



The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 18 Issue 3

Founded ~ April 11, 1939

June 2011

June Meeting

Heritage Hills Golf Resort

Tuesday June 14, 2011

Education - 10:00 AM

Lunch - 11:00 AM

Golf - 12:00 PM Shotgun

Hors d'oeuvres/Cash Bar - following Golf

*There will be a CPGCSA Board of Directors Meeting
at 8:00 AM*

This meeting is sponsored by

Allan Dufoe and FMC.

Golf Course Profile

Heritage Hills Golf Course is perfect for both the mental and physical golfer. Heritage Hills was constructed in 1988 and opened for play in 1989. Russell Roberts, the architect was from Gaithersburg, Md. This course is a classic course designed to test experienced players and casual players alike with its beautifully maintained fairways, native shrubbery and cool waterways. The greens are the backdrop to this 18-hole championship course spread across nearly 6500 yards of rolling terrain. Besides golf, Heritage Hills has miniature golf, two restaurants, snow tubing over the winter months, and is used as a popular wedding destination.

Grant Huffman is the Golf Course Superintendent.

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Mid-Atlantic USGA Update

Proactive Measures Are Needed To Prepare For The Summer

By Keith Happ
June 6, 2011

With all of the rain over the Mid-Atlantic Region the last several weeks, the last thing turfgrass managers needed was a shift to instant summer conditions. Highs in the mid-90's have exposed turf areas that have been weakened by spring rains. Active *Pythium* (a water mold most active when it is hot, humid and wet) developed, shallow root systems are suffering, the turf has begun to change color, and growth has slowed. It may seem a bit counter-intuitive, but the weak grass will require close attention with hand-held irrigation. Wilting grass has already been seen at several Turf Advisory Service visitations in recent weeks, and we have had only a few days of very hot weather.



High daytime temperatures have produced some changes in the appearance of the turf, but don't assume that yellowing grass is just a response to the heat. This photo shows classic effects of Annual Bluegrass Weevil activity.

Turf managers who have completed aeration -- venting with small-diameter coring or solid tine procedures -- have good internal and surface drainage and are tolerating the weather changes well. Turf managers who have had to react are already struggling. Weaker bio-types of *Poa annua* are wilting, and the goal now should be to maintain surface density first and playability second. Trying to do too much early in the season could create problems later in the growing season.

Significant populations of Annual Bluegrass Weevils (ABW) are now active during Turf Advisory Service visit. It seems as though we are about two weeks behind 2010 activity. First, instar damage has already been observed, and the

.....Continued on page 4.....

President's Message

Greetings all.

What a great time we had at Reading CC! If you weren't there, then sorry about your bad luck. The hospitality from every staff was terrific. The food was fantastic! And saving the best for last, Brain Ahrens and his staff had the golf course in very fine condition!

Despite two quick showers, most of us finished our rounds. Showers? Now that is something different! Enough of that talk, back to golf: I was fortunate enough to get to play with two gentlemen that I have never had the opportunity to play. Even with Ted Zabrenski shoving it in my face that he outdrove me, I had a blast! And on the long drive hole, which I hit a good drive, Stuart Hartman and Ted went up to the marker, seeing it was Dave Weitzel's drive, said "oh, you must be way down here, since he's a more experienced guy than you", only to find my ball some 5 yards *behind* his drive. Then Dan Davis really bringing me down to size with the "chalk one up for the old guys" comment, it still was a day to treasure!

I need to thank a few people who sponsored our event. Dave Schell from BASF was our primary sponsor. Rich Gdovin from Andre and Sons and Brad Helcoski from Atlantic Irrigation sponsored the golf awards. Phil Easton from Agrium Advanced Technologies sponsored and drove around the beverage cart. Thank you gentlemen for the financial assistance you provided.

Dr. Mike Fianza was our guest speaker. He was introduced as being our friend. But after the 90 question test, or excuse me, assessment he provided us, well, he is... still our friend! Thanks Dr. Mike for showing us how much we have forgotten!

The fertilizer bill is winding down the discussions before it is sent to the House. Thanks to Phil Easton for keeping us abreast of the situations as they developed throughout. Also thanks to Steve Ludwig for informing us on other State issues.

