heat wave: wetting agents, hoses with tablets, foliar and soil sprays. Tee sheet is full and golfers are happy! Hope everyone stays healthy and strong through this heatwave.



**One Team,
Many Solutions**

**Your full line
vendor for Golf
Commercial
Equipment and
Golf Irrigation.**

www.turf-equipment.com
800.827.3711



Count on it.

TURFGRASS SERVICES



DoubleDTurf.com

Dennis DeSanctis, Jr.
732-580-5516

Dennis DeSanctis, Sr.
732-241-7378

SUPPORTING OUR EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY



610.933.5801

Lawn and Golf
supply co. inc.

www.lawn-golf.com



Arader Tree Service

Pat Hartman at 610-637-8299

Pat@aradertree.com

www.aradertree.com



The Most Difficult Tree Removals, Pruning and Tree Care Needs, Done When the Time is Right.

• Extensive Matting Systems to Protect Turf

• A Heads Up Approach to Difficult Access Situations

IN RECENT WEEKS AND MONTHS, THE INDUSTRY HAS LOST SOME KEY LEADERS. LAST ISSUE WE PAID TRIBUTE TO KEN MELROSE [SEE PG. 8 OF 2020 ISSUE I]. HERE WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THREE MORE.

JIMMY PURSELL, FOUNDER OF PURSELL TECHNOLOGIES AND LEGENDARY FARMLINKS, DIES AT AGE 89

By William Thornton | wthornton@al.com

James "Jimmy" Taylor Pursell, Sr., an east Alabama businessman whose pursuits ranged from advancement in fertilizer technology to the creation of a popular golf course and resort, died Sunday. He was 89.

Inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2018, Pursell grew up in Talladega and graduated from Auburn in 1952 with a degree in business. After graduation, he served four years in the U.S. Air Force as a bombardier navigator until 1956.

Then Pursell was invited by his father-in-law to join in the family fertilizer business, Parker Fertilizer Co. He assumed leadership of the company in 1966, and eventually created a second branch in the 1980s, Pursell Industries. During that time, he oversaw construction and operation of the 4th sulfur-coated urea plant in the world in Sylacauga and patented

Polyon, his company's controlled-release fertilizer technology.

To market the product, Pursell and his family opened up his family's restored farmhouse outside Sylacauga, Pennywinkle Farm, to host cookouts with potential clients - an idea which later morphed into something larger. In the mid-1990s, he formed Pursell Technologies (PTI) to concentrate on the professional golf course and ornamental nursery markets. Eventually, the family decided to build its own golf course on the farm as a tool to both entertain customers, like golf course superintendents, and serve as a site for turfgrass research and demonstration.

This eventually grew into Farmlinks, a research and demonstration golf course, and what is now the Pursell Farms resort outside Sylacauga. It encompasses the Orvis Shooting



Jimmy Pursell Sr. was an east Alabama businessman who eventually was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame.

Grounds, a 40-room Inn, two restaurants, a spa, and the Hamilton Place wedding venue. Pursell Technologies, Inc. was eventually sold in 2006. ♦

MY FRIEND, DAVE HEEGARD

By Pat Jones

Dave Heegard, who was the vice president of sales and marketing at Lebanon Turf, died May 10 at the age of 69. [Click here](#) for full notice.

It's a blow. Heegs was such a good person and he deserved to live decades longer and enjoy the life he'd earned through years of hard work in our happy little industry.

Even though Dave played a large role in the business, you may not know him because he stayed behind the scenes much of the time. So let me tell you a little about

him and why I think all turf professionals should know and appreciate him.

I met Dave in 1989 when he was a young executive with the Scotts Company back when they were a big player in pro turf. He was a rare bird in those days...a superintendent who had moved to sales and quickly made it to the upper echelons of a big industry company. He was tall and funny and never pretended. He would ask you questions and then listen and absorb your answer. Then three years later he would say, "Remember that time you said X??"

