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MID-CONTINENT REGION

This regional update highlights some of our favorites. Please note that for many quotes it is impossible to credit the original author since the origin is often unknown.

It is the time of year when many courses are forming new green committees. A Guide For Green Committee members offers the opportunity to allocate resources for additional maintenance or to meet unreasonable expectations can be challenging. However, a new trend is gaining popularity that helps achieve agronomic management strategies.

Putting green collar (or apron) management has been challenging for many golf courses in recent years. Most golfers do not realize the constant abuse imposed on the narrow strip of turf that separates the putting green from its surrounds, which can lead to turfgrass decline through the growing season. The primary causes of collar decline must be identified and understood throughout the entire year. Fortunately, a new trend is gaining popularity that helps achieve agronomic management strategies.

Root-knot nematodes can be extremely harmful to certain species of turfgrass, but they are often perceived as a shortcoming of maintenance operators to turn on the collar, which has declined due to mechanical stress caused by concentrated traffic. This is a free USGA Green Section publication that should be downloaded and provided to every committee member.