

Our Mission is to promote the welfare of the game of golf, the science and art of golf course management, the organizational and business effectiveness of the profession, the professional image and well-being of individual members, and to unite golf course superintendents within the Greater Kansas City area.

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Heart Beat

June 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 12 - Footprints in Fairways
Ironhorse Golf Club

July 10 - S&R Tournament
Indian Hills Country Club

Aug. 22 - T-Bones Outing
(Past President's Event)
Community America Ball Park

Sept. 21 - Vendor Appreciation
Boulevard Beer Hall

Oct. 2017 - Employee
Tournament
Creekmoor Golf Club

Nov. 2 - Annual Meeting -
Lunchtime Meeting
180 Room

Dec. 18-19 - Common Ground
Olathe Conference Center



Heart of America GCSA
638 W. 39th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-561-5323
www.hagcsa.org

S&R Tournament



Indian Hills Country Club
Monday, July 10, 2017

Schedule:

9:30 a.m. - Registration
11:00 a.m. - Shotgun Start
On the Course - Lunch
3:30 p.m. - Live Auction & Food/Beverages

Host Superintendent:
Jeff White, CGCS

President's Message



As our best-laid winter plans have been implemented to prepare us for the next three months, I sincerely hope we all come out of the summer relatively unscathed. If we can do that, perhaps we will all feel ready to do it once again in 2018. For me, every year has its challenges whether it is staffing issues, drought, heat/humidity, irrigation motor/pump failure, or whatever. There's always something to remind me that there will never be a "perfect" year. What I do tell myself is that I've done it before and I can do it again. The same goes for these president messages.

As for the HAGCSA, we've had what I believe is a typical calendar of events for the spring. We've had opportunities for our equipment managers to connect and learn. We've had our annual joint meeting with the Kansas GCSA. We've also had a very successful Wee One tournament benefitting the Melchior family. I sincerely want to thank those of you who have been involved with making all of the HAGCSA's events a success.

I also would like to promote our upcoming events. On June 12th we will be working with the Midwest Section PGA to not only help fund SNAG but also to cultivate relationships with our valued PGA professionals. This tournament is a great opportunity to build a stronger connection with other decision makers at your facility.

The Scholarship and Research Tournament is right around the corner as well. On July 10th, Indian Hills Country Club has graciously accepted the opportunity to host this fantastic annual event. Based on last year's spectacular hospitality put forth by the Kansas City Country Club, I have no doubt this year's tournament at Indian Hills will be similarly phenomenal.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the vendors for their support of our PRP. Without a doubt, your support of the HAGCSA is truly appreciated.



Tim Nielsen
Creekmoor
Golf Club

E-Z Go Makes \$2,800 Donation to Heart of America GCSA

George Hobbs, Regional Sales Representative for E-Z-GO/Textron, recently presented a check in the amount of \$2,800 to the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA). The donation was made as part of a sales promotion that Textron introduced in 2015 for their E-Z-GO and Cushman utility cart lines. The promotion offers \$50 back to the GCSAA affiliated chapter per E-Z-GO or Cushman utility cart sold to any HAGCSA member or course.

HAGCSA was one of just two GCSAA chapters that worked with George and Textron to conceive this promotion and test it in 2015. The promotion proved successful for E-Z-GO/Textron with a marked increase in utility cart sales in this past year. This resulted in a nice donation to our association. Due to the success of this promotion with the HAGCSA, E-Z-GO/Textron has decided to continue this \$50 per cart donation to HAGCSA in 2017 and has expanded the program to include many other GCSAA chapters. E-Z-GO/Textron has expanded and enhanced the E-Z-GO and Cushman utility cart lines in recent years. For more information on their products or to discuss this promotion that benefits our association please visit their website (www.ezgo.com/Home/Golf/Turf) or contact George Hobbs directly at 913-515-9877.



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For more information contact:

George Hobbs
Sales Representative
913.515.9877
ghobbs@textron.com

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S&R Committee Report



The S&R Committee has been gathering behind the scenes to keep the momentum going off of last year's great event at Kansas City Country Club. This year, the tournament will take place at Indian Hills Country Club. Our title sponsors are Kansas City Turf Supply and Kansas Golf and Turf. Thank you

for sharing the title sponsorship for this great event! If you haven't signed a team up yet or are considering doing so, sign up today as slots for teams are filling up fast.

Our host superintendent for this year's event is Jeff White, CGCS. Jeff earned his BS in horticulture/turf-grass management for Iowa State University in 1993. He has been the golf course and grounds manager at Indian Hills Country Club since April of 2013. Jeff has been a superintendent in the KC area since 1998, including stints at Falcon Ridge Golf Club and Lake Quivira Country Club. He also served as assistant superintends at Alvarado Golf and Country Club and Lake Quivira. Jeff has held the CGCS designation since 2002. He enjoys everything outdoors when time allows. He has been married to his beautiful wife, LeAnn, for six years. Jeff also enjoys time with and is very proud of his two

daughters Madison (19) and Gabrielle (15); who are very active in school and sports.

Other members of Jeff's staff include three assistants. Brycen Meng has been with IHCC for six years and is a graduate of Kansas State University. Cory Henson has been with IHCC since spring of 2013 and is a graduate of Iowa State University. Noe Hernandez has been with the club for 17 years. We owe a big thank you to Jeff, his assistants and all of the staff at Indian Hills Country Club for hosting the 2017 S&R Tournament.



