



The Green Sheet

Central Pennsylvania Golf Course Superintendents Association

Volume 25 Issue 6

Founded ~ April 11, 1939

September 2018

October Meeting

Moccasin Run Golf Club

402 Schoff Road
Atglen, PA 19310

October 2, 2018

Breakfast by Syngenta - 9:30 AM

Registration - 10:00 AM

Speaker - 10:30 AM

Lunch - 11:30 AM

Golf - 12:30 PM Shotgun

Cash Bar/Hors d'oeuvres - Following Golf

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

Superintendent Profile

Curtis G. King began his golf career in 1986, when asked by his father if he would quit a construction business and come on board with a family business. At this time of his life he had played golf once. Being raised on the family farm, playing in the dirt was nothing new, but shaping a golf course was. Curt graduated in 1982 from Hesston Kansas with a two year flight degree. Curt purchased the family golf course business in 2006. Curt is now getting ready to hand over the gavel as Superintendent to Brian Reardon who just started as Assistant in February.

Course Profile

Moccasin Run Golf Course was built in 1986 by Paul King and a few of his sons. Clubhouse renovations were done in the winter of 2013-2014 and later in 2015 they purchased a liquor license. The latest addition was a Pavilion/Cart Storage which was renovated into what is now called the Carriage Barn which will host events and wedding receptions.

Turfgrass Diseases Flourish as Rain and High Humidity Persist Throughout Pennsylvania

September 9, 2018 in [Articles](#), [Research](#)
Submitted by Pete Landschoot

Plant pathologists often remind us that, in nature, diseases are the exception rather than the rule, and periods of intense disease activity are generally short-lived. However, as rainfall continues to saturate Pennsylvania golf courses, lawns, and sports fields into early September, diseases seem to be the rule rather than the exception in some areas. Earlier in the year we reported on mowing injury, Microdochium patch, leaf spot, and summer patch of putting greens ([see: 'Wet Weather and Diseases Create Problems on Pennsylvania Golf Courses' Penn State Turfgrass, June 17, 2018](#)). At that time, no one knew this would be the rainiest summer on record and that these and other diseases would continue to plague golf courses, lawns, and sport turf into September.

Throughout July and August, dollar spot, brown patch, and Pythium blight damaged turf in just about every region of Pennsylvania. Kentucky bluegrass lawns were particularly hard hit with dollar spot in the central part of the state, and some may require reseeding this fall. Bentgrass fairways, tees, and greens suffered considerable dollar spot infestations as well. Even tall fescue, the most dollar spot-tolerant cool-season turfgrass species, showed softball-sized spots and foliar lesions in lawns during periods of high humidity.



Kentucky bluegrass lawn showing extensive dollar spot damage in late July of 2018 (Photo by Pete Landschoot).

Throughout most of this summer, brown patch and Pythium blight ravaged susceptible turf stands that were not protected by fungicides in central and southeast Pennsylvania. Whereas both diseases are triggered by moisture and heat, excessively

.....continued on Page 2.....

Turfgrass Diseases Flourish.....continued from Page 1.....

wet conditions can sometimes overrule high temperatures as a predisposing factor. This appeared to be the case this year as brown patch and Pythium blight were able to kill turf during periods of relatively moderate temperatures.

In addition to golf courses and lawns, sports turf facilities were subject to a variety of diseases and other wet-weather related problems this summer. We received several Kentucky bluegrass samples from baseball fields with classic summer patch symptoms, including “frog-eye” patterns and crown/root rotting. Summer patch is difficult and expensive to control with fungicides, and by the time patches appear in turf, it’s often too late to treat. The most practical means of recovery is overseeding affected areas with perennial ryegrass or tall fescue. Both species are highly resistant to summer patch and germinate and establish quickly.

