LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SEMINARS

... for those employed in the field of horticulture.

Cooperating: Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington; Cooperative Extension Service, Washington State University; Edmonds Community College; South Seattle Community College.

Date: Thursday, July 11, 9:00 AM - 1:00 noon.

Location: CUH
Instructor: James R. Ely, horticultural consultant.

Learn how to properly calibrate equipment; see a demonstration of application techniques; develop a better understanding of pesticide safety, laws, and public relations. Mr. Ely formerly owned a successful pest management firm.

Date: Thursday, August 13, 9:00 AM - 1:00 noon.

Location: CUH
Instructor: Tom Cook, professor of horticulture, Oregon State University.

A quality lawn is the result of proper preparation and installation. Mr. Cook will discuss the advantages of sodding and seeding, how to insure good establishment, and pitfalls to be avoided. Turf renovation techniques will also be covered. Mr. Cook is a lively speaker with lots of practical information.

Perennials

Date: Monday, September 30, 9:00 AM - 1:00 noon.

Location: CUH
Instructor: Dennis Thompson, horticulture instructor, Edmonds Community College.

Which perennials require minimal maintenance, have a long flowering season, and look good throughout most of the year? What special care do they need? Are perennials really practical for public and commercial landscapes? Through slides and discussion, Mr. Thompson will cover these questions and more.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

$12.50 per seminar or $30.00 for complete series if registering for all three seminars.

*Special Group rates are now available for firms/institutions that send 2 or more employees to a seminar. The rates are:

- 2-4 employees -- $10.00/person
- 5 or more employees -- $9.00/person.

To qualify for group rates: 1) you firm's registration must be received at least one week prior to the seminar; 2) all registrants must be from the same firm/institution; and 3) a firm's total registration fee must be paid with one check or purchase order.

Save this information for details on date, time, and location. Receipts will not be returned by mail; they will be available at the door.

Registration Form

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SEMINARS

Complete Series -- Pesticide Application, Calibraion & Safety, Turf Installation & Renovation...

Perennial Seminars...

Individual Seminars

Pesticide Application,...

Calibration & Safety,...

Turf Installation,...

Renovation,...

Perennials,...

TOTAL $...

Group Rates: Qualifying firms must send a list of employees being registered and one check to cover all registrants at least one week prior to seminar. Firms using purchase orders please call Jan Davis at 545-8033 for registration arrangements.

Make checks payable to the University of Washington; bank cards not accepted.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY ZIP

Mail payment and registration to: Urban Horticulture Program University of Washington, GF-15 Seattle, WA 98195

For more information please call 545-8033.
OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE will offer the following courses this summer quarter: Insects, Design Specifications & Contracts, Landscape Studies, Greenhouse Studies, Summer Propagation, Budding Workshop, Layering Workshop. Call 771-1545 for information.

TREE CARE, ENH

The annual conference of the International Society of Arboriculture, Pacific Northwest, Chapter, will be held in Vancouver, B.C., on October 3 & 4, 1985. These conferences offer excellent educational programs featuring top arborists and researchers from the U.S. and Canada. They are especially pertinent to commercial arborists, park superintendents, landscape architects, nurserymen. Dr. Alex Shigo will conduct a pre-conference field day. For a program and registration information contact:
Susan Munro
J.S. Peepe & Associates
285 West 152nd Avenue
Vancouver, B.C., CANADA
Phone: 604/731-9718

ROOT GROWTH

When do roots grow most actively? Early spring is commonly thought of as a period of rapid root growth for trees and shrubs in temperate climates, as stated in the Extension Bulletin 0675, Transplanting Woody Plants. States: "Root growth is most active from fall through early spring when the soil temperature is above freezing. Less root growth occurs in the late spring and summer."

This apparently is not true for oak (Quercus) and honey locust (Gleditsia) growing in the Puget Sound area. Research conducted in 1983 and 1984 by Dr. James Clark, Center for Urban Horticulture, showed that root growth for these two trees was most active during the summer months. Minimal root growth occurred before June. Does this pattern apply to other trees? From his observations of other deciduous species, Dr. Clark feels it does.

THATCH: WHAT CAUSES IT?

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an excerpt from "The Thatch Man- ner's Hidden Enemy," by M. Ali Harivandi, which appeared in California Turfgrass Council Newsletter, February 1984. Some of the turfgrass species listed, though common in California, are not found in the Pacific Northwest. Local turf managers may be interested in W.S.U. Extension Bulletin 1177, "Thatch and Its Control." It is available from your county extension office for 25c.

Turfgrass Species: Vigorously growing turfgrass species are generally poor thatch builders. This may be due to the inherent genetic makeup of the species, as is the case for bermudagrass (Cynodon sp.), kikuyugrass (Pennisetum clandestinum), and Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis). Or it may be due to a high level of maintenance which causes healthy and vigorous turf growth. Generally, turfgrass species which produce chloas [e.g., soygrass (Zoysia spp.)] and bentgrass (Agrostis palustris) are much faster thatch builders than bunch-type grasses such as perennial ryegrass (Lolium perenne) and bermudagrass (Cynodon). Some varieties of turfgrass exhibit very little thatch buildup.

Excessive Nitrogen Fertilization: Application of nitrogen at higher than optimum rates (generally 100 to 150 lb/acre/year) causes vigorous shoot and stem growth, which in turn contributes considerably to thatch buildup.

Soil Texture: Microorganism activity is extremely limited in heavy, compacted soils due to lack of oxygen. In this case, organic matter (thatch) decomposition is restricted.

Drainage: Microorganism activity is greatly reduced under waterlogged soil conditions caused by poor drainage and/or high rate of water application.

Soil pH: At extremely low or high pH's, the activity of microorganisms is restricted, and, as a result, thatch decomposition is retarded.

Pesticide Effects: Although some pesticides may actually decrease thatch buildup (by restricting growth of the turf and thereby reducing organic matter production), most insecticides and herbicides, when applied at higher than recommended rates, contribute to thatch buildup. Certain earthworms which have shown that where earthworms are present, they play a major role in reducing thatch through digestion. Some pesticides also eliminate microorganisms, whose role in thatch decomposition was mentioned earlier.

Turf Clippings: Most turf specialists believe that the adverse effects of turf clippings on lawns are minimal. Composed primarily of leaves, turf clippings are 80-95% water. Dry leaves decompose quickly, leaving residue which contains nitrogen and other nutrients beneficial to turf. It should be stored in such a manner that it will not leach its nutrients. Storage which results in greater than normal quantities of clippings, contributes to thatch buildup if clippings are not removed. A pile of clippings more than 10-15 inches long in the Pacific Northwest should be removed at any time. This means that if the turf is maintained at 2.5 inches, it should be mowed before it reaches 3 in. If mowing is delayed and clippings are left on the surface, the thatch buildup increases and a temporarily unsightly lawn results.

AN EFFECTIVE DEER REPELLENT?

Browsing by deer can seriously damage landscape plants, vegetable gardens, and orchards. This is a common problem in suburban and rural areas. Though many commercial deer repellents have been marketed over the years, most have proven less than effective. An article in the Dawes Arboretum Newsletter (January 1985) reports that fragrant deodorant soaps have effectively repelled deer in many parts of the country. Bars of soap may be hung with wire, after drilling holes through them, or they can be placed in cheese cloth bags which are tied to the branches.