



Successful Low-Input Turf Management: Is it Practical

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Perception of Golf and the Environment

The case against golf Ben Adler

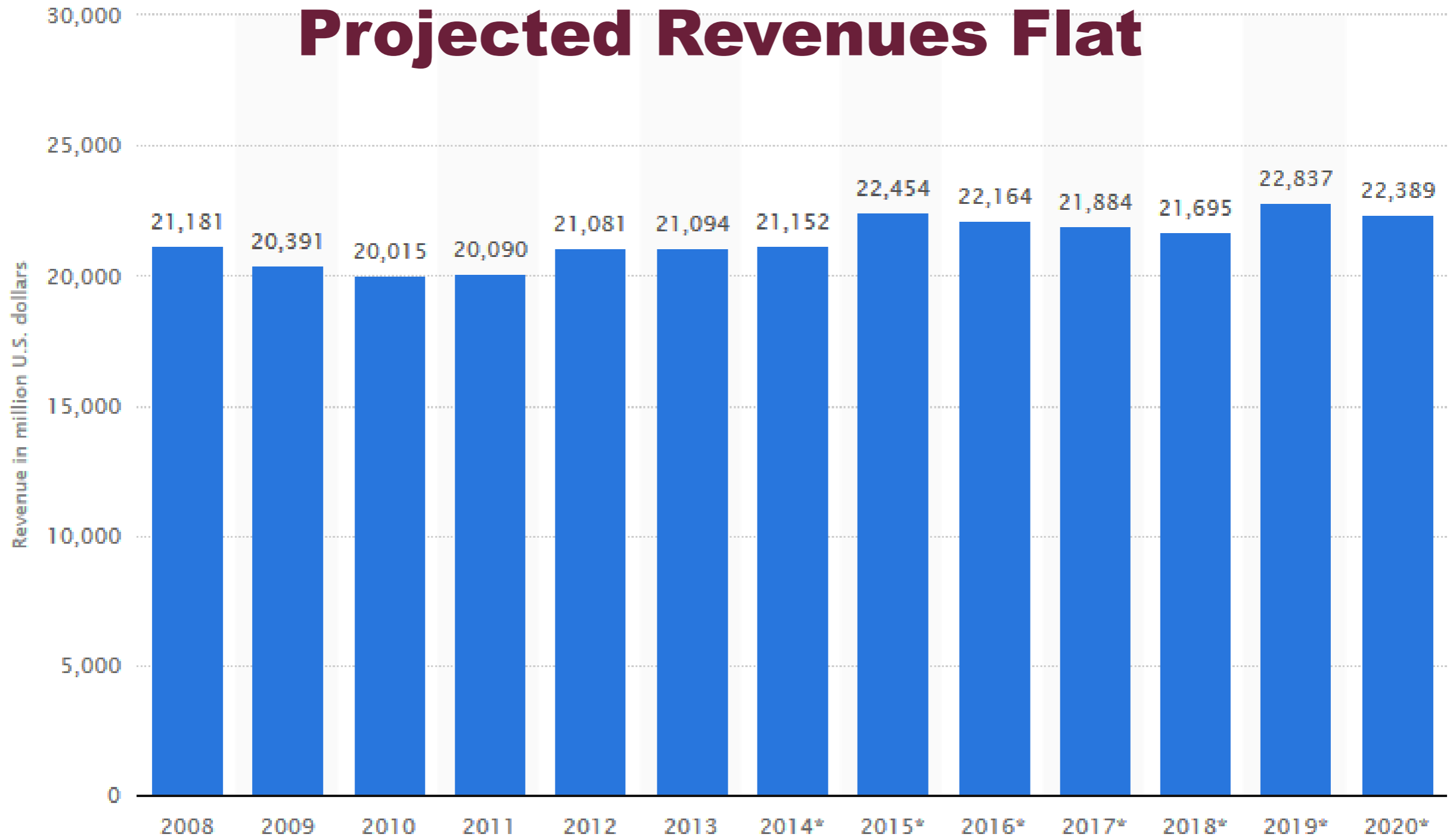
The game bores most people senseless, so why are so many of the planet's resources dedicated to it?

Bore! A practice round at the [US Open](#) this week. Photograph: Gene J Puskar/AP.

As the golf world gears up for the final stages of the [US Open](#) this weekend, and the rest of the world yawns, it is worth pausing to consider what a pernicious phenomenon golf truly is. No, this is not a diatribe about the game's elitism, its [sexism](#), how frustrating it is to play, boring it is to watch, or how silly its outfits and traditions are - though all of that is true. Those are all normative points, and, to varying degrees, reasonable people can differ on their merits.