Another problem that emerged in July was etiolated tiller syndrome (AKA: “mad tiller”). Although not technically a disease (or at least we don’t think it’s a disease), this cosmetic problem tends to occur during extended periods of overcast conditions and wet weather. Symptoms of etiolated tiller syndrome include rapid leaf elongation and yellowing of individual ryegrass and bluegrass plants. In most cases, etiolated tiller syndrome is sporadic, affecting only a few plants within a given area. Several theories exist concerning the cause(s) of etiolated tiller syndrome, including fungi, bacteria, growth regulators, magnesium deficiency, genetically regulated production of gibberellic acid in response to low light conditions, and others. Unfortunately, no one has been able to nail down the exact cause of etiolated tiller syndrome on turfgrass, and, until we do, control measures remain elusive.

Although I have never observed significant turf loss due to etiolated tiller syndrome, tiller elongation can be unsightly, and, in some cases, result in increased mowing costs due to rapid growth. At least two reports indicate reduced etiolated tiller syndrome symptoms following applications of certain DMI fungicides (Fidanza et al. 2008 and Miller, 2011), but to my knowledge, no fungicide is labelled for suppression or control of etiolated tiller syndrome.



Etiolated tiller syndrome symptoms of bluegrass/ryegrass soccer field in central PA during July of 2018 (Photos by Pete Landschoot).

On the positive side, we have not observed disease activity associated with dry soils this summer, such as rust or Type-I fairy ring symptoms. However, we have a few more weeks of warm weather ahead, and it seems that anything is possible this year.

References:

Fidanza, M., J. Gregos, and D. Brickley. 2008. Are etiolated tillers a visual nuisance or something else? *Golfdom (Turfgrass Trends)*. October issue p. 60-64. <http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/golfd/article/2008oct60.pdf>

Miller, L. 2011. Crazy tillers. University of Missouri Turf Pathology. https://turfpath.missouri.edu/reports/2011/update6_13_11.htm

President
Brian L. Ahrens
Reading Country Club
610-779-8888
brian@readingcountryclub.com

Vice President
Jeff Green
Carlisle Barracks Golf Course
717-243-3262
jeffreygreen2011@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer
Barry Bollinger
Rich Valley Golf
717-691-8805
turfdpa@yahoo.com

Past President/Social
Rebecca Clark
Colonial Golf & Tennis Club
717-545-5593
turfgr103@aol.com

Directors
Cody Frederick
LedgeRock Golf Club
610-777-9890
chody87@yahoo.com

Joshua Hampton
Hershey Country Club
717-508-1772
jghampton@hersheypa.com

Kevin Mark
Carlisle Country Club
717-243-7569
kem5031@gmail.com

Chris Martin
Crossgates Golf Club
717-872-7415
ckmartin@crossgatesgolf.com

Affiliates
Don Dodson
ddodson392@aol.com

Thomas Mahute
tmahute@fisherandson.com

Executive Director/Newsletter Editor
Wanda S. Fry
717- 279-0368
cpgeca@hotmail.com

PAST PRESIDENTS

George Morris
Ed Tabor
Riley E. Heckert
Richard T. Funk
Harry L. Latshaw
Daniel L. Snowberger
Charles A. Barley
Richard Wilt
Fred N. Baker
Richard J. Suttles
John J. Boyd
Y. Lewis Payson
C. William Black, CGCS
Dwight H. Brubaker
Byron F. Knoll
Michael Wilt
Charles H. Cadiz, CGCS
Kenneth R. Dietrich, CGCS
Michael C. Hair
Cameron G. Henderson
James N. MacLaren
David P. Portz, CGCS
John P. McCormick
David C. Weitzel, CGCS
Fred Heinlen
Terry L. Wueschinski, CGCS
Greg Borzok
Gregory C. Fantuzzi, CGCS
James W. Jones
William G. Wall
Robert Beyer, CGCS
Jeffrey L. Fry, CGCS
John A. Chassard
David M. Rafferty
Anthony P. Goodley, CGCS
Samuel R. Snyder, CGCS
John Dougherty
H. Jim Loke, CGCS
John L. Gehman
Theodore S. Zabrenski
Thomas C. Oceppek, CGCS
Daniel W. Achenbach
William E. Brooks
William P. Ramsey
Faron J. Stoops
John M. Colo
Daniel Brickley
Matthew W. Strader
Stephen J. Ludwig, CGCS
Faron J. Stoops
Barry Bollinger
Rebecca Matis Clark
Alan FitzGerald
Chad Oxenreider

Membership News

We would like to welcome the following individual into our association.

