



The Sand Blaster



VOL. XXIII, ISSUE V

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

DEDICATED TO MANAGING GOLF COURSES ... from the ground up

Alternative to PCNB in 2012

Written by Geunbwa Jung and Jay Popko

Recently (8-19-11), the chief judge for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia granted the American Vanguard Corporation's motion to vacate the Stop Sale, Use, or Removal Order of pentachloronitrobenzene (PCNB) that was filed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency last August, 2010. The press release that announced this information can be found at the following location:

<http://www.amvac-chemical.com/NewsMedia/PressReleases/2011PressReleases/August192011/tabid/153/Default.aspx>

In brief, this means that PCNB will be available for sale for turfgrass us at some point; however, a timetable for the distribution of PCNB to the turf market has not been established. Since the details remain unclear on availability, the best course of action is to contact your local sales representative for further information on availability. Therefore, we are preparing advice for 2011 snow mold applications without PCNB.

We are dividing our 2011 snow mold information into two groups: low disease pressure (less than 90 days snow cover) and high disease pressure (more than 90 days snow cover). The grouping designation was created because different snow mold species occur under different snow cover conditions. Pink snow mold or *Microdochium* patch (caused by *Microdochium nivale*) can occur during the winter with or without snow cover or during cool (32-60 °F), wet periods when turfgrass growth is very slow. This disease tends to be more prevalent in shady areas. Areas that receive extended snow cover (90 days or more) are more likely to face damage from both gray snow mold or *Typhula* blight (caused by *Typhula incarnata* and *Typhula isbikariensis*) and *Microdochium* patch. Both *Typhula* causal agents require snow cover to infect turfgrass and increase in severity proportionally with length of snow cover.

Low disease pressure (less than 90 days snow cover)

For areas that face lower disease pressure (less than 90 days snow cover), snow mold applications should focus on controlling *Microdochium* patch and *T. incarnata*. In general, applications that include multiple active ingredients at the highest label rates are the most effective. If rates are reduced or one active ingredient is applied, some reduction in control can be expected. Rates should be chosen according to the label and the importance of the turfgrass area. Areas such as fairways can generally tolerate higher amounts of damage and taller grasses will recover faster from the damage.

Although the single active ingredients listed below are capable of controlling snow molds at various levels under low disease pressure, a single active ingredient for snow mold control, especially on putting greens, is not recommended. Single active ingredients are appropriate for areas that have lower disease control expectations such as fairways and tee boxes. This is entirely dependent on the amount of snow mold damage that can be tolerated. Past experiences with snow mold control have shown that a single active ingredient will control snow molds under low disease pressure. However, the amount and length of snow cover in New England is so variable that using a single active ingredient is like playing snow mold roulette.

Fungicide classes or active ingredients are listed in alphabetical order:

- Chlorothalonil
- DMI (Fenarimol, Metconazole, Myclobutanil, Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, Tridimefon, and Triticonazole)
- Fludioxonil
- Flutolanil
- Iprodione
- Mancozeb

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The Sand Blaster is produced bi-monthly as an informational service to its members. Printed material does not suggest the views, attitudes or recommended practices of GCSACC, the board members or its associated committees. Industry-related articles are always welcome to be considered for publication. Articles, as well as address and/or position changes, may be sent to Julie Heston at 401-934-4440 (fax) or jheston@verizon.net.



President's Message

Dear Fellow Members,

I hope all is well with everyone. As I write this, it seems like this is the year that just won't end! Temps for the month of October are above normal. There has been adequate rainfall and without a good, hard frost yet, (at least on the Cape) it may as well be the beginning of September. The "mowers" as well as the "sprayer" continue to go out on a regular basis. At least, it's great golfing weather!



Talking about golfing, what a great time we had at our September meeting at Eastward Ho! Many thanks to Frank and Peter for a terrific golf course and to everyone else at Eastward Ho! for making our day so enjoyable.

Our association championship was to be held at Cranberry Valley. We did have a business meeting, but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate for golf. So Dave Robinson and Atlantic C.C. will host our championship at the November meeting. Even though I could not make it to Cranberry Valley, I heard Shawn Fernandez and his staff worked tremendously hard to have it ready for us. It is hard to believe that our last two consecutive meetings at Cranberry Valley got rained out. Third time will be lucky-right Shawn? Special thanks to Shawn's wife, Antonella and her staff for a great job with the food.

Too bad the N. E. Championship at Samoset Maine had to be canceled due to weather. I know Steve Gregg had a great team put together. There is always next year.

Just a few things to note: our annual meeting will be coming up on December 8th at White Cliffs and our holiday dinner is being planned for Sunday, December 11th. Please keep these events in mind and I will look forward to seeing you then.

