

Cover Photo:  
*Microorganisms perform vital functions to help sustain life on Earth, including organic matter decomposition and nutrient cycling.*



*Sod production of buffalograss has been very successful, with more than 500 acres currently in production. See page 6.*



*A better root system can be maintained by managing the factors that can be controlled and understanding the impact of the others. See page 8.*

# USGA® GREEN SECTION Record

1

## The Microbial World

The role of this dynamic community in turfgrass management has raised a variety of opinions, questions, and products.

*By Matt Nelson*

6

## Low Maintenance Troubles

Research that is helping turf managers maintain buffalograss as a low-maintenance alternative.

*By Roch E. Gaussoin, Ph.D.*

8

## “Where Do My Roots Go In August?”

Managing the factors you can control, and understanding the rest.

*By Stanley J. Zontek*

11

## Golf and Turfgrass Management in Italy

Understanding the infrastructure of the Italian golf industry.

*By Paolo Croce and Alessandro De Luca*

13

## *Poa trivialis* Contamination

An increase in testing standards would benefit superintendents.

*By Matt Levy, RST*

15

## Holistic Management

A vital tool for golf course superintendents.

*By Arthur P. Weber*

17

## Environmental Commitment

Participation in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program can help superintendents make golf courses into environmental assets.

*By Peter V. Leuzinger, CGCS*

19

## News Notes

20

## Never Stop Learning

But don't forget the basics.

*By Keith A. Happ*

22

## Turf Twisters