Marc Campbell, Superintendent
Class FM..... Liberty Forge Hospitality, Inc

If you know of anyone who is interested in membership into the association, please have them contact Wanda at 717-279-0368 or cpgcsa@hotmail.com.

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

Our thoughts and prayers go out to CPGCSA Past President John Colo on the loss of his wife.

Margaret "Peggy" J. Colo, 58 of Hobe Sound, FL passed away Monday, September 10, 2018 at her home with her family near her side .Peggy was born March 29, 1960 in Kilkee, County Clare, Ireland. She was the daughter of Patrick Joseph and Christina Greene Haugh. In 1984 when she was 24 years old she moved to the United States, staying with family in Flushing, NY. Peggy enjoyed dancing, it was during this past time that she met her true love, John M. Colo. They were married March 7, 1998 in her hometown in Ireland. Soon after marriage the couple moved to Lancaster, PA and resided there until December 2015 when they moved to Hobe Sound. Peggy was a massage therapist and zumba instructor. She also enjoyed volunteering at her children's schools. Her warm and friendly smile will be missed by her family, her close girlfriends and those whose lives she touched along her journey. Peggy is survived by her beloved husband of 20 years, John; loving sons, Robert (17) and Kevin (15); mother, Christina Haugh, Ireland; brother, James Haugh, Ireland; sisters, Marian McCarthy, Ireland and Carmel Muldoon, Ireland; aunt and five cousins living in NY. She was preceded in death by her father, Patrick Joseph Haugh.

Visitation will be 5 PM to 8 PM, Friday, September 14, 2018 at Treasure Coast Seawinds Funeral Home, 950 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34994. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 AM, Saturday, September 15, 2018 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1200 SE 10th St, Stuart, FL 34996 with a reception to follow.

[Lifting Up the Family of Peggy Colo](#)

TURF EQUIPMENT
AND SUPPLY COMPANY

One Team, Many Solutions

Your full line vendor for
Golf Course Maintenance Equipment and Golf Irrigation.

www.turf-equipment.com
800.827.3711

TORO
Count on it.

Commercial Equipment	Golf Irrigation
Craig Esbenschade - 717.723.1287 craigesbenschade@turf-equipment.com	George Skawski - 610.554.9366 georgeskawski@turf-equipment.com
Mike Huey - 443.896.7172 mikehuey@turf-equipment.com	Mike Johnston - 410.227.2491 mikejohnston@turf-equipment.com

Penn State Golf Turf Conference

Early Bird! Registration Deadline: Friday, November 9, 2018
Advance Registration Deadline: Sunday, November 11, 2018

When

Tue., Nov. 13, 2018 (8:00 AM - 4:30 PM)
Wed., Nov. 14, 2018 (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)
Thu., Nov. 15, 2018 (9:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

Where

The Nittany Lion Inn
200 West Park Ave.
University Park, PA 16802

This year's conference will feature a special Preconference Seminar by **Dr. David McCall** from Virginia Tech entitled, "Closer to Reality: Drones and Site-Specific Management on Your Golf Course." Also featured is Keynote Speaker **Rodney Smith, Jr.**, Founder of Raising Men Lawn Care Service, who will speak about his nonprofit and goal to inspire to youth to serve in their community. Other features include a Job Fair (exhibitors welcome), Turf Club Luncheon, and Open Reception.

TRUE PERFORMANCE

TURFGRASS PROGRAM



WE'VE STUDIED THE SCIENCE AND DONE OUR HOMEWORK

A unique putting green management program based on independent university research that effectively manages stress and delivers nutrients, featuring Country Club MD granular and Emerald Isle liquid products.