But the serious case against golf is empirical, and undeniable. That is its environmental impact. The construction and maintenance of golf courses is harmful to fragile ecosystems the world over. Its proliferation as the international pastime of the leisure class is multiplying the problem, and its approval by governments and societies epitomises the wasteful and scurrilous approach to development that is replicated in miniature on millions of suburban lawns.

Projected Revenues Flat



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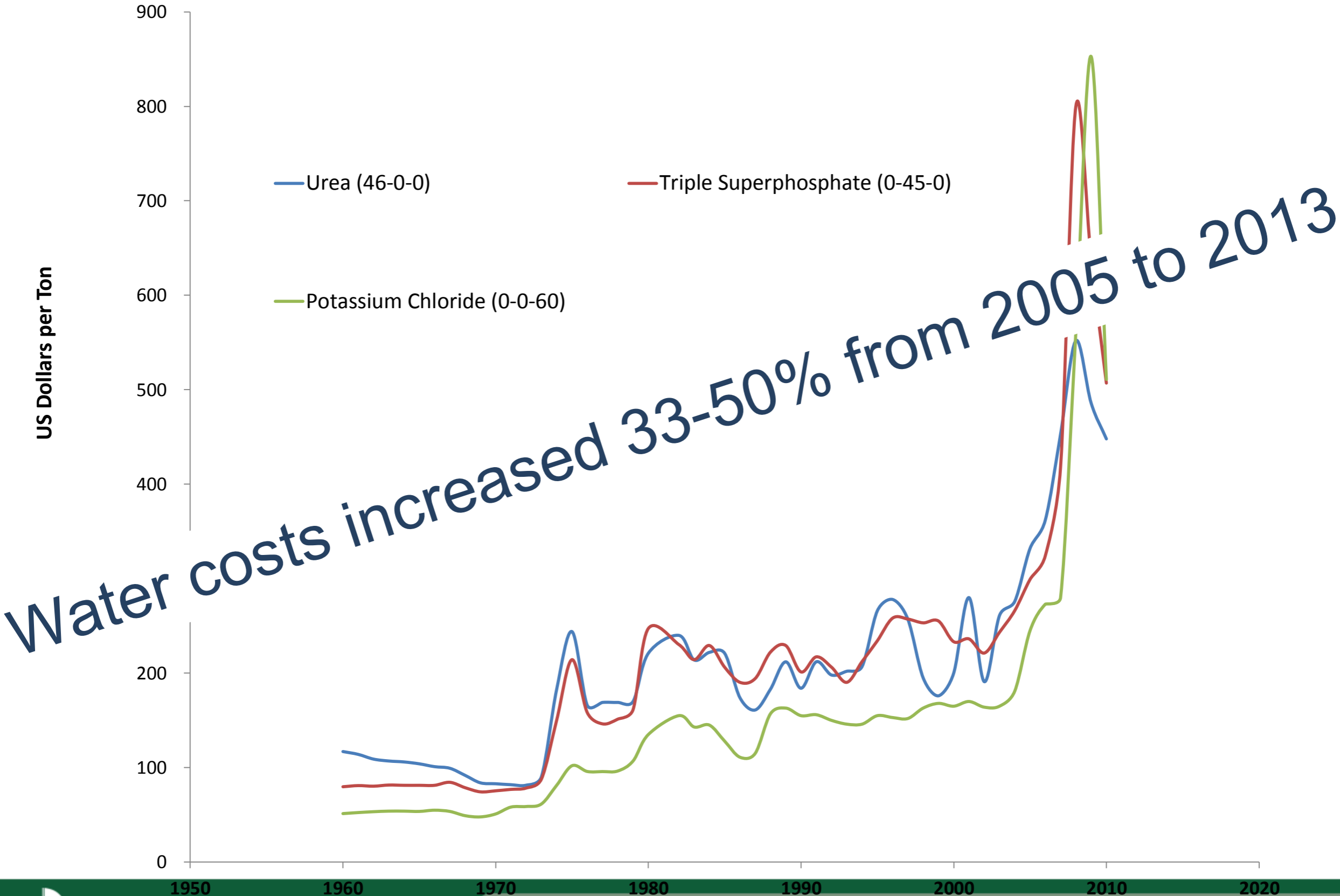
Additional Information:

United States; 2008 to 2013

Source information for logged in users only.