Chris Benisch, Director,
Deer Creek Golf Club

As per custom, we will have our live auction after the tournament. Tanna Guthrie will be our auctioneer again. And all donations are welcome for the auction and they do not need to be golf related. I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's event on July 10th. The sign-up forms for this event are included with this newsletter. If you have any questions at any time please feel free to contact me.

SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH TOURNAMENT



Indian Hills Country Club

Host Superintendent: Jeff White, CGCS

<p>Monday, July 10, 2017</p> <p>9:30am – Registration 11:00am – Shotgun On the Course – Lunch 3:30pm – Live Auction</p> <p>4 Person Scramble</p> <p>\$750 per team; \$200 for singles</p>	<p>~ SUPERINTENDENTS ~</p> <p>You are encouraged to form a club team with colleagues, members and valued customers from <u>your</u> facility.</p> <p>TITLE SPONSORS:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"><div><p>KANSAS GOLF AND TURF GOLF CARS AND TURF EQUIPMENT WICHITA - SPRINGFIELD - KANSAS CITY</p></div><div><p>Kansas City Turf Supply, Inc.</p></div></div>
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S&R Tournament: July 10 at Indian Hills Country Club

Rounds4Research & Wee One Committee Update

Rounds4Research

Thank you for your 2017 donation to the R4R program. Without research, where would the game of golf be? Research adds to every aspect of the game, from enjoyment to efficiently managing the resources used. Research that is important to superintendents and the courses they keep has always been, and remains, a cornerstone of the EIFG's efforts, dating back to when it was founded as the GCSAA Scholarship and Research Fund in 1955.

We have 36 clubs participating in the 2017 R4R auction. The golfers are bidding on the auctions now at www.rounds4research.com and we expect to have another successful outcome.

Wee One

All I can really say is WOW! We had a very successful event at Staley Farms on April 19th. We had unbelievable member and

vendor support for the event. We had 124 players and tremendous vendor support.

This year's proceeds benefit the Melchior family and the Wee One. Doug is very gracious for the outpouring of support for him and his family. I have seen personally the compassion and generosity of our association. It makes me proud to be a HAGCSA member. Please continue to send your love and support to Doug and his family.



**Brent Stephenson,
Staley Farms Golf Club**



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Where Have All the Students Gone?

By Jack Fry, Ph.D, Kansas State University

In 2001, student numbers in golf course and turfgrass management programs at land grant universities across the nation were high, and many wondered where students would find employment in a market that was saturated. Things have changed. Now, low enrollment has the potential to create a crisis for golf courses seeking to hire superintendents - maybe not next year or 10 years from now, but eventually. At universities, we're concerned. Last November, turfgrass scientists gathered at a special teaching symposium as part of the Crop Science Society of America meetings in Phoenix to address enrollment issues in undergraduate programs.

Shifts in Student Enrollment Numbers

Between 1995 and 2001, enrollment in our Golf Course Management program at Kansas State University (K-State) tripled, and we had nearly 150 enrolled. However, we weren't the only ones seeing higher enrollment numbers, and several factors contributed: 1) Tiger Woods had reached superstardom, and his popularity attracted more people to the sport; 2) golf course construction was booming and there seemed to be a reasonable, underlying assumption among the general public that the demand for

qualified people to manage the facilities was going to rise; and 3) students seemed to like the idea of working outside. Now, at K-State, we're down to about 40 students in our turf program, which includes students in both golf course and sports turf management. Compared to other programs, our numbers are pretty good. Other schools have experienced more dramatic drops in enrollment in turfgrass programs, and some whose numbers are in the single digits will cease to exist when current faculty leave or retire. It's likely that a combination of factors have had an effect:

- Golf has declined in popularity – the National Golf Foundation indicates there are 6 million fewer golfers who play at least one round annually now than there were in 2005. For many students, their initial interest in turfgrass starts with exposure to golf, and if fewer are introduced to the sport, it will affect enrollment in university turf programs.
- In response to fewer golfers, and over-building in the 1990s, over 800 courses have closed in the past decade. As such, employment in a golf-related profession may now be considered more passé to young people than it once was.

Continued on next page



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S&R Tournament: July 10 at Indian Hills Country Club

Where Have all the Students Gone? - cont.

- High School students, some of whom garner an interest in the profession, used to be employed during the summer at local golf courses, and this is not as common as it once was. Early exposure to the profession isn't happening.
- With declining state support, tuition at public-funded schools, where most turfgrass programs are housed, has risen faster than the rate of inflation. Students and parents are more carefully weighing the return on investment after four years of college. Salaries and benefits offered to those employed in the golf course industry should be at a level where the time and finances dedicated to a college education are worthwhile.
- Working outside in jobs that periodically require getting one's hands dirty is generally less attractive to today's high school graduate than it was even 10 years ago.
- Entrance requirements have risen at some schools. Universities that once had a solid core number of students now have none due, in part, to fewer students being admitted.

The concern is growing. Some superintendents are finding it harder to attract degree-holding, full-time assistant superintendents. A K-State alumnus in the Kansas City area recently told me he was forced to hire assistants who didn't have a college education - there were no degree-holding applicants for the position he advertised. If these trends continue, what are the implications? Golf course administrators may eventually find that it is difficult to hire a superintendent with a degree because there are too few available.

Some universities have stepped up efforts to attract students into turf programs. For example, at K-State, we produced a video that is circulated through social media in attempts to attract more students to our program (here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jeKiQnCBFQ>). Faculty at the University of Tennessee hired a full-time marketing person to attract turfgrass students, and enrollment has increased significantly. The truth is, all of us need to become recruiters to attract students to this profession that we care so much about. Who had an influence on you?