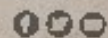


10% rebate on the total purchase price of the program

Visit LebanonTurf.com



Best of all Worlds®
www.LebanonTurf.com 1-800-233-0628



The Costs Of A Wet Summer

September 7, 2018

By Paul Jacobs, Agronomist, USGA Northeast Region

This summer has been characterized by frequent and at times heavy rain, frustrating golfers and superintendents alike. Following rain events, playing conditions will be softer and slower than usual. Bunkers also may get washed out and disease activity rises, all while pressure mounts to reopen the course as soon as possible. Let's not forget the tough decision of whether to allow carts on the course. Do these challenges sound familiar?

There are many obvious effects of a wet summer – most of which have a negative impact on playability – but for superintendents, the cost of a wet summer doesn't stop when the rain has passed.

Disease pressure has been extremely high for extended periods of time this year. When environmental conditions are ideal for disease development, fungicides often must be applied to prevent infection and subsequent turf decline. Application intervals have been tightened this summer because of the heavy disease pressure, resulting in additional applications and more money spent on fungicides. In many instances, courses are struggling with disease outbreaks because the soils were too wet to make timely applications or they could not afford the extra fungicides. For courses struggling with disease damage, recovery with aeration and seeding may be required.



Turf in low-lying, poorly drained areas can succumb to saturated soil conditions and high temperatures.

Pest management must always include an integrated approach that combines cultural and chemical practices. Consider the following cultural practices to reduce disease severity:

- Anthracnose – Disease severity is elevated at low mowing heights and under limited nitrogen programs. During optimal weather for anthracnose, raising the height of cut and slightly increasing nitrogen application rates will lessen the severity of the disease. Light and frequent sand topdressing will also reduce disease severity.
- Dollar spot – This disease is one of the most problematic and costly in the Northeast. It is often the target of most fungicide applications. Cultural control efforts include lightweight rolling, maintaining adequate fertility and soil moisture and reducing the duration of leaf wetness. Fortunately, plant breeding efforts have produced several [turf varieties that are resistant to dollar spot](#). These varieties are performing well in research trials and on golf courses throughout the Northeast.

Drainage problems have been highlighted at many courses this year. Many low-lying areas with poor surface drainage have suffered turf loss due to prolonged periods of saturated soil conditions and high heat.

Weed pressure, particularly from crabgrass, nutsedge and kyllinga, also has been increasing throughout the last couple of weeks. This spring's severe temperature fluctuations made it difficult to time preemergence applications. Further, plentiful rain and high heat this summer has expedited the breakdown of herbicides. So, what is the cost of increased weed pressure? More labor hours will likely be spent manually removing weeds or making spot treatments with postemergence herbicides this year. Otherwise, there will likely be increased weed pressure next year because of the seeds deposited into the soil by this year's large weed populations.

Managing greens, tees and fairways can be more expensive during periods of increased environmental stress. However, one of the most labor-intensive and expensive areas to maintain during periods of wet weather doesn't even grow.

Bunkers are often maintained to meet high expectations, which is achieved through regular raking and frequent trimming and cleaning. Bunkers may also require extra labor for maintenance due to their design. In some cases, more labor hours are spent each day [preparing bunkers](#) than putting greens.

.....continued on Page 7.....



Compact Tractors

Request a Demo Today!

www.lawn-golf.com

610.933.5801



4500Z Tractor

Your *One* Tractor *Solution*

With Over 25 Easy to Use Attachments!



Lawn and Golf

More Than the Logo! **supply co. inc.**

**Turf Management • Debris / Snow / Ice Removal • Soil / Site Preparation
 Specialty Attachments • Multi-Purpose Vehicles • Pre-Owned Equipment
 Golf Course Supplies • Equipment Service • Seed, Fertilizer / Chemicals
 Government Contracts • Financing Solutions • Parts & Service**



Equipment, PARTS, SERVICE and Over 80 Years of Experience!

www.lawn-golf.com 610.933.5801 647 Nutt. Rd. Phoenixville, PA 19460

**Golf Course Superintendents Association of America**

1421 Research Park Drive • Lawrence, KS 66049-3858 • 800.472.7878

SBA Hosts Regulatory Reform Roundtable

I recently attended a Small Business Administration (SBA) Regulatory Reform Roundtable, at which small business representatives were afforded an opportunity to share their stories of how regulatory policy has affected small business. Approximately 50 attendees showed up to voice opinions, heard by a panel of representatives from the SBA Office of Advocacy. The conversation was interactive, and the panel listened deliberately, answered questions, and offered insights and follow up on presented matters.

