

WISCONSIN TURFGRASS NEWS

VOL. XVII, NO. 1

SPRING 1999

New Research Putting Green at Noer Facility

By Dr. John C. Stier

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Horticulture

New projects continue to be developed at the O.J. Noer Facility in order to discover better management techniques and evaluate products and cultivars. The need for additional plot area has driven the construction of additional putting green space at O.J. Noer. On March 31, 1999 sod was cut from 15,000 ft² of unused land in the southeast corner at the facility.

Two types of putting green construction are being built on the area: a 10,000 ft² sand-based root zone and a 5,000 ft² native soil "push-up" green. The sand-based green is being built to USGA specifications. The profile consists of a four-inch gravel layer and twelve inches of 80:20 sand:peat root zone mix. Reed-sedge peat was used for the mix. The mix was thoroughly tested by a private agency and passed USGA specifications in all regards. An intermediate layer was not used as the gravel size met the USGA specifications without the need for an intermediate layer. The soil-based green, adjacent to the sand-based green, is composed of a rock-free silt loam soil.

As with many of the projects at the Noer Facility, industry donations and discounts have been vital. Waupaca Sand and Solutions has contributed over 70% of the cost of the rootzone mix, with a value of over \$12,000. North Shore Country Club supplied drainage supplies, and Reinders Irrigation provided equipment for trenching. Randy Smith of Admire Greenscapes has once again generously contributed his time and materials for the project. The University Ridge Golf Course has provided a loader tractor and Audra and Scott Anderson have allowed us to use their skid steer loader for the project. John Deere Horicon Works has provided additional equipment such as trucksters, a bunker rake, and a loader tractor. The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association has provided a generous amount of funding without which the project would not have been possible. Additional funding and equipment has been



Hauling away the old sod and starting to build the push-up green.



Randy Smith from Admire Greenscapes contracts out another green at Noer.

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We were racing the gun to try to get the drainage tile covered before a thunderstorm broke this day.



10,000 square feet of USGA and 5,000 of native soil green are nearly completed and ready to seed.

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supplied by several other sources.

Construction has been proceeding at a rapid pace and is expected to be completed by the end of April. Research plots will be planted immediately. Some early research will include management and evaluation of new velvet bentgrass varieties and creeping bentgrass selections collected throughout Wisconsin.



Greensmix trucks delivering the rootzone mix.

Quantification of Potential Runoff

*Dr. R. Chris Williamson and Dr. John C. Stier
University of Wisconsin*

To compliment Dr. Wayne Kussow's studies investigating potential fertilizer runoff from turf, we are initiating a study to investigate the potential runoff of commonly applied turfgrass herbicides and insecticides. This study will be conducted on Dr. Kussow's runoff plots located at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Facility. We were recently awarded a grant to support this project from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (WDATCP). These resources will help fund expenses such as labor, materials, and laboratory analyses as well as support for a graduate student (Allison Walston, incoming student from the University of Kentucky).

This study will investigate both a multiple-step, homeowner/do-it-yourself and a professional lawn care program. Each program will be applied to pervious (i.e.,

turf) and impervious (i.e., concrete) surfaces. Our objectives are to quantify the amount of potential runoff from both lawn care programs and surfaces. Data from this study will provide valuable information for use in establishing future laws and regulations pertaining to pesticide applications on lawns.

The Wisconsin Turfgrass News

is the official publication of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association, edited by Tom Schwab. O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility

Jan 11 & 12

**Turfgrass
and
Greenscape
EXPO 2000**

**Marriott
Madison West**

Changes in TDDL Fee Schedule for '99

By Jeffrey S. Gregos and Douglas P. Maxwell, Turfgrass Disease Diagnostic Lab
Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

On the eve of a new season, the TDDL is revising the charges for services provided. These changes are the result of increased involvement of lab personnel in research activities, but will not affect the quality of service. Over the past couple of years it has become evident that a majority of the commercial clients of the lab only require a verbal diagnosis. Without a written diagnosis, several hours a week can be redirected to the research efforts. Several options were discussed and the following fee structure was recommended by the Board of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association at their February meeting. In the following we hope to explain why these changes are coming about and what they will be.

Why are research efforts important to the lab?