In seventh grade, my science teacher took the class on a field trip to a local nursery and garden center, and that sparked an interest in plant science for me. Your golf course would be a great field-trip destination for middle or high school biology students. Perhaps you could recruit more high school students to be part of your workforce. You have the power to influence career decisions just by opening the golf course up to young people and letting

them know what you do. By doing so, you'll be influencing the future of the golf course superintendent profession firsthand.

Note: This article was first published in *Golf Course Management*, February 2017.

Tony's Teasers

Back by popular demand after a 5 year hiatus, here's your chance to win fabulous prizes at the end of the year Holiday Party (must be present to win!). These teasers are plays on words, phrases, joke punch lines, names, etc (most related to our profession in some warped way). Each printed edition (andy.klein@vanwall.com) will have a different teaser for you to solve. Simply email your answer to the editor prior to the next printed edition and we'll throw all the winning entries into a hat for a spectacular drawing. Good Luck!



Clue: What did the Yamaha Cart remark to the Club Car after coasting down the hill?

Answer: That was _____

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Catching Up With Bill Maynard, President GCSAA

Questions Submitted By Paul Hurst

1. It's been a whirlwind for you since the election in February, what have you been up to?

First, it is such an honor to represent the hard working men and woman that work in this industry. I have had the privilege to meet with folks in the U.S. and Internationally. Industry leaders from Canada, United Kingdom, Ireland and most of western Europe all are coming together in effort to further aid collaboration within the game. Locally and abroad, GCSAA is building relationships with other industry professionals to move the needle in several areas including the environmental sustainability, advocacy and education just to name a few. Here in the U.S. GCSAA is working together with industry representatives like the USGA, the PGA of America and the PGA Tour through their huge support of our initiatives. We are truly working the mission statement of the association: To serve our members, advance the profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game.

2. Balancing your work at St. Albans with your commitment to the GCSAA has to be difficult, how are you managing that?

Not well at first and there is room for improvement!! If not for the great work that the St. Albans staff preforms, I would be in a world of hurt! I am so grateful for the support of my facility and the agronomy team at St. Albans.

3. Your goal this year as GSCAA President is what?

To increase collaboration. For the local chapter to be that space where lifelong relationships are born and relied upon for success in all areas of each other's lives. To then increase our contagious camaraderie ACROSS chapter, state, regional, national, continental and even global LINES. The good news is: we are closer than we think. Also, continuing the strategic priorities of the association by:

- Serving our members through enhanced technology, membership standards, field staff assistance in chapter services support
- Advancing the profession through relevant education program offerings (incl. other languages)
- Advocacy and outreach on behalf of members to employers, players and policy makers
- Increased revenue opportunities through fund-raising, marketing, corporate sales and International business development
- Environmental stewardship by providing relevant information and tools to assist members with applying best management practices to the most valuable asset at the facility.

Continued on page 11



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Common Ground Conference

This coming winter we will once again have our Common Ground Conference at the Olathe Conference Center on Monday, December 18th and Tuesday the 19th. This conference center has been great to us as members and vendors alike and we are glad to be back for a third year. Please mark your calendars for this great educational opportunity!

This educational conference has great speakers and topics that bring real world problems we all face, and hopefully finding out opportunities on how we are superintendents, assistants and for this coming year mechanics face and overcome those tough battles. Yes, you read that right, new for 2017 are seminars specifically oriented towards the many workings of our equipment. Mechanics are fully welcome to join in the fun! I know as a Superintendent that there are many times equipment gives me fits, and this knowledge is pertinent to the success at all of our facilities whether you are a mechanic or not. Other items we will be dis-

cussing include bringing in speakers that relate to us here in the transition zone, issues that we all face trying to please discussing include bringing in speakers that relate to us here in the transition zone, issues that we all face trying to please our members and patrons at our facilities. Lastly, as we had in 2015 we will once again have a panel of individuals to discuss golf course renovations, golf course architecture and design, and to the everyday small renovations that can be completed in house.

This will be a conference you do not want to miss, mark your calendars, make sure to bring your assistants, your mechanics, your crew and please don't forget to thank our many vendors that help support our Common Ground Conference!



Mark Newton, CGCS,
Canyon Farms
Golf Club



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S&R Tournament: July 10 at Indian Hills Country Club

'17 MO CUP Challenge October 2 & 3

**By Wes Kleffner and Richard Shumate,
Special Directors**

We are pleased to announce this year's location of the MO Cup Challenge! Lodge of Four Seasons is the only full-service golf resort in Missouri offering 36 holes of championship golf. Both golf courses have been recognized in the top five golf courses of Missouri by numerous publications, including *Golf Digest*, *Golf Magazine* and *AAA Midwest*.



The Cove

Over the past 50 years, Lodge of Four Seasons has played a significant role in making the Lake of the Ozarks a major golf destination. It started in 1973 with The Cove, a Robert Trent Jones Sr. signature golf course. As demand for golf grew, so did the Lodge's desire to offer a true golf resort experience in the Midwest. That led to the opening of The Ridge course in 1991. Please call Group Reservations at 1-888-265-5500 to make your reservations. Guest room rates for the night of Monday, October 2, 2017, to Missouri Cup attendees are discounted. More details to follow. We look forward to seeing you there!



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Catch Up With Bill Maynard - cont.

4. I have seen several pictures on Twitter of you interacting with fellow GCSAA Board Members, you all seem to get along well?

