Contents
January-February 2004 Volume 42, Number 1

1 In Search of the Perfect Golf Course
"Perfection has one grave defect; it is apt to be dull." — W. Somerset Maugham
BY JAMES H. BAIRD

6 Conversion of Ryegrass Fairways to Bluegrass: Impossible Dream?
Colorado State University research suggests converting perennial ryegrass fairways to Kentucky bluegrass is a long shot.
BY TONY KOSKI, PH.D., AND JAMES NEWBERRY

8 Prairie Fire!
Using fire to improve the health and condition of unmown rough areas.
BY JONATHAN JENNINGS, CGCS

11 Surface Organic Matter in Bentgrass Greens
Research reveals the relationship between aeration methods and surface organic matter on sand-based greens.
BY ROBERT N. CARROW, PH.D.

16 Unnatural Expectations
Proper establishment and maintenance of naturalized areas can increase acceptance by golfers.
BY DARIN S. BEVARD

19 Golf Courses and Bird Communities in the South Atlantic Coastal Plain
Recent research provides insight to make golf courses better habitat for birds.
BY DAVID H. GORDON, STEPHEN G. JONES, AND GARY M. PHILLIPS

25 From Bunker to Biodiversity
The Club at Carlton Woods successfully converts a problematic bunker into an attractive wetland habitat.
BY PETER BRONSKI

26 2004 USGA Green Section Education Program and 2004 USGA National and Regional Conferences

27 News Notes

28 Have We Gone Too Far?
The grass is talking to you. Are you listening?
BY STAN ZONTENK

30 Turf Twisters

Editor
James T. Snow
Associate Editor
Kimberly S. Erduba, Ph.D.
Director of Communications
Marty Parkes

Green Section Committee Chairman
Bruce C. Richards
Executive Director
David B. Fay

USGA President
Reed Mackenzie

Cover Photo
Although perfect golf courses are hard to find, good ones are created from the ground up.