As you may or may not know the Turfgrass Disease Diagnostic Lab is a self-supporting entity. This means that we are responsible for generating funding to operate the lab (e.g., general supplies, postage, telephones, transportation, etc.), half of Jeffrey Gregos's salary and benefits, student hourly wages, and any other activities such as snow mold field days, construction of greens, attendance at meetings, fungicide evaluations, etc. Currently the lab generates around \$23,000 from contracts and diagnosis fees; however this is not enough to operate the lab. Over half of our funding is generated through research gifts and grants.

Not only does research provide funding, but it is also important in helping us formulate our recommendations after completing a diagnosis. One prime example of this is the extensive snow mold control research that we conduct. Many of the turf managers in our State have been looking for the ideal replacement for mercury based products for snow mold control. Our program has provided some alternatives that perform even better than mercury fungicides.

Another important reason for research is the evaluation of new methods or chemicals for disease control. It is better that our turf is used as the "guinea pig" than one of your greens or fairways. For example, we are testing spray volume rates for applications of several fungicides, and also times of applications of

fungicides and mixtures of fungicides.

What services will the lab offer for non-contract holders, and what will the new fees be?

- Turfgrass disease sample diagnosis with verbal confirmation and recommendations, \$50.00.
- Turfgrass disease sample diagnosis with verbal confirmation and recommendations plus a written report, \$75.00.
- Site visit following sample submission, \$150.00.
- Out-of-state processing fee, \$15.00.

Sample Submission for Diagnosis:

To help facilitate prompt turn-around on samples submitted to the lab, we recommend that you notify us when a sample has been sent. This will help us schedule appropriately. Also any walk-in samples should be preceded with a phone call (phone: 608-845-2535; pager: 608-550-3888). This ensures that someone will be present at the lab when the sample arrives. **NO DIAGNOSIS WILL BE PROVIDED VIA TELEPHONE WITHOUT SEEING A SAMPLE FIRST.**

Site Visits:

Site visits will be conducted only after a sample has been submitted. A site visit will consist of a 4-hour visit and written report. These visits will only concentrate on disease related problems.

Out-of-state Processing Fee:

This \$15 fee is additional to the other fees.

How will this new structure affect services for contract holders?

As contract holder you will still receive the same number of samples diagnosed per contract level (1 @ \$100, 2 @ \$200, 5 @ \$500, and 10 @ \$1000). Written reports will be done on an as need basis, so be sure to request one if desired. There will be no additional charge for written reports.

Site visits will be provided at \$100 for contract holders of less than \$1000. For non-contract holders, a sample must be submitted prior to site visit. As in the past, site visits are provided free of charge to \$1,000 contract holders.

These new adjustments should have no effect on the quality of service that you have come to expect from the TDDL. These changes were brought about due to the demands of our clientele for a fast "turn around time" and after a review of the available time for our lab personnel. If you have any questions pertaining to these changes or any of the services that the lab provides, please feel free to give the TDDL a call and talk with Jeff Gregos or Douglas Maxwell (phone: 608-845-2535 or email: jsg@plantpath.wisc.edu; dum@plantpath.wisc.edu).

We appreciate the feed back that we have received about the TDDL's operation this past season and look forward to serving you for another year.

Mark your Calendars!

Summer Field Day

O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility
Tuesday, August 10th, 1999

Verona, Wisconsin
608-845-6536

Noernet: Time to Get Linked

By Tom Schwab

Are you ready for a quick and easy communication network linking you with many other local turf professionals? Noernet is that network — and the best things about it are it's fast, valuable, and free. Noernet is an automated electronic list that serves as an "electronic discussion group." The way it works is anyone in the group can email a question, concern, or comment to the discussion group's email address. Everyone in the group will see that email and may reply back. Likewise all Noernetters will see the reply and may have some additional knowledge to add. This Noernet sounds similar to an ordinary discussion situation where a group of peers sit around a room talking about common concerns. It is about the same except that "Noernetting" can be done anytime and without the need to travel to a common meeting place to have the discussion.