Yours Sincerely,

Joe

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"INSIDE THE LEATHER"

• WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Kevin Banks, Assistant Superintendent, Nantucket Golf Club

Michael Mann, Associate, Tree Co. Inc.

Jason Mulcahy, Associate, DuPont Professional Products

• ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Congratulations to Kevin and Denise McDonough on the birth of their new baby girl Brynn Rose McDonough who was born on October 5, 2011. She weighed 8 lbs 10 oz and was 20.5 inches long.

Wishing a speedy recovery to Paul Jamrog on his recent injury and surgery.

Our condolences go out to The Comee family on the unexpected passing of David Comee on October 10, 2011. Dave was the superintendent at The Winchendon School Golf Club in Gardner, MA and was a very active member of GCSANE

Congratulations to former GCSACC member, Matt Butler, who has a new position as Landscape and Grounds Supervisor at the University of South Carolina, 471 University Park Way, Aiken, SC 29801.

GCSACC Slate of Officers Proposed for 2012:

President	Joe Deely
Vice-President	Kevin Young
Secretary	Paul Doherty
Treasurer	Steve Thys
Director:	Stephen Gregg
Director:	Rick Lawlor, CGCS
Associate Director	Michael Pajolek
Past President	Lianne Larson
Newsletter Editor	Stuart Eymann, CGCS

GCSACC Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, 2011 at White Cliffs Country Club

A Note of Thanks

Thanks for all of the wonderful thoughts that were sent along to us at my Dad's passing. I received so many kind communications from the members and really appreciate being in their thoughts.

Sincerely,

Mike Pajolek and Family

Konzem named as GCSAA Chief Operating Officer

Richard Konzem, who has more than 30 years of managerial experience, primarily in intercollegiate athletics, has been named GCSAA's chief operating officer. Konzem comes to GCSAA from Rockhurst University, located in Kansas City, Mo., where he has served as director of athletics since November 2007. During his tenure at Rockhurst, Konzem served on the

NCAA Division II Men's Golf Regional Advisory Committee and had student-athletes from eight of 11 teams compete in NCAA postseason competition. Konzem officially will begin Oct. 17, 2011.

1st Annual Greg's Run was a Success

The 1st Annual Greg's Run was held on October 8, 2011 at Apponequet Regional High School. This run/walk event raised \$12,000 from corporate, community and friend sponsorships. The weather was perfect for the 374 runners/walkers that came out for the event. There were also 40 volunteers on hand to help out with the day. The money raised will benefit the **Gregory G. Misodoulakis Memorial Scholarship**, established by his family to honor the memory of 2010 Apponequet Regional High School graduate Gregory Misodoulakis. Thank you to all that helped support this event!

Bayer to send five superintendents to GCSAA conference & show

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), The Environmental Institute for Golf (EIFG), and Bayer will send five golf course superintendents to the 2012 GCSAA Education Conference (Feb. 27-March 2) and Golf Industry Show (Feb. 29-March 1) in Las Vegas.

The purpose of the grant is to assist golf course superintendents with their professional development through participation in the annual event, which features the most comprehensive education program and trade show in the industry.

Golf course superintendents who did not attend the last two GCSAA Education Conferences and Golf Industry Shows (Orlando 2011 and San Diego 2010) are eligible. Those interested should complete and submit the online application at <http://www.gcsaa.org/conference/education/grantapplication.aspx> or contact GCSAA member services at 800-472-7878 to receive an application via fax.

Each grant will cover expenses for airfare, hotel accommodations for five nights, conference full-pack registration, two education seminars, and \$200 spending money.

Entries will be accepted through Oct. 31, 2011. The winners will be selected through a random drawing, and the EIFG will notify winners by Nov. 4. Only one application will be accepted per person. GCSAA membership is not required. Call 800-472-7878 with any questions or for assistance with the application.

VISIT

WWW.GCSACC.ORG

Continued from page 1

- Polyoxin-D
- Strobilurin (Azoxystrobin, Pyraclostrobin, Fluoxastrobin, and Trifloxystrobin)
- Thiophanate-methyl

Two-way tank mix combinations are the best option for areas that face low disease pressure because they provide additional control during years when snow cover is longer than expected. We strongly recommend the use of two-way tank mix combinations on putting greens and any areas in which the tolerance to snow mold damage is low. Tank-mix options are not listed in any sort of preferential order.