Our next meeting will be at Heritage Hill Golf Resort on Tuesday June 14th. Grant Huffman will be our host. Mark your calendars and come out to the York area for some fun in the sun. I hope! Maybe you can be the next golfer to knock it by this fast-fading has been. The only way to find out is to be there.

Until then, I hope you are well and Mother Nature is kind to us.

Faron Stoops

President

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Happy Father's Day



We may not shower him with praise
Nor mention his name in song,
And sometimes it seems that we forget
The joy he spreads as he goes along,
But it doesn't mean that we don't know
The wonderful role that he has had.
And away down deep in every heart
There's a place that is just for Dad....

Author Unknown

Membership News

The following individual has applied for membership into our association. If there are no written objections within the next seven days, he will be accepted into CPGCSA at the next meeting.

Matthew N. Kessler Class AF
VP of Operations, Genesis Turfgrass Inc.

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Tim Hill at 717-336-3847.

Membership information is also available on the Central Penn website at:
www.cpgcsa.org

Directions to Heritage Hills Golf Resort

- From Points North (Harrisburg):**
Take I-83 south to Exit 18, Mount Rose Avenue. At the exit, turn left onto Mount Rose Avenue (Route 124 East). Proceed for 1 mile to the resort located on the right.
- From Points South (Baltimore):**
Take I-83 north to Exit 18, Mount Rose Avenue. Off the exit bear to the right and proceed for 1 mile to the resort located on the right.
- From Points West (Gettysburg):**
Take Route 30 East to I-83 South. Follow I-83 South to Exit 18, Mount Rose Avenue. At the exit traffic light, turn left onto Mount Rose Avenue (Route 124 East). Proceed for 1 mile to the resort located on the right.
- From Points East (Lancaster):**
Take Route 30 West to Columbia/York. Follow Route 30 West to the Mount Zion Road exit. Take the Mount Zion Road exit to the traffic light. At the traffic light turn left and continue south approximately 2 miles (7 traffic lights) to Prospect Road (Route 124 West). Turn right, proceed for 1/4 mile to the resort located on the left.

Heritage Hills Golf Resort
2700 Mt. Rose Avenue
York, PA 17042



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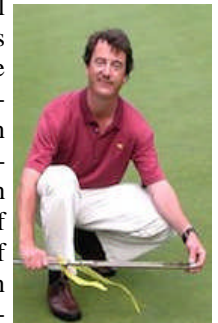
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June Speaker Profile

Our speaker this month is Max Schlossberg Ph.D., Associate Professor of Turfgrass Nutrition/Soil Fertility at Penn State University. Max's current research objective is to maximize fertilizer use efficiency in turfgrass systems. Current projects include evaluation of cultural practices for accelerated treatment of acid soil complex, characterization of organic and inorganic soil amendment of turfgrass root zones, and development of soil sampling, analysis, and interpretation protocol on the basis of site and management-specific parameters.



Future research directions include soil hydrophobicity causes, identification, and remediation, and transport modeling of nutrients in natural and constructed turfgrass soil systems. He also teaches Turfgrass Nutrition in the 2 and 4-year programs.

“The Constitution only guarantees you the right to pursue happiness. You have to catch it yourself.”

~ Benjamin Franklin

USGAcontinued from Page 1

grub populations have emerged from the crowns of *Poa annua* plants. In fact, callow adults have been seen on collars and edges of greens, with generation overlap in some areas of the region. It will be important to monitor population activity for all stages of ABW development. Larvacide and/or adulticide sprays will be necessary. This will be the only way to minimize damage and prevent damage in the future.

NOTE: damage from this insect is now occurring throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions, including the mountains of western North Carolina. Don't take wilting grass for granted; dig into the soil and look for this insect pest, or use one of the soapy water techniques to flush the insects out of the soil.

Most superintendents who had problems with summer patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) on greens, fairways or bluegrass rough, should start preventative treatment regimes. Soil temperatures at the two-inch depth of 65 F or greater for four to five days, will allow this soil-inhabiting pathogen to infect the root systems of susceptible grasses. Product application must be placed where it will be effective, and fungicides must reach the root systems to protect the turf.