The Noernet discussion group was started two years ago. Currently there are 52 subscribers from many walks of turfgrass management. Most are from golf courses, but there are also members from sports turf management, sod production, agriculture and consumer protection, university faculty and staff, and turf industry suppliers. In these two years, discussions have involved many interesting subjects. They include turfgrass selection, solutions to pest problems, reporting pest outbreaks, selecting plant management tools, human relations in the green industry, reporting turfgrass educational meetings, selection and care of ornamentals, tips on landscape construction, sale of used turf equipment, and other topics. Just last week a Badger Turf and Grounds student used Noernet with great success. He wanted to borrow a triplex greensmower for one of his engineering classes this spring. So he asked if anyone on Noernet had a spare mower to lend the class. The next day a superintendent wrote back offering the class a mower.

Noernet is meant for local use and concerns. There are many national discussion groups, but by keeping our Noernet local for Wisconsin and neighboring state turf professionals we are able to voice regional dealings unique to the upper Midwest. Likewise there is plenty of local expertise right here to answer questions posed by other Noernetters. Presently most subscribers

are from Wisconsin, but there are also some from Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa.

The University of Wisconsin - Madison, sponsors this discussion group. They have set an appropriate use policy for this ListProcessor:

- You may not use email for uses that are forbidden by UW campus telephone or the campus paper mail system.
- This email is not intended to be used for personal purposes or gain.
- Do not send abusive, vulgar, harassing or bigoted messages.
- It is the policy of the University of Wisconsin - Madison Board of Regents that the facilities (this ListProcessor) are to be used primarily for purposes of fulfilling the University's mission of teaching, research and public service.
- Content of all postings are that of the contributing author and not necessarily of the Noernet list owner, moderator, or of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Information Technology.

If you believe sharing of information is an important tool for turf management, then Noernet is one more tool available to you. Let other peers know about this service if you feel they could benefit from it. Some subscribers are extremely active with the service and respond to every message. Other people never write. Some only use the service to monitor what is happening around the region. Most subscribers use the service to keep track of happenings and respond occasionally. You may participate as much as you would like. You can also participate across professions. Sport field managers and sod producers have good information for lawn care providers and golf course managers, and vice versa. We all belong to one important industry that is being brought closer together by sharing information.

To subscribe

To subscribe to NOERNET follow these steps:

- Send an email addressed to: listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu
- Leave subject line blank (This initial message is read by a computer and is confused by extra writing.)
- In the message area write this: subscribe noernet YourFirstName

YourLastName

- Then push the send command. That's all you have to do.
- It may take a day before I can post your name to the list — so be patient.

To subscribe and unsubscribe, you'll be writing to listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu (a computer). The ListProcessor computer will enter the address from which you subscribed as an authorized address to send messages to and from. The ListProcessor will then put you in the subscriber's file and send you a Welcome Message. Once you've joined, you will write to the Noernet address. How to write to Noernet is described next.

To send a message

Once subscribed, this is the way to send a message to the other Noernetters:

- Send an email addressed to: noernet@relay.doit.wisc.edu
- You may write in the subject line if you want. This will give the other subscribers a sense of what you're writing about.
- In the message area write whatever turf query that is on your mind.
- Push the send command — then just sit back and wait for other Noernetters to reply and give you the information that you need.

To quit Noernet

If you want to quit the group you can unsubscribe any time. Also you should unsubscribe your old computer address if you switch to a new address. Then subscribe your new address to rejoin the group. Follow these steps to quit:

- Send an email addressed to: listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu
- Leave the subject line blank.
- In the message area write: unsubscribe noernet

To postpone

If you want to postpone Noernet messages while on vacation or for some other reason, do the following steps:

- Send an email addressed to: listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu
- Leave the subject line blank.
- In the message area write: set noernet mail postpone

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To resume

To set it back when you return:

- Send an email addressed to: listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu
- Leave the subject line blank.
- In the message area write: set noernet mail ack (ack is a message for the

computer to acknowledge back to you that it received your posting.)

For additional commands or help

If you want to learn more commands for this system or need help:

- Send an email addressed to: listproc@relay.doit.wisc.edu

- Leave the subject line blank.
- In the message area write: help
- You can also write or call me if you have any questions or problems at tgschwab@facstaff.wisc.edu or 608-845-6895

1999 will be the first full year as an organization for the Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association (WSTMA). The board of directors met in February to discuss important details for the newly formed organization. We discussed meeting sites, education, newsletter, dues, and recapped the Sport Turf Managers Association (STMA) national convention. Identifying 1999 meeting dates for WSTMA was the first order of business. Other business that we discussed is summarized below. The year 1999 is shaping up to be a good year for education and growth.