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Like many others in those days, we cemented our bond standing outside convention centers smoking endless cigarettes and yakking about the business. A couple of schmoozers puffing away curbside. We started dreaming up crazy ideas.

For example, in 1992, Dave thought there ought to be more diversity in the industry – more women and people of color specifically – so we figured out a scholarship program and he got us the funding. This was nearly 30 freakin’ years ago! He just felt like it was the right thing to do. The GCSAA Scotts Scholars program was around until at least 2010. Every time I saw him he’d say in his humble Minnesota way, “Well PJ, at least we tried.”

(Yes, he was the only person allowed to call me PJ.)

Our buddy Wayne Horman worked with him for years at Scotts and also recalls what a great person he was. I asked him what he’ll remember most: “Compassion. I’ve known him since 1986. He respected everyone, and even if he thought someone was wacked, he would listen. He would frame his answers with respect and even though he might tell you no he made you feel good that you’d asked. He also really cared about people. He was kind of a gentle giant with a great smile and laugh.”

We became even tighter later on when he was one of the core team at Pursell Technologies. Some of my fondest memories are of the two of us happily fishing the ponds at the Pursell family farm long before the FarmLinks golf course existed. One day he said, “Hey PJ we do this weeklong fishing thing up in Canada every summer and you should come.” My initial thought was “who the hell could fish every day for a whole week?” As it turned out, I could, every summer I had the chance for years afterward. And Dave was one of the group’s ringleaders along with Scotts alum Carlos Stimson and a rotating cast of turfheads like Roch Gaussoin.

(I just talked to Roch: “I am crushed. Dave was a genuine person who I was blessed to call a close friend.”)

Dave and I talked about everything under the sun up there in the isolated perfection of a place called North Lake Caribou where the walleyes were endless and northern pike gigantic. His running joke was, “When is the fishing good at Caribou? When there’s a boat under your ass.” He loved it there and was able to bring his son Kelly along one year. His joy was palpable.

He brought his boundless knowledge of plant nutrition and the golf and lawn market to LebanonTurf for the last part of his career. We’d see each other at tradeshow and sneak off for a cup of coffee to talk fishing or



parenting or sports – rarely business even though he always generously supported whatever publication I was attached to over the years. He was always just so kind to me. He treated me like a brother.

He wasn’t exactly a digital or social media kind of guy but he read everything. It was always fun to get an email from him responding to my latest print column. If he liked it, he was effusive. If he didn’t, he was gentle. I tried and failed for years to get him on Facebook and Twitter. He told me he didn’t need the extra noise in his head.

The last time we talked was late December. He was planning for retirement and wrapping things up in Pennsylvania. That’s when his health started to slide. He kind of went dark for a while after to focus on his recovery. It was worrisome but I wasn’t concerned because I believed in my heart-of-hearts that Heegs would live to enjoy the fabulous retirement he deserved. He had done so much for the industry. He invested in everything that was important to his customers. He was true to his friends and managed to still be there for his wife JoAnn and family despite a demanding career.

But, fate didn’t give him that chance. And the world is a poorer place because he’s gone.

So please remember Dave Heegard – a turfhead who did big things, who gave much to us and who was an absolute joy to be around – and keep him and his family in your thoughts. Fish on, brother. ♦

A LEGACY LIVES ON

After the tragic and sudden death of Philly Section PGA Pro Justin Riegel, our PAGCS sponsors reached out and asked if part of their sponsorship monies could help the family. This enabled the Association to donate over \$1000 to Justin's fund. To date, \$339,074 has been raised.

"Words cannot express the profound appreciation for all of the love and

support we have received since losing Justin. While this has been an unbearable loss, we have recently been blessed by the arrival of Justin and Kate's son, Harrison Kelly Riegel, born 6/25, looking as handsome as his dad but with just a bit more hair. Please continue to keep us in your prayers!"

— With love and gratitude, Kate Hannon, Evette Riegel and families.