Yes. All of those men roll up their sleeves and get tons of work done in the board room and during the increased member interaction with their respective committees.

5. How do you feel about the state of our industry right now?

Positive. Last year's Golf Industry Show in Orlando, Fla. proved that trade shows aren't dead, our members want quality education and networking thus showing value of GCSAA membership. In the U.S., capital spending at facilities is on the rise, job opportunities are many and all technological advancements are pointing towards growth in our industry.

6. Your role within the GCSAA has exposed you to many different local associations, what does the HAGCSA do well?

I am so fortunate to have worked in the Heart for 14 years. The Heart has been a place to learn through involvement and expand your network. Even as "The New Guy" in 1999, the Heart members welcomed me and encouraged my desire to participate. Being in the Northland recently for the Wee One event reminded me of the fabric this chapter and our association is made of. It is

Benevolence. The Heart is made of people helping one another throughout their entire lives.

7. In what areas can the HAGCSA improve?

I'm certainly not qualified to answer that one! However, from my perspective in St. Louis, the Heart has an energetic, interactive board and are doing some great things!



Doug Melchoir, (L) and Bill Maynard, CGCS

8. Assistants, Golf Course Technicians and skilled labor are tough to come by, is the GCSAA doing anything to address this issue?

Education and credentialing. With the help of our friends at IGCEMA, we developed a certificate program for equipment techs to help set them apart and give them an edge in the marketplace. In 2017, the assistant committee will embark on establishing a certificate program to help assistants gain their individual skills they need to compete in the marketplace.

Continued on next page



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Catch Up With Bill Maynard - cont.

9. How important is the GIS Show to the GCSAA?

In my opinion the GIS is more important to us as professionals than it is to the "association." Does the GIS provide a significant revenue stream? Absolutely. Our industry needs this annual event but, not more than we need a place to network, to see the latest innovations in products and services and get the best golf course management education on the planet.

10. San Antonio GIS should be your swan song as GCSAA President, how is your dance and rap game?

"MC Sweet Cheeks" will be in the game that's for sho.

11. What is your relationship like with GCSAA CEO Rhett Evans?

Professional and career enhancing. Rhett is tireless with his efforts. His enthusiasm and drive is enough to motivate anyone! The mentoring I have received, through conversation and watching him support superintendents, has been life changing. I am, and WE ARE, lucky to have such a great leader in our CEO Rhett Evans.

12. You have enviable energy, what drives you each day?

Chevy truck? I confess, I had to look up enviable. I would say that I learned early in life, that our attitude determines our altitude. Our mind and our thoughts are in our control, no one else's. Setting your mind to whatever you want to accomplish is key. I know this to be true in my life and perhaps that gives me the enviable energy you refer to. Ever since my early childhood and growing up during desegregation in the south, I learned the value of relationships. Treating others, the way you want to be treated, creates a desire to give to one another. I chose early on to treat others that way with some enthusiasm and joy.

13. Technological innovation in golf course maintenance continues, are we over complicating growing turf?

No. We are getting smarter and become good stewards of the environment at the same time. Being able to customize and reduce inputs will be the norm soon. The strides we have made in water management are saving facilities hundreds of thousands of dollars.

14. In light of that, what are your thoughts on Boron?

Clueless...other than I know turfgrass needs it. Said jokingly.

15. How was your experience at the Masters this year?

The board's strategic planning session and industry representation at events was the primary reason we went to Augusta this spring. Being a representative to the PGA, Augusta National Golf Club, the Golf Channel and the USGA at networking events is truly and honor. Those relationships aid the collaboration and help move the needle in our industry.

16. The GCSAA is pushing BMP's (Best Management Practices), why?

It's the right thing to do. As we have seen in Florida and Virginia, state regulation was thwarted because the state chapters implemented BMP's. Currently there are 35+ fertilizer bans in Florida and golf courses are exempt. This would not have happened without a BMP in place. State regulation is coming for all states and GCSAA wants to provide chapters with the tools to get out in front of this issue. What better way to illustrate our environmental stewardship to the local and state agencies! The states will look to the local chapters for best management practices to adopt versus a blind regulation without the local research. The goal is to have all 50 states adopt BMP's by the year 2020.

17. Three months in, what are you enjoying most about being the GCSAA President?

Member interaction. Working side by side this week with superintendents and industry professionals I had never met on one of our nations historic landmarks was a super charge for me. Over 100 GCSAA members participated in the service project on the National Mall in D.C. as part of the We Are Golf Coalition. Mowing, seeding, aerifying, edging and irrigation head arc adjustments were only a few of the tasks on Tuesday. What an incredible opportunity and one that I seeing getting larger in the future.

18. Three months in, what are you enjoying the least about being the GCSAA President?

Travel issues. Delays, cancellations and rental car problems are a pain in the neck.

19. Name a few people in our industry that you find inspiring? University researchers/pathologist

John Cunningham, CGCS

Mark Littlejohn, CGCS (first mentor)

Past Presidents of CMAA, PGA of America and GCSAA

20. Your legacy as GCSAA President will hopefully be?

GCSAA
Assistant certificate program comes to fruition
Action on GCSAA's vision statement: GCSAA is the global leader in Golf Course Management
Local and International growth in membership
State adoption of the BMP's in 2017

Personally I hope...