- The first meeting for 1999 was held at the Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO back in January. The attendance during the sports field sessions was notable. Those educational offerings for EXPO will continue to generate important information for Wisconsin's sports turf managers.
- April 22nd — The Spring meeting has just concluded. This event occurred at the Marathon County Youth Building in Wausau. Park's supervisor Greg Freix hosted the event. Unfortunately, the weather was somewhat short of ideal with continuous rain and cold throughout the day. Over 60 sports field managers still made the trip and were glad they did. Floyd Perry, a nationally recognized and awarded sport turf manager and educator, conducted the program. His programs and workshops have been met with great enthusiasm both nationally and internationally. For more details on the meeting, see Brett Grams' article in this newsletter.
- August 10th — The summer meeting will be held during the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association's field day at the Noer Facility in Verona. Highlights will include research, demonstrations, equipment, and products specifically for athletic field use.
- September 14th — WSTMA will be

meeting at UW-La Crosse to view their fields and listen to some experiences from our host and field supervisor Pete Bemis. An educational program with demonstrations will also take place but the specifics have not been worked out yet. You may contact me or one of the other board of directors if you have ideas for future education and we will try to accommodate that need. My phone number is 608-845-6895.

- Two other meetings were discussed:
 - 1.) The Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO 2000 will be held next January 11th and 12th. Planning will start this month to book speakers and decide on educational subjects. The sports turf session will continue to grow in educational benefits and popularity.
 - 2.) The second meeting that WSTMA could become more involved in is the STMA national convention. It will be held next January 12th through the 15th in Saint Louis, Missouri. We are checking into setting up a conference package for WSTMA members to attend the convention. It will include conference registration (member and non-member), bus, hotel, a hospitality room for one evening, and some meals. This idea will be discussed with the members during the summer field day to see if there is enough interest to fill a bus.

The WSTMA will produce a quarterly newsletter. The content of the newsletter may include turf research, events that effect athletic field maintenance, recaps or previews of meetings, a question and answer section, a calendar, and a page for advertisements. The advertisement section is for businesses that market athletic field products and services. The cost will be \$100/year for four issues. The section may also be for athletic field managers to advertise job openings, or sell used equipment. The cost for "help wanted"

and "used equipment" advertisements will be \$10 per issue. Your ad text should be sent to me, at the below address, in a photo-ready business-card-size format. I will bill you on a prorated basis depending on how many issues remain in this first year. In subsequent years, the text and payment will be due by the first of the year. Contact me if you are interested in placing an ad in the newsletter or have any related questions:

- Tom Schwab
- OJ Noer Turfgrass Facility
- 3101 Highway M
- Verona, Wisconsin 53593-9537
- Phone- 608-845-6895 or 608-845-6536
- Fax- 608-845-8162
- Email- tgschwab@facstaff.wisc.edu

The annual WSTMA dues will change for the year 2000. The change will be only for the WSTMA members that are not national STMA members. If you are not a member of the national organization, the cost will be \$35. Otherwise the state dues will remain \$25 if you are a member of STMA. Since STMA provides many benefits for each state chapter such as educational offerings, organization advice, and national exposure, the costs for these benefits are included in national dues. Consequently STMA charges state chapters \$10 for each member who is not also a member of the national organization.

One more exciting thing was discussed during the board meeting. It was reported that Dave Mellor from the Milwaukee Brewers would like to host a meeting sometime. He said that he couldn't do it in 1999 because of all the construction of Miller Park, but he might be available in one of the next couple years. I don't mean to put Dave on the spot, but maybe we could combine the meeting with watching a home game. While I'm wishing, I'll add, how about one against the Cubs?!

WTA Summer Field Day Offers Many Benefits

By Tom Schwab

The Wisconsin Turfgrass Association (WTA) Summer Field Day will soon be here. The date is set for Tuesday, August 10th, 1999. The permanent location for the event is the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research Facility in Verona. This university facility provides a grand venue to observe the most turf research in one location and also carry out the ever-expanding trade show segment.