Harrison Kelly Riegel

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS FOR ALL YOU ARE DOING TO SUPPORT THE PAGCS AND THE INDUSTRY!

[AerCore](#)

[Aquatrols](#)

[Arader Tree Service](#)

[BASF](#)

[Bayer](#)

[Classic Turfgrass Solutions](#)

[Coombs Sod Farm](#)

[Double "D" Turf](#)

[East Coast Sod](#)

[Ewing](#)

[Finch Services](#)

[Fisher & Son](#)

[FMC](#)

[Genesis](#)

[Golf Cart Services](#)

[Harrells](#)

[JB Ward](#)

[Lawn & Golf](#)

[Lebanon Turf](#)

[Linne Industries](#)

[Mitchells Products](#)

[Noble Turf](#)

[Nufarm](#)

[PBI Gordon](#)

[Plant Food](#)

[Pocono Turf](#)

[Shreiner Tree Care](#)

[SiteOne](#)

[Synatek Solutions](#)

[Syngenta](#)

[TBloom, LLC](#)

[Total Turf Golf Services](#)

[Turf Equipment](#)

[Windview Athletic Fields](#)

>>WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Thomas M. Senn

Assistant Superintendent
Yardley Country Club

Cody Sander

Assistant Superintendent
Wilmington Country Club

Cody Frederick

Assistant Superintendent
Ledgerock Golf Club

Stephen A. Cipollone

Assistant Superintendent
French Creek Golf Club

William Tracy Tudor

Affiliate
FMC

Alexander Brown

Mechanic/Equipment Manager
Old York Road Country Club

Nate Rogers

Assistant Superintendent
Old York Road Country Club

Randy C. Hess

Golf Course Superintendent/
Associate
Springfield Country Club

Michael V. Giuffre

Golf Course Superintendent/
Associate
Indian Valley Country Club

HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Please send it to the PAGCS office. klibsch@pagcs.org

PAGCS CONGRATULATES GOLD LEVEL SPONSOR FISHER & SON AND SARAH ST. JOHN, THE COMPANY'S VICE PRESIDENT

[Family Business] July/August 2020

Sarah is a fifth-generation leader of Fisher & Son, a turf and horticultural products distributor. A graduate of West Chester University of Pennsylvania with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Sarah learned the business from the bottom by beginning her career in 2011 as an administrative assistant. She helped with odds and ends in the office before moving into a customer service role in 2013.

In 2015, she became the operations manager, leading a team of 15 and fine-tuning warehouse and inventory management. At age 29, Sarah acquired 50% ownership and assumed the role of vice president.

Sarah oversees the daily operations of the business in addition to the financial management of the company.

"Sarah is an emotionally mature, thoughtful leader in the family business," says Sally Derstine, managing partner of the Delaware Valley Family Business Center.

"Sarah is currently serving as VP, and her uncle is serving as the president. They are also both shareholders and are navigating this complexity quite well. Recently they have acquired a new location, which Sarah is managing.

"Sarah is working hard at her own personal and professional development," Derstine says. "She is part of a leadership lab for the rising generation, and the other members respect and learn a lot from her; she is one of the youngest persons in the group.



Sarah St. John, 31
Fisher & Son Company, Exton, Pa.

"She is articulate and thoughtful and has a stewardship mindset."

"I am incredibly proud and honored to be a part of, and lead, our family business," Sarah says. "It has been one of the greatest joys of my life to represent the fifth generation and learn all aspects of our business. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow in my role as an owner."◆



With over 90 years' experience, you can depend on fifth-generation, family owned **Fisher & Son Company** to provide you with the tools and expertise to exceed your turf and horticulture expectations.



FisherandSon.com

800-262-2127

Premier Choice of Golf, Lawn Care, Landscape, and Sports Turf Management Professionals

CADDIE ACADEMY STARTS JUNE 9— FREE REGISTRATION



Do you want to learn a great job skill?
First Tee Caddie Academy will teach you
all you need to know about caddying.
You just need to have a strong work
ethic and exhibit our Nine Core Values!

