



News Notes for Mid-Winter

Steve Batten Resigns/Gary Watschke Appointed Northeastern Agronomist/Realignment of Some Green Section Regions

Steve M. Batten, Southeastern Green Section Agronomist since 1982, announced his resignation on December 31, 1984, to enter private consultation. Steve's work was largely in Florida, although his reputation as an artist and illustrator of turfgrass books and magazines is nationwide.

Gary A. Watschke, manager of golf operations and superintendent at the Iowa State University golf course for the past nine years, has accepted appointment as Northeastern Agronomist for the Green Section, effective December 10, 1984. He will assist Jim Snow, Regional Director, and Karl Olson. Gary was an instructor of turfgrass management at Catawba Valley Technical College, North Carolina, for over three years, and earlier served in positions ranging from laborer to assistant superintendent at other golf courses for more than 17 years. He is a graduate of Iowa State University, a member of the GCSAA, an author, and has owned and operated his own business since 1980. In addition to his work in the Northeastern Region, he will assist in other Green Section Regions.

A Realignment of Some States in some Green Section Regions in 1985 is planned to improve the Turf Advisory Service and travel efficiency. For example, **Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota** will return to service from the Great Lakes Regional office under James M. Latham, Jr., Regional Director, 4680 West Bradley Road, Suite 2, Brown Deer, Wisconsin 53223, (414) 354-2203.

Arkansas and Louisiana will now be served by James F. Moore, Mid-Continent Regional Director, 300 Sharron Drive, Waco, Texas 76710 (817-776-0765).

Ohio and Kentucky will continue to be served by Stanley J. Zontek, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, and Patrick

M. O'Brien, Agronomist from the Mid-Atlantic Region. O'Brien will also assist Bud White, Southeastern Regional Director, with TAS visits in **North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.** Florida subscribers will be served by White.

These changes will permit greater response from and access to Regional Green Section offices by TAS subscribers. They are part of a continuing effort to improve the Turf Advisory Service and direct assistance to all subscribing clubs.

Fifth International Turfgrass Research Conference

An exceptional opportunity awaits those planning to attend the Fifth International Turfgrass Research Conference from June 30 through July 5, 1985. It will take place in Avignon, France, and is under the direction of Dr. Paul Mansat, President of the International Turfgrass Society, Lusignan, France.

The Conference is conducted primarily for turfgrass scientists engaged in research or education, but it is open to anyone involved in turf use or management. The main objective is to bring those involved in turfgrass research and education together from throughout the world for an exchange of information and ideas. Representatives from at least 20 countries are expected to participate, and more than 100 papers will be presented in oral and poster sessions.



Gary A. Watschke

Pre- and post-Conference tours are planned to provide participants the opportunity to observe turfgrasses in the Mediterranean area of Italy and France.

For further details, write to Dr. John F. Shoulders, Society Secretary, Agronomy Department, VPI, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

Won't You Join Us (TAS) in 1985?

A new year of high-tech turfgrass management is just ahead! In many cases one small bit of new information given by the visiting Green Section agronomist has saved clubs many times the actual cost of the Green Section Turfgrass Advisory Service. More important, however, is the significant improvement in golfing turf and playing conditions one might expect from such consultation. No small part of this is the authoritative backing and second opinion the agronomist provides your turf management operations.

The fee schedule for TAS visits in 1985 is as follows:

Half-day visit:

\$500 if paid on or before April 15;
\$550 if paid after April 15.

Full-day visit:

\$800 if paid on or before April 15;
\$850 if paid after April 15.

For less than one quarter of 1 percent of most golf course maintenance budgets your club will receive a half-day or full-day visit and tour of the course, followed by a written report of all recommendations by an experienced, highly qualified Green Section scientist. The fee also covers full travel expenses, emergency consultations and other requests via telephone, a one-year subscription to the GREEN SECTION RECORD, and news of USGA regional meetings and the annual Green Section educational program.

Green Section services are offered for the benefit of golf by the USGA, a non-profit organization. The Green Section agronomist has no axes to grind — no strings attached — no peers in the field of turfgrass consultation for golf.

If your club was not a TAS subscriber in 1984, join us in 1985. Take advantage of our professional experienced nationwide staff and help yourself to the finest golfing turf your club has ever known.