There will be many new and continuing studies to learn about this year. More university researchers will answer questions and present information than ever before. There will be specialists from agronomy and entomology in addition to soil science, horticulture and plant pathology. Their research can help sod growers, sport turf managers, golf course superintendents, lawn care specialists, and other related turf managers.

The Wisconsin Sport Turf Managers Association will hold their summer meeting at Field Day. They will conduct a field painting demonstration in addition to talking about the new sports field studies installed at Noer. The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendent's Association cancelled their regular August meeting so that more members could attend Summer Field Day. The superintendents will be interested in viewing the new 15,000 square foot putting green that is a collaborative endeavor between the departments of horticulture, agronomy, and entomology along with inspecting the many other golf turf studies.

Don't forget the trade show! Well over 50 different suppliers

to the turf industry will again be putting on one of the best trade shows in the Mid-west. Factory experts will introduce and demonstrate new features of their equipment and allow attendees to test-drive the equipment themselves. Many other industry representatives will present their latest products to enhance the health and beauty of turfgrass environments.

New members that join WTA this year will get free admission to Field Day. If you have to pay, the day is still a bargain. Admission includes the research tour in the morning, ask the expert or one-on-one conversation with researchers all afternoon, and the trade show all day. Also included in registration are the field painting demonstration, coffee and donuts, lunch, vendor-sponsored auction, and great times to visit with your peers.

Registration materials will be sent out in June. But mark it on your calendars now to attend this huge once-a-year turfgrass event. You will surely learn useful information to make you a better turfgrass manager as well as have opportunities to network with peers. If you are not sure that you are on the WTA mailing list, then send your address to the Noer Turfgrass Facility/ 3101 Hwy M/ Verona, WI/ 53593 with a simple note saying, "add to WTA mailing list." See you in August and bring all your turf-related questions and concerns. One of the researchers, trade show exhibitors, or attendees can help you find a solution.

Question and Answer

By Dr. John C. Stier

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Horticulture

Q. What herbicides can be used at time of planting to suppress crabgrass?

A. Siduron (1-(2-methylcyclohexyl)-3-phenylurea) is the only grass herbicide which can be applied to newly seeded turf. Siduron controls crabgrass, barnyardgrass and foxtail (*Setaria* spp.) by inhibiting cell division in developing roots. Siduron will not control perennial grasses or broadleaf weeds. Siduron can be applied either at planting time or to immature cool season turf. Six products containing siduron are labeled for use in Wisconsin. Siduron is commonly sold under the trade name Tupersan. It is available by itself as a wettable powder (from DuPont via PBI Gordon) or a granular (from Lesco). It is commonly sold in combination with starter fertilizers by companies such as O.M. Scotts and Anderson's. Siduron is available for most turf areas, including home lawns.

Q. We sodded a tee with 'Limousine' last year and subsequently heard from a landscape contractor that 'Limousine' was not a

good choice. We are renovating another tee this year and want to know if we should avoid 'Limousine'.

A. 'Limousine' is a cultivar of Kentucky bluegrass which was first released in 1982. Bred from a plant collected in Germany, 'Limousine' has an aggressive growth habit and is touted as a variety intended for areas subjected to intensive wear. Color is very dark green with fine textured leaves. Seed is readily available and, as the golf course in Wisconsin indicated, is available in sod. In the most recent NTEP trials, Limousine ranked in the top 3% of Kentucky bluegrass varieties mowed between 0.5 to 1.0 inch. Other top performers included America, Rambo and several experimental varieties. 'Limousine' has good to excellent resistance to *Poa annua* invasion and leafspot disease. It performs better at lower nitrogen rates (2-3 lb N/1000 ft² annually) compared to high nitrogen rates (> 4 lb N/1000 ft²).