INTEGRITY
JUDGMENT
HONESTY RESPONSIBILITY
SPORTSMANSHIP RESPECT
CONFIDENCE PERSEVERANCE
COURTESY

Class Details

- There is no cost to register
- Caddie Academy will start with virtual classes run on Zoom from 4 PM to 4:45 PM
- Students will then meet at John F. Byrne Golf Club and Walnut Lane Golf Club to apply their skills.

Register Now at
www.firstteephiladelphia.org/caddieacademy



BENTGRASS SOD L.L.C.

Kevin Coombs 84 Route 77, Elmer, NJ 08318
Cell (856) 542-4178 Office (856) 358-4763
kevin@coombsfarms.com www.coombsfarms.com



AERATE THAT POND!

...with PondHawk®
The solar-powered aeration system

Find out more about PondHawk® at
www.LINNEindustries.com

Newark, DE 19714
Phone: 302.454.1439
©2017 Linne Industries



MITCHELL PRODUCTS

Quality, consistency, and expertise since 1998



Bunker Sands • Topdress Sands • Divot Mixes
Rootzone Mixes • Stone Products

856.327.2005 ■ www.MitchellSand.com



One Team, Many Solutions

Your full line vendor for Golf Commercial Equipment and Golf Irrigation.



www.turf-equipment.com
800.827.3711



Count on it.



PA ALLIANCE FOR GOLF

As PAGCS President Doug Rae indicated in his President’s Message [see “PM” pg 2], the P.A.G. met again via conference call on June 17 to further solidify the Alliance and set some goals and priorities for going forward. Here are some takeaways from the meeting.

The conference call focused on several themes, primarily what the responsibilities and goals of the Alliance should be going forward.

GUIDANCE AND GOALS: and what, if any, guidance the Alliance provide. It was proposed that the group should compile an FAQ that could help address gaps in the state’s guidance. However, the consensus was that it is not the Alliance’s responsibility to legislate.

MEETINGS: It was suggested that meetings of the Alliance should take place virtually for the foreseeable future and the schedule will likely be as Doug said in his “PM.”

ADVOCACY: Work to make sure the state has a presence at the local, state and national level via National Golf Day, state golf days, especially as we head in to the heat of the election season. There was talk of an economic impact study and its value in this effort.

GROWING THE GAME: Get kids hooked on golf—this is a recurring theme across many webinars and articles. [Editor’s note: the one way the PAGCS and other chapters of GCSAA in the state will be vital to this effort is First Green.]

NEXT STEP: Create a database/roster of the members of the Alliance with contact information.

The presidents and chapter executives of each of the seven PA golf course superintendent’s chapters, along with key leaders of the Golf industry in the state [golf associations, PGA sections, club managers associations] make up the Pennsylvania Alliance for Golf. ♦

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SPRING DEAD SPOT AND DOLLAR SPOT...

THERE’S A WARRIOR ON YOUR SIDE

An invasion of Dollar Spot and Spring Dead Spot can destroy your turf and your budget. Defeat them with **Kabuto™ Fungicide SC**.

► For more information contact John Wiblishauser at 609.774.3310.

PBIGordonTurf.com

gbi/gordon CORPORATION
Employee-Owned

Always read and follow label directions. Kabuto® is a registered trademark of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. 3/19 0805

Don't just follow contours. Own them.™

JOHN DEERE GOLF

FINCH

2700/2750 PrecisionCut™/E-Cut™ Triplex Mowers

www.finchinc.com

@finchturf

WINDVIEW ATHLETIC FIELDS

Providing Services & Solutions to the Golf & Sports Turf Industries

SERVICES

Fraze Mowing	Deep Tine Aeration
Sandmaster Drainage	Debris Management
Field Renovation	Slit Seeding
Fertilizing	Spraying
Solid Tine & Core Aeration	Topdressing
Verticutting	Infield Preparation