The SBA Office of Advocacy is an internal office of the SBA and serves as the independent voice for small business within the federal government. In a nutshell, this office advocates on behalf of small business to ensure their regulatory feedback is noted. As part of their mission, the Office of Advocacy hosts roundtables across the country to gain valuable insights from small businesses in the field. Through the follow up process, the office has specialists who engage with the businesses that bring forth concerns, making sure that the office understands the concern so that it can be addressed within the context and conversation of regulatory reform.

Industries showed up from manufacturing, transportation, construction, environmental engineering, cyber security, and others. As one individual brought up concerns regarding the WOTUS (Waters of the United States) rule, it provided an easy segue for me to speak of similar challenges within golf, citing the ambiguity of the definition of WOTUS and consequential lack of understanding of how the rule will be enforced. Likewise, I spoke to the industry's challenges with labor shortages across the country, as well as industry use of the H-2B visa program. And one thing is for certain, we are not the only industry struggling to find labor.

The office defines small business as fewer than 500 employees, thereby including nearly all golf course venues. While GCSAA's Grassroots Ambassadors program serves as a voice for representation within regulatory policy, the SBA Office of Advocacy can also help our industry, and have regional advocates across the country with which you can connect. Find more information at the SBA Office of Advocacy website at www.sba.gov/advocacy.

I learned that one of President Trump's early policies on regulatory reform included a mandate to eliminate two federal regulations for every one new federal regulation imposed, which is a strategy to help small business growth. One of the most intriguing concerns that highlighted why the SBA Office of Advocacy is so important for considering the ramifications of regulations on small businesses was concerns over an issue with a change-order for the manufacturing of U.S. Naval Academy pea coats. Turns out, the change-order will switch to synthetic jackets that will hurt U.S. small-business manufacturing, including the production of wool required for the classic pea coats used in the past. Furthermore, the classic wool pea coats worn by officers are much more flame and heat resistant than their incumbent synthetic version, further puzzling the decision to make this switch. This meeting was a great learning experience.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chau Ryan".

GCSAA is dedicated to serving its members, advancing their profession, and enhancing the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.

The Cost of a Wet Summer...continued from Page 5

When heavy rain events cause bunker washouts, bunker maintenance becomes even more costly. Sand that washes down from bunker faces must be repositioned, and poorly draining bunkers may need to be pumped out. When washouts occur, sand also can become contaminated and may ultimately need to be replaced.

Repeatedly repairing washouts is costly and discouraging for maintenance crews because it is so labor intensive. If repeated heavy rains are forecast, it may be best to wait to repair bunkers until all the bad weather has passed.

There is no quick fix for these problems, and facilities with poorly performing bunkers are faced with difficult decisions. Either they can spend the money to rebuild bunkers and improve drainage, making them less expensive to maintain in the long run, or they can continue to spend large sums of money on labor and repairs while struggling to maintain bunker performance.

Superintendents are forced to balance turf health, playability and their budgets. This balancing act is never easy. Wet seasons, like we are experiencing this year, certainly add to the challenge.



October Meeting Sponsors



**WALKER
SUPPLY INC.**

Turf & Ornamental Supplier Since 1991

Education

Syngenta

Food

Lawn & Golf Course Supply
Finch Services

Hole Sponsor

Golf Cart Services
Turf Equipment Supply

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.

EwingIrrigation.com | 800.343.9464



Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



**WALKER
SUPPLY INC.**

Turf & Ornamental Supplier Since 1991



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



**2019 Winter
Educational Meeting**

January 28, 2019

**Country Club of
Harrisburg**



The Green Sheet

1314 Porter Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504
cpgcsa@hotmail.com
www.cpgcsa.org