- Chlorothalonil + Any of the active ingredients listed above
- Fludioxonil + DMI (Fenarimol, Metconazole, Myclobutanil, Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, Triadimefon, or Triticonazole)
- Iprodione + Strobilurin (Azoxystrobin, Fluoxastrobin, Pyraclostrobin, or Trifloxystrobin)
- DMI (Fenarimol, Metconazole, Myclobutanil, Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, Triadimefon, or Triticonazole) + Strobilurin (Azoxystrobin, Fluoxastrobin, Pyraclostrobin, or Trifloxystrobin)

High disease pressure (more than 90 days snow cover)

For areas that face higher disease pressure (more than 90 days snow cover), snow mold applications should focus on controlling both gray snow mold and *Microdochium* patch. Therefore, a multi-pronged approach is necessary and should utilize at least two different active ingredients. Remember there are many different tank-mix options. We are listing options that we have tested in the past and have observed good control. There is a variety of ways to achieve the following tank-mix combinations (especially given the number of pre-mix products available). In addition, two split applications (half rate) of the mixtures with 7-10 days interval perform better than one single application of the mixtures (full rate). Please feel free to contact [Dr. Geunhwa Jung](#) or [Jay Popko](#) if you have any questions regarding snow mold control strategies.

Most effective tank-mix combinations for high disease pressure (listed alphabetically):

- Chlorothalonil + Iprodione + DMI (Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, or Triticonazole)
- Chlorothalonil + Fludioxonil + DMI (Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, or Triticonazole)
- Chlorothalonil + Strobilurin (Azoxystrobin, Fluoxastrobin, Pyraclostrobin, or Trifloxystrobin) + DMI (Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, or Triticonazole)
- Chlorothalonil + Thiophanate-methyl + Polyoxin-D + DMI (Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, or Triticonazole)
- Iprodione + Strobilurin (Azoxystrobin, Fluoxastrobin, Pyraclostrobin, or Trifloxystrobin) + DMI (Propiconazole, Tebuconazole, or Triticonazole)

For a listing of fungicides currently labeled to manage snow molds, refer to our [current fungicide charts](#) or [Turf FRAC Tracker](#).



Mendenhall and MacCurrach Award winners selected

GCSAA awards 13 collegiate scholarships

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has awarded scholarships to 13 college students as part of the GCSAA Scholars Program administered by GCSAA's philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf.

Michael McNamara is the first place winner in the competition. He receives a \$6,000 scholarship and is honored as the Mendenhall Award Winner. McNamara is from Lutz, Fla., and is a student at Penn State University.

The second place winner, Royal Healy, receives a \$5,000 award and is designated as the recipient of the Allan MacCurrach Award. The MacCurrach Award is funded by the PGA Tour. Healy is from Marshfield, Vt., and attends the University of Massachusetts.

Both McNamara and Healy also will each receive an all-expense-paid trip to the 2012 [GCSAA Education Conference](#) (Feb. 27-March 2) and [Golf Industry Show](#) (Feb. 29-March 1) in Las Vegas.

Wayne Shane Lee, an international student at Penn State University, was awarded a \$2,000 Ambassador Award. Other recipients include:

Clinton Steketee, Michigan State University, \$2,250
Tyler Manly, Michigan State University, \$2,000
Dustin Bernau, University of Wisconsin, \$750
Matt Carstens, Washington State University, \$500
Jake Halak, Ohio State University, \$500

Peter White III, University of Massachusetts, \$2,250
Tyler Patton, Penn State University, \$2,000
Anthony Minniti, University of Connecticut, \$750
Colton Fees, Oklahoma State University, \$500
Jason Von Engen, Iowa State University, \$500

Eastward Ho! Country Club
Host: Frank Hancock
September 27, 2011
Four man team; best 2 ball

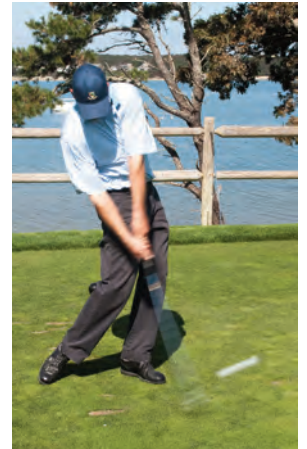
Tom Colombo, Joe Deely
 Pat Sullivan, Ed Downing – 149

Craig Strobl, Steve Murray
 Alden Tallman, Jeremy Hurst – 127 *score card playoff

Frank Hancock, Dave Robinson
 Mike Pajolek, Bill Rockwell – 127

Closest to the pin:

- #4 Mike Cummings
- #7 Brian Smoot
- #10 Peter Lanman
- #15 Brandon Vostad



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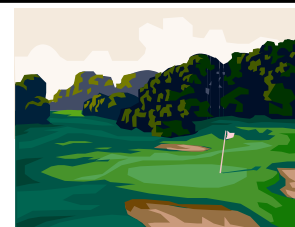
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Seasonal Maintenance Staff Survey Results

By Rick Lawlor, CGCS

Here's the "skinny" behind this survey. In late April, I had a long term, seasonal crewmember give notice that he was leaving for another golf operation and \$3.50/hour pay increase. By the end of May, I had lost eight to golf operations from Mashpee to Chatham. This was the first time in ten years that Yarmouth had lost experienced seasonal workers due to pay increases. We also had fewer acceptances of job offers to new applicants.