CONNECT WITH US:

f Windview Athletic Fields

t @Windviewinc

www.windviewathleticfields.com | chris@windviewathleticfields.com | 610-608-3175
1325 Goshen Parkway | West Chester, Pa 19380

FMC An Agricultural Sciences Company

Tracy Tudor
Market Specialist-T&O, NE Region
FMC Agricultural Solutions

C 215.704.6679

FMC Corporation
112 Basil Street
Marietta, PA 17547
USA

tracy.tudor@fmc.com

fmc.com

INDUSTRY IMPACTS: PPR—PROTECT, PLAN, RESPECT

by Kristen Liebsch

The plethora of pandemic related webinars, GoTo and Zoom Meetings, along with related articles seem to be weaving together some common themes.

#GoGolf

Every day is a weekend: as “staycations” become the norm, tee sheets will continue to fill. While a catch -22 for maintenance crews, this is also an opportunity to grow golf in certain sectors for the long term.

Targeting youth is becoming a dominant theme: a socially distanced, injury-less-likely way to stay active for young people. Millennials are also increasing rate of play.

STAFFING CHALLENGES

Many facilities face staffing challenges right now, with the latest estimates that many courses are at 70-80% of full staff in some places. Superintendents and assistants are often playing the dual roles of supervisor and crew member. Seasonal exhaustion could hit sooner than expected.



Former PAGCS newsletter editor, Suanne Gardiner, has been working the front lines during the pandemic. Here, she is shown working a testing center.

Adding to the challenge: loss of one staff member can create a domino effect. Many rely on carpooling so the loss of one to COVID concerns [infection, loss of employment, etc.] could translate to three or more if they carpool or were exposed together.

All the more reason to keep staff safe and informed: behavior off course matters as much or more than on course and the need and ways to communicate vigilance are key. The resurgence of COVID is a real concern as regions begin to loosen restrictions.

MAINTENANCE IMPACTS

Change in cart traffic: cart traffic is up [both push/pull and traditional carts due to single riders]. The rules for both traditional carts and push/pull need to be the same, standardized, communicated and enforced.

Bunker maintenance: As courses removed rakes to reduce touchpoints, bunker maintenance evolved into a new normal that some hope sticks.

“Lightly smoothing depressions in the sand with one’s foot seems to be working just fine. Any uneven footprints that remain can then be attended to the next morning by the maintenance team,” said John Daniels, USGA agronomist, in a May 15 Green Section article.

More Agronomic Impacts: Poa and ABW sightings are up; the peak weather is upon the industry and prioritizing maintenance amid full tee sheets is a struggle. Some ideas that have been floated include the following:

- Triplex approaches and greens when possible [provided a good piece of equipment is available]
- Discuss use of PGR and its impact long term on turf health versus

it’s necessity right now—which may take precedence right now

- Reduce bunker and interim rough maintenance—look to convert interim rough in the future to fairway “It was never intended for daily golf course setup ... Eliminating intermediate rough provides an opportunity to reallocate labor and other resources to other areas of the course which have greater impact on playability.” [John Daniels]
- Reduce or remove as many course accessories—a damp towel can replace a ball washer; remove ornamentals on course—reserve for clubhouse only
- Help green traffic damage by eliminating tight turns during mowing and other green saving tactics
- Aeration: one skipped won’t hurt
- Tracking: use labor tracking more now than ever and invest in GPS enabled carts and mowers

And COMMUNICATE! Everyone needs to understand that there will be weeds in the rough, and expectations need to be adjusted; RULES and guidance need to be communicated and followed more than ever—to protect the facility, the course, the players, and staff.

PROTECT: staff—one gets exposed/ contracts virus, a facility could lose many staff [domino affect] and maintenance suffers

PLAN—for frustration [season exhaustion, etc.]

RESPECT—wear the mask, do what is necessary