Was fair and objective in leadership

Helped produce collaboration across all avenues

He didn't change 'who he is' once in office

He never forgot where he came from

GreenKeeper: A Free Tool For Turf Managers

By Bill Kreuser, PhD, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

The University of Nebraska Turfgrass Program has been developing a free decision support tool for turfgrass managers called GreenKeeper. This website is designed to help turfgrass managers keep track of their data. This web-based application, or web-app, can be found at GreenKeeperApp.com. It is a free service available to managers around the world and we encourage you to try it.

GreenKeeper was initially developed to automatically track growing degree day (GDD) models for plant growth regulators (PGRs). Our lab has been developing these GDD models for the most popular PGRs on warm and cool-season greens, fairways/tees, athletic fields, and lawns/roughs. The ten years of PGR modeling research has been very successful, but it was clear that using the models could be difficult.

GreenKeeper automatically logs the air temperature to calculate GDDs, indicates how much growth suppression is expected and notifies the manager when PGRs need to be re-applied. The web-app is programmed to determine the optimum PGR application interval based on the management, species, PGR active ingredient and applications. With GreenKeeper, managers only indicate the day they applied, the area, and the PGR, and GreenKeeper will track the rest.

Since we were tracking PGR applications, we decided to expand GreenKeeper to track all products applied to turf. Users setup an inventory for their course containing fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, PGRs, and other specialty products. Many of the turf product companies have provided their complete product inventory to GreenKeeper. Users can select these 'public' products or define their own 'custom' products and fertilizers if they are not yet in the GreenKeeper product database.

GreenKeeper also does the sprayer and spreader math. Users enter the size of the management areas (Greens, Tees, etc.) and the calibration and capacity of their sprayers at initial setup. Then GreenKeeper will calculate the amount of product or fertilizer required in total to treat an area. This also generates tank-mixing instructions. New in 2017, GreenKeeper also helps with both dry and liquid fertilizers. Even granular products are logged in GreenKeeper.

All the product application records are securely stored in the "online cloud" which allows multiple users to access the data for a particular course. Those records can be downloaded for pesticide reporting requirements at

year-end. The pests controlled with each application can also be logged and used to create crowd-sourced active pest maps.

Since GreenKeeper was first publicized in the January 2016, the site has had tremendous growth. There are now 2,100 courses using GreenKeeper with 3,200 users from around the world. We intend to keep GreenKeeper free and would never hold a user hostage to their application data. We are thankful for Nufarm, the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Southern California for helping to sponsor GreenKeeper. To learn about more about this free web-app, developed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, head to <http://GreenKeeperApp.com>, watch our video tutorials at <http://www.youtube.com/UNLTurf>. You can also find a user manual to guide you through the initial setup process. Give GreenKeeper App a try this year to start data-driven turfgrass management.

Continued on next page

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GreenKeeper - cont.

APPLICATION STATUS

Greens 03/24/2017

1.74 Tanks
304.5 Gallons

Total Required Product

Product	Quantity Required
Garys Green Iron (18-3-4)	1429.82 Fluid Oz
Urea Soluble (46-0-0)	54.71 Lbs
Primo Maxx	24.88 Fluid Oz
Proxy	829.01 Fluid Oz
Total Mix	285.1 Gallons

Tank Recipes

Product	Full Tank	Partial Tank
Garys Green Iron (18-3-4)	956.68 Fluid Oz	493.14 Fluid Oz
Urea Soluble (46-0-0)	31.44 Lbs	23.27 Lbs
Primo Maxx	14.29 Fluid Oz	10.58 Fluid Oz
Proxy	476.44 Fluid Oz	252.56 Fluid Oz
Total Mix	143.85 Gallons	121.2 Gallons

Application Setup:

Early Season Disease, High 41F wind south 55

Greens

5000

03/24/2017

Tare 1750-Greens

Mix In Products:

Available Products: Add To App Manage Products

- Garys Green Iron (18-3-4)
- Urea Soluble (46-0-0)
- Primo Maxx
- Proxy

PRODUCT EXPIRATION LIFETIME:

Greens

Primo Maxx (Ingredients: trineopac-ethyl Target Pests: PGRs - Preventative) X

17%

Application Date: 03/21/17
GDD: 30/180
Relative Clipping Yield: 95%

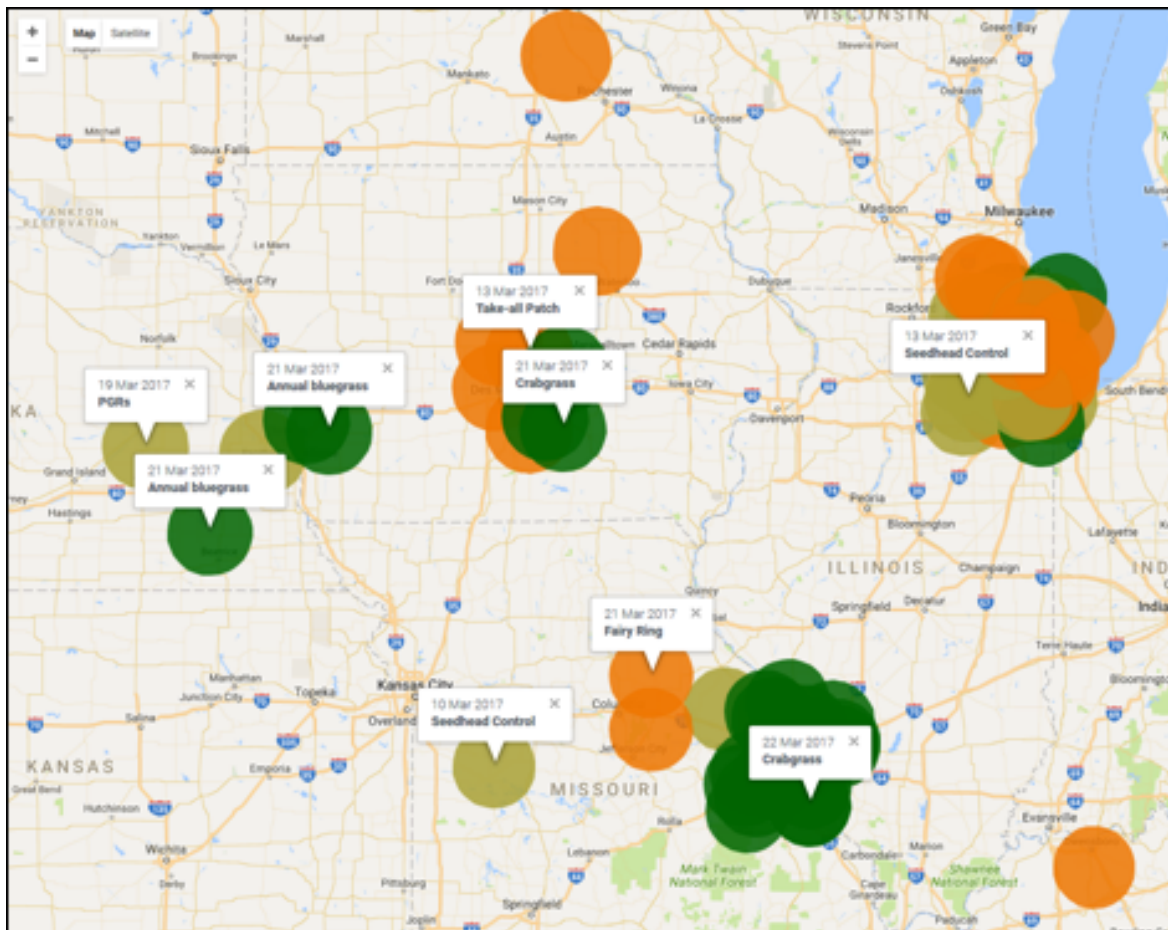
Proxy (Ingredients: ethephon Target Pests: Annual bluegrass - Preventative) X

14%

Application Date: 03/21/17
Days Control: 3/21

The New Application page of GreenKeeper helps turf managers design a spray application by calculating amount of mix, product, and spray loads required to treat an area.

In 2017, fertilizer tracking of liquid, soluble, and even granular applications of all fertilizer material was integrated into GreenKeeper.

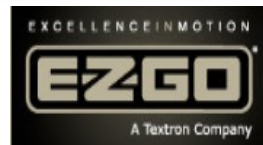


Users can indicate which pest they are targeting with an application. These pest reports are then used to generate pest outbreak maps for the entire world. Notice the increase of crabgrass, seedhead, and take-all applications this spring.

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“Why, You Yellow Bellied Bunch of Suckers

By Matt S Giese, M.S., Syngenta Regional Technical Manager, Midwest US

If you've ever tuned in to an old country western movie or grew up watching "Gunsmoke" (originals or reruns), then you've most likely heard the term "yellow bellied". It was typically used to describe or accuse one of cowardly action or behavior and usually ended with either the accusatory or the offended party in a conveniently placed horse watering trough. Fortunately, we don't have those type of accusations in the turfgrass industry, but it's not uncommon to stumble across a "midnight horse thief" likened to plant parasitic nematodes. They come in unannounced, don't make a sound, suck the life out of your roots, and then you are left to deal with the damage. Seems like the exact definition of yellow bellied.

Yet, what are nematodes, and more specifically what are plant parasitic nematodes and what bearing do they have on managing turfgrass? Nematodes are a diverse group of animals, sometimes called roundworms due to their shape, which feed on bacteria, fungi, plants and even other animals. Plant parasitic nematodes, as the name implies, derive their sustenance from plants, primarily the roots. But as with any parasite, their survival is dependent upon the health of their host. As we see with turfgrass, high nematode population numbers can cause significantly compromised

roots and under certain environmental conditions, can cause plant death. Microscopic in size, many of the species that affect plants are grouped by the damage they cause or by the mode in which they inflict plant injury. Sting, Lesion, Lance, Ring, Stubby root, Spiral, Cyst, and Root knot are just a few examples of how some of the most common ones are classified. They impose damage using a needle like structure called a stylet that punctures plants cells and allows them to feed on the cell contents.



Picture 1. Root-knot nematode penetrating a root. Magnified 1,800 times. Credit: USDA-ARS micrograph

Continued on page 19



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Member Profile

Between the Tees

With Heath Schesser, Sales Representative for PBI Gordon

Briefly, tell us about your family. Quick and dirty bio.

I've been married for 12 years to my lovely wife, Brooke. We've known each other since we met while attending K-State. We have two daughters, Paige (11), and Reese (9). We also have a Brussels Griffon named Charlie who was a rescue dog. We live in Gardner.

If you could do it all over again, would you change your career? To what?

I really wouldn't change anything. I thought coaching might interest me and I did coach baseball at KSU but decided to put my turf degree to use instead. I've gotten to do a lot of different things in the industry that have kept my interest. I've worked in many different aspects of the industry including golf, lawn care, sports fields, manufacturing and distributing. All those positions have really made my career interesting. I didn't stick with baseball coaching because you have to be willing to move a lot to continue to advance and make a decent living. I wasn't passionate enough about it at that point.

What advice would you give to others doing the same job you are doing?