After our third seasonal worker departed in early May, I did petition my director to approve more latitude with pay rates in an attempt to retain workers and was denied. I wanted to get a local take on this situation and thus contacted our Chapter Executive Julie Heston to help create a survey using relative inquiries about seasonal staff size, a good expense barometer; average seasonal pay rate; and if wages were increasing from previous years.

Here's what the results show about Yarmouth Golf: operating at about 65% of average seasonal staffing needs; pay \$4.00/hour below average seasonal wage; have similarly stagnant seasonal wages. After presenting the results of this survey to my director, I was able achieve latitude with pay rates in 2012. I doubt that we will be able to increase staff size, but it's a start.

GCSACC Seasonal Worker Survey Results – September 2011

1. **Without getting out your calculator, what is the average wage for a seasonal worker at your golf course?**
 - **Average – based on 26 readable responses = \$15.07**
2. **Is this average wage (based on 36 responses)**
 - **An increase from last year 19.40%**
 - **Same as last year 77.80%**
 - **Decrease from last year 2.80%**
3. **What is your total number of employees based on 18 holes?**
 - **Average based on 36 responses = 13.42%**

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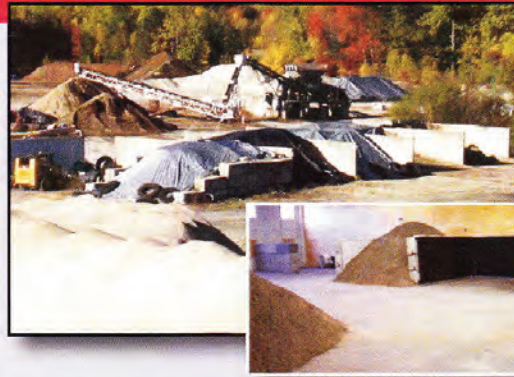
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Lab ID No.	Sample	Soil Separate %			Sieve/Size Class/Sand Fraction/Sand Particle Diameter % retained					
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28212-1	1 mm Topdressing	99.6	0.1	0.3	0.0	4.0	32.7	43.3	16.1	3.5
Guidelines for topdressing sand			≤ 3%		0%	≤ 5%	≥ 60%		≤ 20%	≤ 5%

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UMASS EXTENSION SYMPOSIUM: TOPICS IN SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN & MANAGEMENT

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2011

Time: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Sturbridge Host Hotel, 366 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Current trends increasingly stretch the boundaries of the traditional landscape picture of lawn areas interspersed with tidy ornamental plantings. Designers are challenged to meet sustainability and management reduction goals for residential, commercial and recreational spaces, as well as public and private grounds, while simultaneously creating a functional aesthetic. Following the design and establishment phase, managers are faced with the task of maintaining the appearance of each landscape with fewer inputs and an eye towards natural resource conservation and minimal environmental impact. In meeting these challenges, there is a particular need for proper specification and establishment of plant material to increase the potential for positive project outcomes and long-term success.

Please join us for a symposium that will introduce the principles of sustainability and highlight the importance of proper specification and selection of plant materials for lawns, meadows, conservation areas, and sites that support grazing as well as the impact of input reduction for management of these areas.

THE 2012 UMASS WINTER SCHOOL FOR TURF MANAGERS

The perennial goal of the UMass Winter School for Turf Managers is to furnish turf managers with concepts essential to the maintenance of high quality turf, while instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility. This highly acclaimed certificate program immerses students in a full-time, seven week course of study, focused solely on the management of fine turf and taught by UMass faculty, staff and distinguished guests.

Winter School 2012 is scheduled for January 3 - February 17 at the UMass campus in Amherst. The program is especially suited for those who desire to take their career in turf management to the next level, but are unable to schedule a two or four-year degree program. Some Winter School students have several years of experience in the turf industry and simply want to sharpen their skills. At the same time, the course is appropriate for folks just getting started, and those who are seeking a career change.

The UMass Winter School for Turf Managers has been offered since 1927 and was the first program of its kind. The course provides 32 hours of expert instruction each week, covering general turf management, physiology, pest management (insects, diseases, and weeds), soils, fertilizers, irrigation, personnel management, and much more. Enrollment is limited, and close-knit classes offer the opportunity to form lasting relationships with peers and memories that will last a lifetime.

Applications are being reviewed as they arrive, and since seating is limited earlier applications have a higher probability of acceptance. Although the application deadline for international students has passed, applications from Canada may be submitted as late as September 30.

For more information about Winter School and application materials, refer to:

<http://extension.umass.edu/turf/education/turf-winter-school>

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**October 13, 2011
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Host: Shawn Fernandez**



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