Although it is still spring on the calendar, now is the time to monitor maintenance activity and control physical damage. Machinery operations, height of cut on greens, spray overlap with plant protectants and/or fertilizers, and watering techniques are all elements of turf management that allow the turf to be presented in a desired manner or create stresses that could lead to damage later in the season. Don't take anything for granted, and don't rush even the most simple elements of course preparation. Take full advantage of every teaching moment to improve techniques to help sustain grass health.

As always, remember that the agronomists of the Mid-Atlantic Region are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, especially now, give us a call or send an e-mail. You may contact the agronomists of the Mid Atlantic Region, Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) or Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 601-558-9066 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412-341-5922.

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April Showers Bring...More Rain In May

By Darin S. Bevard, USGA Mid-Atlantic Region
May 18, 2011

The spring weather continues to provide challenges. Milder temperatures have been the rule, which has been great for turfgrass growth. However, frequent rainfall events are making golf course grooming difficult in many parts of the Mid-Atlantic Region. Complaints about thick, difficult rough and inconsistent green speed have been prevalent in recent visits. For most golfers, common sense tells them why these issues are present, but it does not do much to ease their frustration. Many good golf days have been washed out, and when they can get out on the course, they are met with less than perfect conditions because maintenance staffs cannot groom the golf course on a routine basis. Be patient, and realize that just about everybody is in the same situation, and soon enough, we will probably experience long stretches of dry weather. It just seems that our weather has been the average of extremes in the last few years!

Poa annua seedhead control measures are beginning to wear off. Even through the best-timed applications, there will be a small flush of seedheads that will affect playability for a period of time. Remember, even under research conditions where applications are made to small plots on a single green, 90% seedhead reduction is the very best control achieved. On a golf course that has eighteen different growing environments for its greens, control levels much lower than this should be expected. Complaints of seedhead control "not working" should be evaluated carefully. If you don't think these programs have worked, try not applying seedhead control next spring, and your opinion may change. Most of the treated greens that we have seen have achieved a good level of control, although some are better than others, even on a given golf course. Our expectations for what can be achieved with any agronomic strategy must be realistic, just as expectations of golfers for daily playing conditions must also be realistic.

In the southern portion of our region, bermudagrass is growing aggressively and fairway playing conditions are improving rapidly. If your golf course is overseeded with perennial ryegrass, if you choose to spray out the overseeding with a herbicide for a more rapid transition to base bermudagrass, the time is getting near for these applications. Spring dead spot continues to be a major nuisance on many bermudagrass fairways, and it seems that virtually every variety of bermudagrass is being affected. Fungicide treatments in the late summer and early fall will help to reduce spring dead spot activity and speed healing in the spring. If your bermudagrass fairways are heavily affected by spring dead spot, fall fungicide treatments may be an option to improve spring playability. Please call our office if you are interested in additional information on spring dead spot.

The Mid-Atlantic Regional agronomists are part of your agronomic support team. If you have a question or concern, give us a call or send an e-mail. You can reach Stan Zontek (szontek@usga.org) and Darin Bevard (dbevard@usga.org) at 610/ 558-9066 or Keith Happ (khapp@usga.org) at 412/ 341-5922.

2011 Annual Meeting and Elections

The September 29th meeting at Hanover Country Club will be the Annual Meeting with election of officers and directors for the 2012 meeting year. We are currently accepting nominations for positions on the Board of Directors.

If interested in running for a board position, please contact Donald G. Dodson at 410-527-3307 or ddodson392@aol.com.

For Your Information

If you have any information that you would like included in the July newsletter, please e-mail information to Wanda at cpgcsa@hotmail.com

or mail to

1594 Cumberland Street #250, Lebanon, PA 17042

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be lived to be understood."*

~ Helen Keller



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2011 CPGCSA Meeting Schedule

June 14	Heritage Hills Golf Resort
July 26	Applecross Country Club Joint Meeting - hosted by Phila AGCS
August	Social Event
September 29	Hanover Country Club Annual Meeting/Golf Championship
October 20	Carlisle Country Club Super/Pro/GM/AF Tournament



The Green Sheet

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Inside This Issue

June 2011 Meeting Information