The key to sales is being able to listen to people. A lot of the time

people in sales do all the talking. You can't help someone if you don't listen.

Who was a mentor to you and what did they teach you?

I've had a bunch, but Brett Rieck stands out. He's now PBI's Eastern Regional Manager. In the beginning I was pretty green and needed to learn how the business works. I was familiar with the products but he helped me learn more how all the market segments, companies and products work together. He is always able to answer all my questions.

Except for pay and hours worked, what one change would you make to your job to make it an even better job?

If I could eat home-cooked meals every day while on the road, then it would be better. That's the worst part, having to eat out all the time.

If you weren't in the golf industry, what other career would you choose and why?

I would love to be a professional hunter and angler.

Continued on next page

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Member Profile - cont.

Golf got it right when?

Equipment improvements over the years have made it easier for older people to continue to enjoy the game.

Golf got it wrong when?

No doubt about it, the pace at which a round of golf is played is its biggest problem. People need to know it is proper etiquette to be aware that what they are doing on the golf course is affecting others' experience. I might be a crappy golfer, but I understand that what I'm doing may be negatively influencing others.

What's you most memorable HEART event?

I really enjoy events where multiple associations come together like the MO CUP and the Joint Meeting.

What's one thing most HEART members don't know about you?

I really enjoy restoring classic cars. My dad got me into it when I was young and we still work on cars together. I've got a '57 Chevy I'm working on right now at my house. I also have a '71 Corvette. When I go to his place in Manhattan we work on a '36 Chevy pickup.

Name one thing you want to do that are too busy to undertake?

I would love to spend more time working on my '57 Chevy. I'll go months without doing anything to it. It seems like it will never be finished.

Real quick: Favorite adult beverage, college team, pro team?

Coors original, Kansas State University Wildcats, Kansas City Royals.

Perfect night out. No work tomorrow. What do you do?

Sushi with the family at Sake Lounge

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Yellow Bellied Suckers - cont.

Depending on the number and species exhibiting this behavior, above ground symptoms may or may not be visible, especially under ideal growing conditions for turf. However, when environmental stressors emerge, and the root system is not able to support the above ground plant functions, symptoms then become discernable.

Diagnosing Nematode Problems

Due to their size, diagnosing the presence of nematodes can be challenging. Unlike diagnosing turf for a disease like dollar spot, nematodes cannot be detected with the naked eye, reside underground, and require a trained individual with a microscope to properly identify and take counts. One of the most obvious indications for nematode activity involves compromised root systems. Regular monitoring of root depth throughout the season is essential to knowing what roots should look like at any given point. Deviation from that normal should be a red flag that other factors are at play. Examine roots for depth and color. White roots with numerous branched feeder hairs are signs of normal healthy growth. Dark and rotten looking roots with limited or no branching should be tested, especially if they are stubby in appearance or exhibit stunting and galls or knots are present. These are potential indicators of nematode activity and should be confirmed with a lab diagnosis.

Above ground symptoms that are commonly observed in the field include wilt, yellowing, and thinning of the canopy. Certainly not symptoms that would only be observed from nematode damage. Many times there is no discernible pattern that can definitively pinpoint damage from nematodes (Picture 2). Damage can easily be mistaken for drought stress or inefficient irrigation system operation or even other turf pest damage. One indicator that can help isolate the cause of decline in the affected area is the response (or lack thereof) of the turf to agronomic practices such as fertility, irrigation, or even pest management applications. No improvement or response to these types of inputs is a strong candidate for submitting samples to conduct a nematode assay.



Picture 2. Relatively irregular shaped pattern of nematode damage on a putting green.

Continued on next page

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Yellow Bellied Suckers - cont.

Soil texture is also another important distinction in the habitat in which nematodes prefer to reside. Sandy soils are the preferred texture and generally that points to golf putting greens in the central US. They can certainly be found in other soil types, but populations that tend to accumulate at damaging levels are typically found in sand based soils. That's not to say that native soil or modified profile greens are in the clear, especially if they have received regular sand topdressing and core aeration where sand has been backfilled for an extended period of time. Nematodes tend to move quite slowly (inches to yards/year) so once they find a suitable site, they aren't likely to go very far.

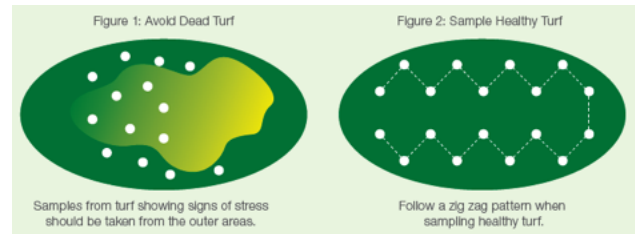
Sampling for Nematodes

The only way to accurately diagnose nematode problems is to send a soil sample to a nematode laboratory for analysis. The lab will extract the nematodes from the soil and determine if they are present at potentially damaging levels.

Both Kansas State University and the University of Missouri offer local diagnostic labs that conduct nematode assays for a reasonable fee. To find other labs, visit GreenCastOnline.com/NematodeKnowledge. When submitting a sample, follow the instructions on the respective website about sample submission.

A downloadable form is generally required to be filled out and sent with your samples.