Q. How do I find information about sod availability in Wisconsin?

A. One of the easiest ways to get complete information about sod types and availability in Wisconsin is to use the website for the Midwest Sod Council. Currently this is accessed through the University of Illinois website. To get there, type in <http://www.turf.uiuc.edu>. This brings you to the Illinois turf web site. On the left hand side, select "turf links". On the pull-down menu which pops up, select "sod production". This gives you an active link to the Midwest Sod Council. From there, you can select sod production in WI, IL, or IN. Click on the Wisconsin map and a list of sod producers who are members of the MSC appears. When you click on an individual growers name, you can obtain detailed information about their sod, including costs, delivery, soil types, types of turf produced, varieties grown, and harvest size (e.g., big roll, conventional, etc.). As our turf program at the UW grows we will have the ability to develop other web-based information which personnel in the turf industry will be able to use.

Spring WSTMA Meeting Met with Enthusiasm

By Brett Grams, Waupaca Sand and Solutions



Floyd Perry expounds tons of practical knowledge to the crowd of interested sports field managers.

On Thursday April 22nd I was fortunate to attend the Athletic Field and Sports Turf Workshop taught by the nationally known Mr. Floyd Perry in Wausau, Wisconsin. The workshop was co-sponsored by Beacon Ballfields Inc. and the Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association. The cold and rainy day did not dampen the spirits of the more than 60 groundskeepers, vendors, and other industry attendees.

The day began with coffee and donuts and lots of conversation and idea swapping. Mr Perry started with a slide show that had the theme, "Field manager creativity, ingenuity, and hard work leads to success." Mr. Perry explained how to make homemade tools specific to groundskeeper's duties - tools that allow crew people to work smarter and not harder. He also showed us how to maintain baseball and softball infields that are easier to maintain while always taking into consideration safety of players and spectators. Floyd's many years of consulting and practical experience enabled him to explain many innovative situations and ideas for improving appearance and conditions of athletic fields. He also provided tips for working with supervisors and small budgets.

After a short break Mr. Perry concluded his presentation with a discussion on the repair and improvement of soccer and football fields. He felt that groundskeepers need to be able to control both traffic and field use to allow for healthy turf and safe conditions. Proper cultural practices were reviewed and discussed using case studies of people who had implemented simple but effective management techniques to improve field conditions. The overwhelming consensus of the attendees was that varying, and reducing traffic are the most important controlling factors to help athletic fields stay healthy.



Here Floyd shows us many innovative tools for field maintenance.

Jim Myrland of Beacon Ballfields Inc. gave an interesting discussion on baseball and infield mixes. Mr. Myrland explained that they are currently focusing on analyzing infield materials and products so that we will all be able to choose a mix that is easy to work with and offers good playability. Jim discussed the current testing he is using to estimate the percent sand, silt, and clay in mixes. He is also focusing on particle shape as it pertains to performance. Guidelines for amending infields and changing mix physical properties will soon be available as their research continues.

After a catered lunch we all jumped through the puddles to a dairy show barn at the Marathon County Fair Grounds where we watched Floyd Perry demonstrate unique and innovative equipment that makes the maintenance of sports fields easier. Hands-on examples gave us a better understanding of what types of duties are necessary to maintain athletic facilities. Equipment from Reinders Turf and Irrigation was also shown and explained in the program. The day was concluded with a demonstration of field painting of designs, logos, and mascots for enhanced presentation of our fields. Mr. Perry showed us how to create simple plastic stencils and how to use them for quick attractive painting.

All in all the day was very successful at providing many opportunities to learn new tricks from established industry legends as well as sharing ideas and theories.

It appears that the Wisconsin Sports Field Managers Association is growing in numbers and participation. If you would be interested in attending educational opportunities such as this, consider joining the WSTMA. The low cost makes membership an excellent opportunity to gain knowledge and interaction in your industry. Call Audra at the Noer Facility for an application and details today — 608-845-6536.



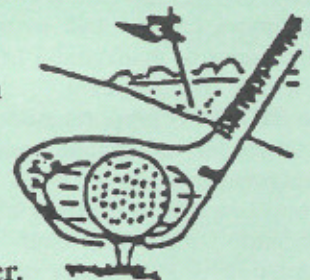
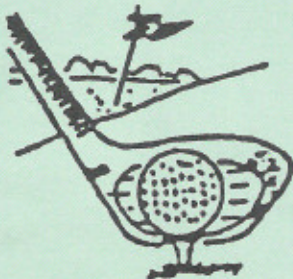
The inclement weather forced the afternoon sessions into one of the cow barns.

Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Fundraising Golf Tournament

Muskego Lakes Country Club - Muskego, Wisconsin
Monday, September 27th, 1999

*Prizes, Dinner, Good Fellowship, and Golf at
one of Wisconsin's Premier Country Clubs*

Registration materials will be mailed out this summer.
Call Audra at the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Facility for details:
608-845-6536



TPI Summer Convention and Field Day

By Tom Ford, Turf Producers International

The Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Summer Convention and Field Day will take place on July 22nd and 23rd, 1999 at Michigan State University (MSU) in East Lansing, Michigan. Seventy exhibitors are expected in the trade show where they will unveil a multitude of new and improved turfgrass farming equipment and services. The conference will also feature seven hours of area-based field demonstrations. The demonstrations will include field irrigation equipment, soil preparation implements,

net setters, turf vacuums, large-scale mowers, harvesters, installer forklifts, and more. In addition, an intensive tour is being offered to the Hancock Turfgrass Research Facility on the MSU campus. MSU will also be the site of TPI's full-day turfgrass professional symposium on July 20th.

Nearly 1,000 people from across the U.S and around the world are expected to attend this event. Attendees will tour McCleod Sod Farm and Green Acres Turf Farm in addition to experiencing the

exhibits, demonstrations, educational offerings, and social events. Two optional tours will be offered in conjunction with the conference. A pre-convention tour will visit Frankenmuth, Michigan and a three-day post-convention tour will visit Mackinaw Island, Michigan.

Turfgrass professionals and non-turfgrass industry attendees are welcome to take part in this event. Full details are available from Tom Ford by phone - 800/405-8873 or 847/705-9898, or by email - Turf-Grass@msn.com

Badger Turf and Grounds Club

By Eric Counselman, BTGC President

As the turf industry grows to new heights, the University of Wisconsin-Madison turf program has expanded accordingly. The university has added classes, supported the expansion of research facilities, and hired new faculty members to improve the turf program and to increase services to the industry. The Badger Turf and Grounds Club (BTGC) was formed in 1987 to unite turf students striving to make the most of their formal education. Coinciding with growth in the university and turf industry, the BTGC has increased its activities and members.

One of the goals of the BTGC is to educate students outside of their everyday classes. The club meets once a month to discuss activities and listen to speakers. In March, Adam Mock from Reinders spoke to us about the basics of irrigation systems. This month we had Chris Williamson, the new turf entomologist at the UW, speak to us about predominant turf insects, the damage they cause, and how they can be controlled. Chris also talked about his plans for future research projects and the addition of a turf entomology class. Back around Thanksgiving we had Paul Zwaska, from the Baltimore Orioles, talk to us about the challenges of managing a field for a major league baseball team.

The BTGC also supports students that wish to attend turf-related conventions and seminars. This year the BTGC gave six \$250 travel awards to students who went to Orlando for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America convention. The club also pays entry fees to local conventions. Many club members

attended the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association EXPO and/or the Wisconsin GolfTurf Symposium to listen to speakers and network with superintendents. Various fundraisers are organized by the members to provide for the travel awards and entrance fees, the largest being the aerification at Blackhawk Country Club. Every May, Monroe Miller hires the BTGC to assist his crew in aerifying his course. Because Monroe aerifies his greens using the Floyd-McKay machine, BTGC members learn an alternative to core aerification in the process. In the fall Bruce Livingston hired us to help sod some new tees at Trappers Turn Golf Course and every March, the BTGC members help out at the UW-Extension Turf School. At Turf School, BTGC members assist instructors as they conduct a series of classes on the basics of turfgrass management.

Most recently the turf club ventured to Kohler for a tour of Blackwolf Run and Whistling Straits, and enjoyed the gracious

Kohler Company hospitality. We started off touring Blackwolf Run with Mike Lee and his crew. In light of Blackwolf Run's busy summer we learned about hosting the Women's U.S. Open and restoring the golf course after having it submerged by a flooding river. We were then treated to lunch, and headed over to Whistling Straits. Saeed Assadzandi walked the Straits course with us explaining the challenges of fine fescue fairways, course grow in, and maintaining a herd of sheep, all of which left many of us scrambling for our jaws. The day was both educational and enjoyable.