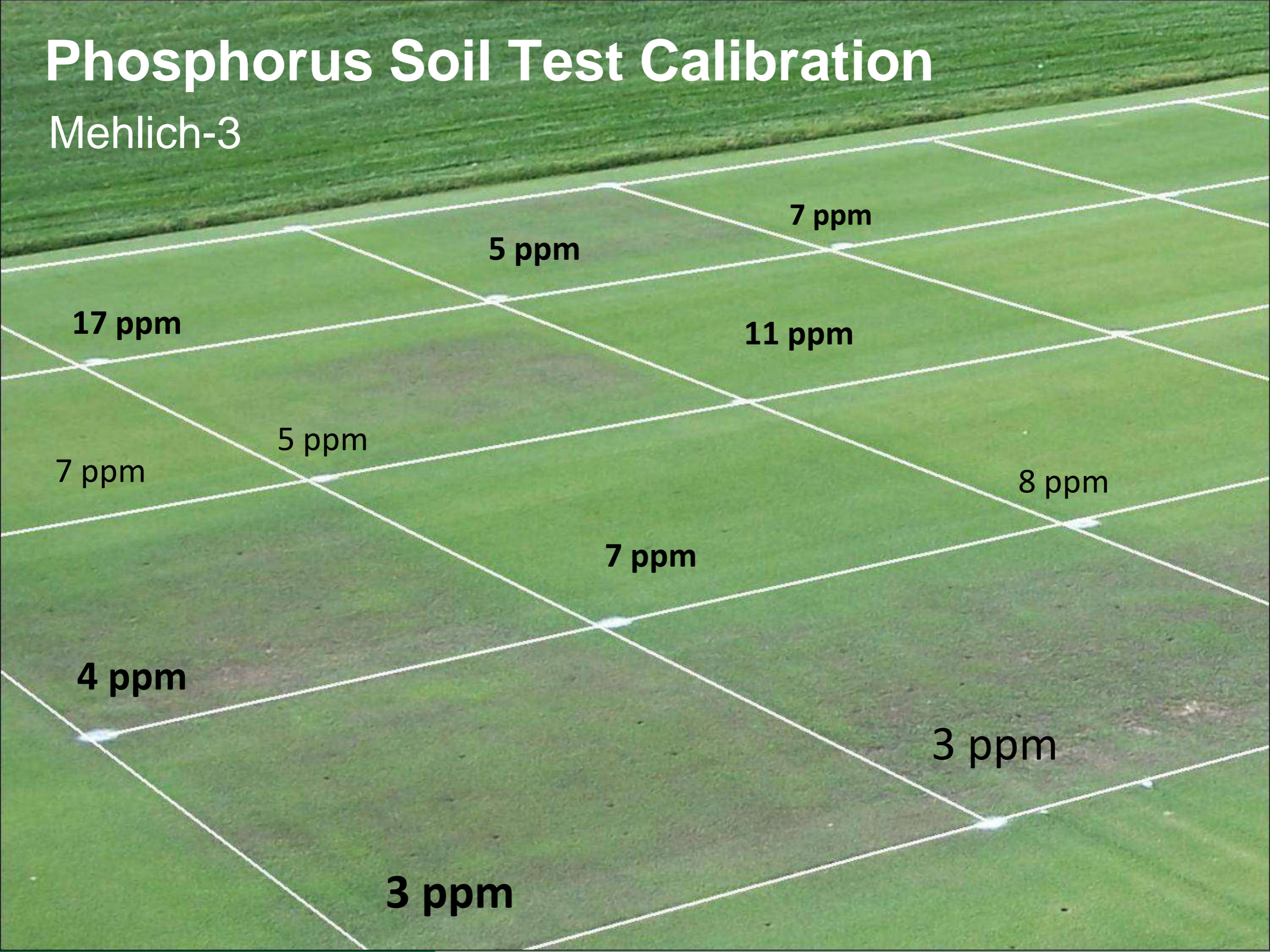
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Historical Fertilizer Prices