Keep in mind that nematode populations can vary widely across the golf course, so several samples may be needed to identify problem areas. High value areas, like putting greens or tees, should be sampled individually. Larger areas, such as fairways, should be divided into about one-acre segments based on soil type or topography. If grass is showing signs of severe stress or decline, do not take samples from these areas. Nematodes can only feed on live turf, so dead or heavily damaged areas will not



provide accurate readings. Conversely, if you are attempting to establish baseline counts for reference through the season, don't sample too early in the year as that may not give a true representation of the actual population that occurs during the season. Try to sample when the turf is healthy and vigorous as this is when the nematodes will be most active.

Continued on next page

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Yellow Bellied Suckers - cont.

To collect samples for lab submission, use a soil probe and remove 15-20 samples following a zig zag pattern to gauge the average population in the area (Figure 2). Nematodes can be unevenly distributed across healthy turf, so it is important to take several samples to gain an accurate count.

Sample to the current depth of the root system: Nematodes are most abundant where active root growth is occurring. Collecting the samples too deep or too shallow may yield inaccurate results.

For more efficient sampling, bring a bucket along to deposit each core. Only combine samples from the same area of the golf course (i.e. tees, greens and fairways). Place samples in a plastic bag that can be sealed or tied to prevent drying out and to



avoid contamination. Label the bags with the area of the course the samples came from. It is important to get the samples out of the sun and into a cooler, shaded place as soon as possible. They do not need to be kept on ice, but an air-conditioned room is recommended. Placing your plastic bags into paper bags will also help protect your samples from light. Same day or next day shipping is recommended. The longer the samples are in transit, the less viable they will be.

Nematode Counts

Nematode laboratories typically report their results as the number of each nematode species per 100 cubic centimeters (ccs) or 500 ccs of soil. These results are then compared to damage thresholds established for each nematode. If one or more nematodes are above threshold levels, a nematode control program is recommended.

Although a laboratory test is necessary to diagnose nematode problems, this is not always the best way to judge the performance of a nematicide program. Turf quality and growth, response to fertilizer applications, stress and drought tolerance,

and root development are more reliable. Nematode populations can fluctuate dramatically over time, so sampling treated and untreated areas at once is the only way to determine if treatment is reducing the nematode populations. The bottom line is that nematode counts are meant as a guide for making control decisions, not for determining program success.

Chemical Nematicide Options

(From Dr. William Crow, Professor of Nematology, University of Florida webpage; For more information on nematodes visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in124#FIGURE> 11)

Compared to just 5 years ago, the turf industry has many more tools available for combating nematodes today. Dr. Billy Crow from the University of Florida is a leading expert in nematology and has written extensively on the subject. The following information is from his website and provides a very good synopsis of what newer nematicide options are available to turf managers in the marketplace. Please refer to the specimen label and directions for use for each product. Please note that not all products are referenced here due to space limitation. For more information visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in124#FIGURE> 11

Divanem® SC: The active ingredient in Divanem is abamectin, a pesticide originally isolated from a soil bacterium. Abamectin binds to thatch and organic matter, so it works best against nematodes that inhabit the thatch and upper soil layer, particularly root-knot nematodes, although it can help manage other types of nematodes as well. The maximum labeled rate is 12.2 fluid ounces per acre, with a maximum yearly total of 50 fluid ounces per acre. Divanem is a restricted use pesticide labeled for golf course greens, tees, and fairways (no roughs) only. In University of Florida trials Divanem has performed well when either applied four times at 4-week intervals at 12.2 fluid ounces per acre or eight times at 2-week intervals at 6.1 fluid ounces per acre. For best results, it is recommended that Divanem be tank-mixed with a soil penetrant for application and that it be irrigated with up to ¼-inch of water immediately after application. Tine-aerifying before application can also help move abamectin deeper into the soil profile.

Indemnify®: The active ingredient of Indemnify nematicide is fluopyram, which is also an SDHI fungicide. Indemnify is very effective against most of the nematodes that damage turfgrasses in Florida and is labeled for all turf uses, including golf course, athletic field, sod, and lawn. Unlike other nematicides it has very long residual activity and can provide nematode suppression for months after application. The maximum broadcast rate for Indemnify is 0.39 fluid ounces per acre per year. However, areas

Continued on next page

Yellow Bellied Suckers - cont.

of 10,000 ft² or less may be “spot-treated” up to 4 times per year at 0.39 fluid ounces. Because of its fungicide activity, Indemnify should be considered in the FRAC group 7 for resistance management. While Indemnify has provided excellent control of root-knot, sting, and other nematodes, in University of Florida trials, it has not been shown effective against lance nematode.

Nimitz® Pro G: The active ingredient in Nimitz Pro G is fluensulfone, a nematicide in its own chemical class. This formulation is a granular product applied to the turf surface using a spreader and then moved into the soil with irrigation. Fluensulfone has both contact and systemic activity, so it is effective against nematodes in soil and inside roots. Nimitz is labeled for all turf uses, including golf course, athletic field, and lawn. A maximum of 240 pounds per acre per year may be applied, but this can be broken up into multiple applications of lower doses. In University of Florida trials best results have been achieved with either 4 monthly applications of 60 pounds per acre or 3 monthly applications of 80 pounds per acre.

In closing, the days of broad-spectrum nematicides with long soil residuals, like Nemacur, are gone. You simply can't control all turf nematodes with one application per year using the products currently available. Turf managers should think about nematodes

similarly to fungal diseases like dollar spot or brown patch. Once they are present in your location, they are going to be a persistent problem over time. Keeping them under control requires a programmatic approach involving multiple applications throughout the year to keep the populations in check. Just like fungicides, the best product selection can depend on the spectrum of nematode present in your location. Having a plan in place, that is anything but “yellow bellied”.



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