### Contents

September-October 2004 Volume 42, Number 5

1 **The Voice of a Stranger**  
The right consultant, when utilized properly, is a valuable resource to any golf course operation, big or small.  
BY JIM SKORULSKI

6 **It Was 20 Years Ago Today . . .**  
The Turfgrass Information Center at Michigan State University.  
BY CLIFF HAKA

9 **Making Every Drop Count**  
Dealing with a restricted water supply in the Southwest.  
BY PATRICK J. GROSS

12 **Developing Annual Bluegrass Cultivars for Putting Greens**  
Work continues at Penn State University to tame this highly variable species.  
BY DAVID R. HUFF

16 **In Search of the Silver Bullet**  
The influence of microbial and organic-based products on putting green performance.  
BY FRANK S. ROSSI

20 **Rapid Blight Disease of Cool-Season Grasses**  
Research reveals that certain cultivars tolerate rapid blight and may be suitable for overseeding.  
BY PAUL PETERSON, BRUCE MARTIN, AND JIM CAMBERATO

24 **Capital Campaigning**  
Presenting the right information can encourage golfers to vote “yes” on capital improvements.  
BY ANDREW ACKER

27 **Spawning Good Stewardship**  
Unique natural resources offer a means to demonstrate good environmental stewardship.  
BY STEVE KEALY

28 **Becoming Bilingual**  
Use your Green Section Decoder to understand the language of golfers.  
BY CHRIS HARTWIGER

30 **Turf Twisters**

---

**USGA President**  
Fred S. Ridley

**USGA Executive Director**  
David B. Fay

**USGA Green Section Committee Chairman**  
Bruce C. Richards  
12202 NE 31st Place  
Bellevue, WA 98005

**USGA Executive Director**  
David B. Fay

**USGA Director of Communications**  
Marty Parkes

**Cover Photo**  
Consultants identify specific problems in the field and help devise viable solutions (Colorado Springs C.C., Colorado).