Phosphorus Soil Test Calibration

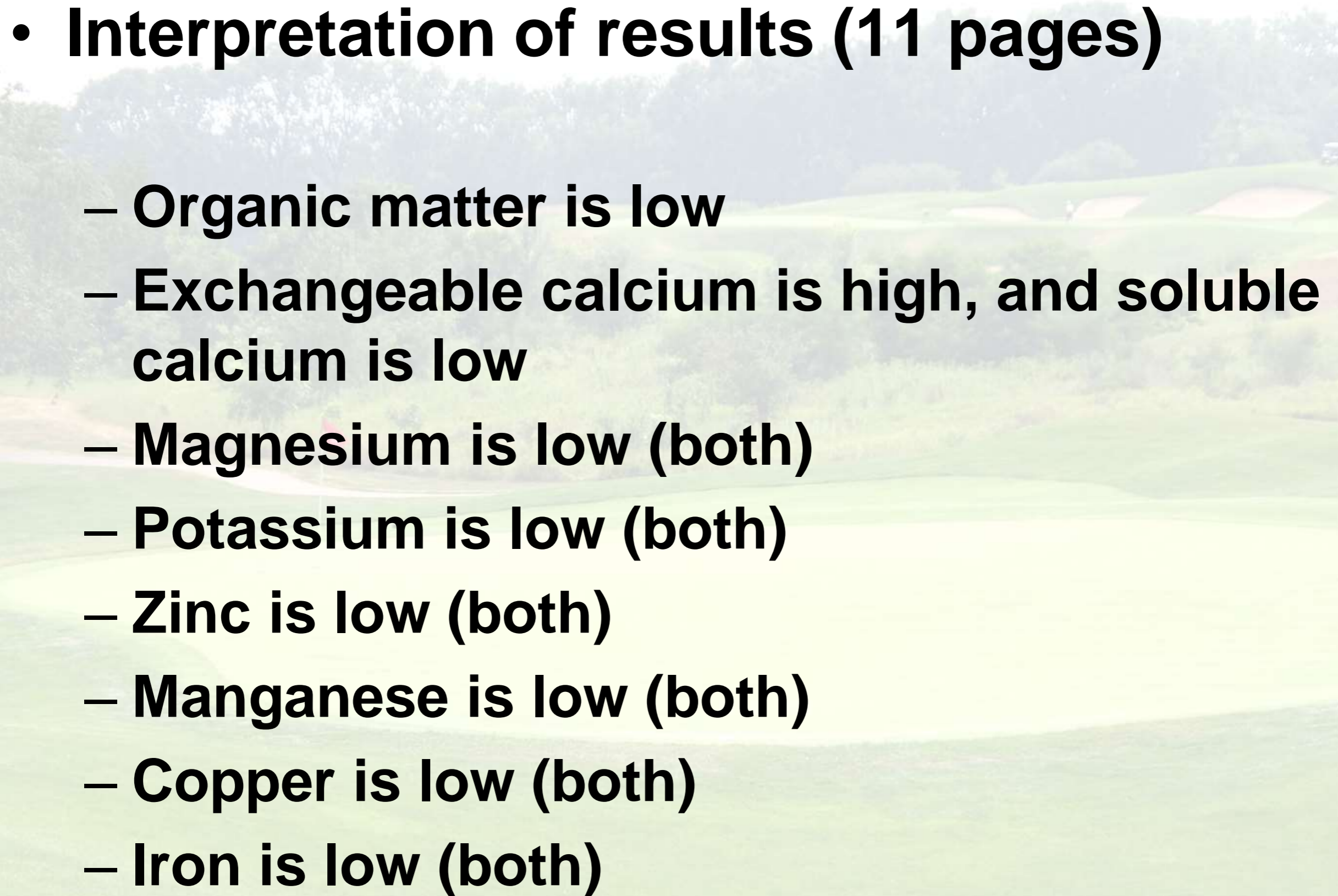
Mehlich-3



Case Study

A wide-angle photograph of a golf course. In the foreground, a large, well-maintained green is visible, with a red flag on a white pole. The green is surrounded by lush green grass and some low-lying shrubs. In the background, there are rolling hills, more trees, and a dense forest. A golf cart is visible on a path in the distance.

Soil cores taken from three greens and analyzed by a highly reputable laboratory

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- **Interpretation of results (11 pages)**
 - **Organic matter is low**
 - **Exchangeable calcium is high, and soluble calcium is low**
 - **Magnesium is low (both)**
 - **Potassium is low (both)**
 - **Zinc is low (both)**
 - **Manganese is low (both)**
 - **Copper is low (both)**
 - **Iron is low (both)**



Grass looks great





L-93 Sodded June 2007

L-93 Seeded 2001

Photo taken July 2008 Jeff Carlson, Vineyard Club



"We'll just mill around till he's asleep, and and then send him back up. This operation is actually for a placebo effect."

Weightlifting Study (Ariel, 1972)

- Weightlifters entered an 11 week study
 - 7 weeks of training and those who did the best would be given anabolic steroid for the final 4 weeks of training
- Before pills, avg added 5.8 lbs to squat, after steroid, the added 41.8 lbs
- Before pills, avg added 10 lbs to bench press, after 29.3 lbs

Photo: USGA