Plans for next fall include a tri-state golf tournament between turf programs at UW, University of Minnesota, and Iowa State University. A Brewer Game and Tour is also planned with the guys from Reinders. If you have any fundraiser suggestions or educational ideas feel free to contact me at 608-294-7831, or email at edcounselman@students.wisc.edu.



BT&GC Turfgrass EXPO 1999 scholarship recipients (starting from front row left) - Trygve Ekern, Raechel Sager, Eric Counselman, Jon Berge; (back row) - Brandon Burns, Scott Anthes, Tod Blankenship, Steve Pearson.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 10	WGCSA Monthly Meeting	Green Bay CC
May 24	Club Manager's Golf Outing	Janesville CC
May 25	NGLGCSA Monthly Meeting	Northwood GC, Rhinelander
June 2	Super/Pro	EventQuit-Qui-Oc GC, Elkhart Lake
June 7	WGCSA Monthly Meeting	Ozaukee CC, Mequon
June 8	John Deere Team Championship	Chenequa CC, Hartland
June 29	WLF Board Meeting	TBA
June 22	NGLGCSA Monthly Meeting	Crystal Springs GC, Seymour
July 26	WGCSA Monthly Meeting	Bull's Eye CC, WI Rapids
July 22,23	TPI Summer Convention and Field Day	Michigan State University
July 29	WSP Summer Field Day	Lurvey Farms Turf Nursery
Aug 3	NGLGCSA Monthly Meeting	Riverside CC, Menominee, MI
Aug 10	WTA Summer Field Day	Noer Facility, Verona
Aug 14	UW-Madison Homeowner Turf Day	Noer Facility, Verona
Aug 18	WNA Summer Field Day	MATC North Campus, Mequon
Sept 7	NGLGCSA Monthly Meeting	Trout Lake G&CC, Arbor Vitae
Sept 8	WLCA Annual Golf Classic	TBA, Milwaukee
Sept 13	WGCSA Monthly Meeting	Washington County GC, Hartford
Sept 14	WSTMA Fall Meeting	UW-La Crosse
Sept 18	WLCA Certified Technician Testing	MATC North Campus, Mequon
Sept 27	WTA Golf Fundraiser	Muskego Lakes CC, Muskego
Sept 28	NGLGCSA Crew Outing	George Young Rec., Iron River, MI
Oct 1,2	WGCSA Couples Weekend	Mascoutin CC, Berlin
Oct 12	WGCSA Monthly Meeting	North Shore CC, Menasha
Nov 2	WLF Board Meeting	TBA
Nov 16,17	Milorganite/ WI Golf Turf Symposium	Brookfield Marriott
Jan 11,12	Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO 2000	Marriott Madison West
Jan 12-15	STMA National Convention	Saint Louis
Jan 19-21	Mid-Am Trade Show	Navy Pier, Chicago
Feb 1	Spring Valley Turf Fair	Country Inn, Pewaukee
Feb 16-20	GCSAA International Conference	New Orleans

WTA Members — If you have an important date you'd like to share with other members, call 608-845-6895 or Fax 608-845-8162 and let us include it in the next calendar.

Abbreviations and Telephone Numbers

GCSAA	Golf Course Superintendents Association of America	800-472-7878
John Deere	John Deere Team Championship	-877-746-0614
Mid-Am	Mid-Am Trade Show 1999	847-526-2010
NGLGCSA	Northern Great Lakes Golf Course Superintendents Assoc.....	715-845-2339
Spring Valley	Spring Valley Turf Fair	800-635-2123
Super/Pro	Golf Superintendent and Professional Golf Outing.....	414-786-4303
STMA	Sports Turf Manager Association	800-323-3875
TPI	Turf Producer International.....	800-405-8873
WGCSA	Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association.....	414-786-4303
WLF	Wisconsin Landscape Federation.....	414-529-4705
WNA	Wisconsin Nursery Association.....	414-529-4705
WSP	Wisconsin Sod Producers	920-589-3681
WSTMA	Wisconsin Sports Turf Manager Association	608-845-6536
WTA	Wisconsin Turfgrass Association	608-845-6536

WISCONSIN TURFGRASS ASSN.

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