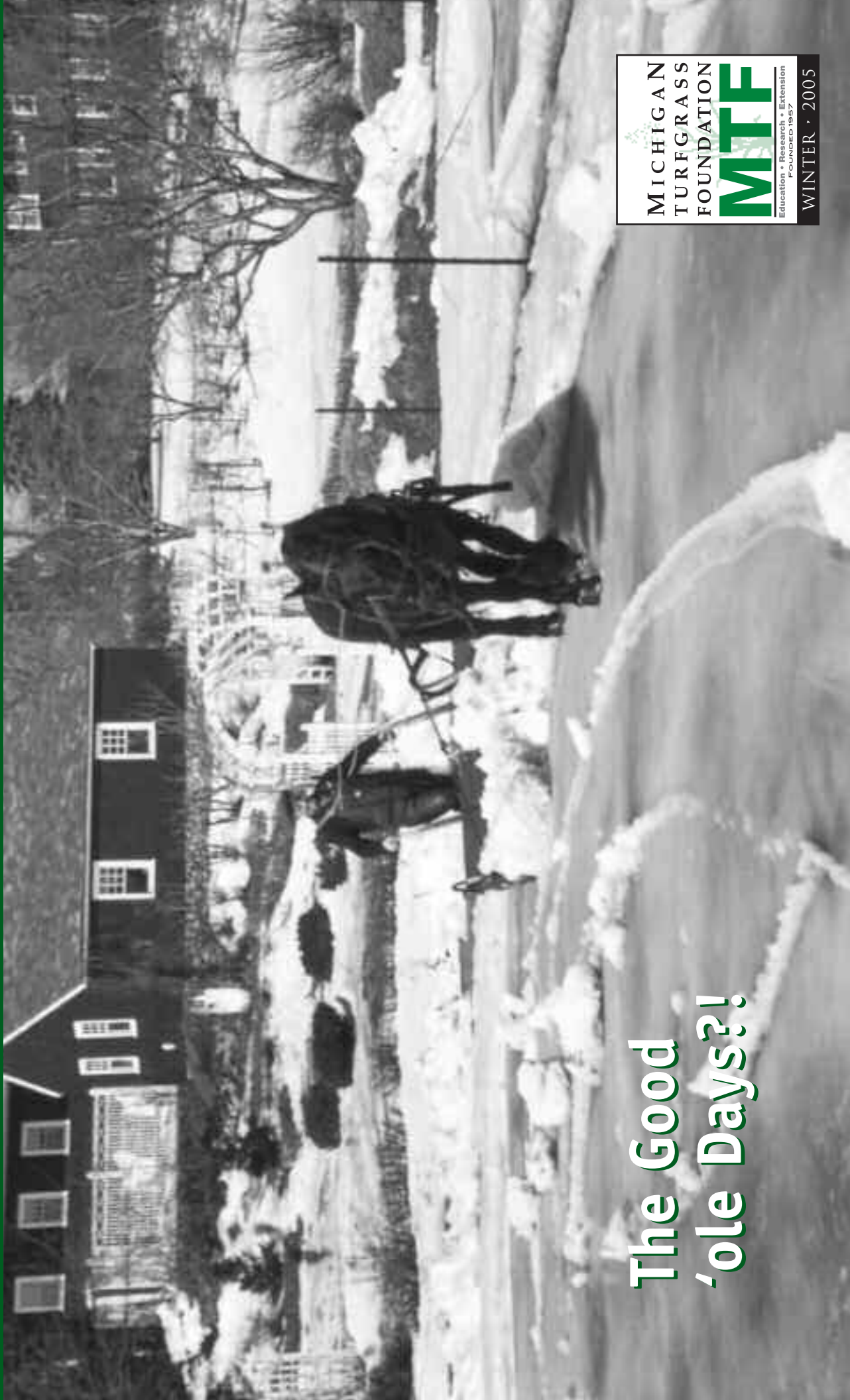


NEWSNOTES



The Good
'ole Days?!

MICHIGAN
TURFGRASS
FOUNDATION
MTF
Education • Research • Extension
FOUNDED 1957

WINTER • 2005



Dear Members:

By Kathleen Hilbert



This will be my last President's Message and I would like to thank the membership very much for the tremendous privilege of representing you as president of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation this past year, as well as 9 1/2 years on the Board of Directors.

We are about to start a new year with new goals and new ideas. As a lot of you are aware, we have embarked upon a new annual conference site for 2006. We will be co-hosting our conference with the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association at the Van Andel Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Many of you have requested something new for our annual conference so we have heard you and responded. We hope that some of you that have not been at the conference for a while will join us again.

We recently met with the Michigan State University professors and gave them the research grants. We have some exciting projects such as shade tolerance, sports turf mixes, creeping bentgrass seed breeding for tolerance of dollar spot, breeding for drought tolerance, nutrient fate on turf, grub damage, ant and earthworm research, green speed and moss research. Some of

this is ongoing and will be reported on at our annual conference. We hope to see you there.

This is the time of year to reflect upon our blessings. Hope you had very happy holidays, and I wish the best for you in this new year. ❁

Best personal regards,

Kathleen O. Hilbert

Cover photo: Removing snow from a putting green. (From the MSU Libraries—MMDS & Noer Foundation.)



Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Mission Statement

The mission of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation is to work in partnership with Michigan State University, supporting ongoing programs in research, education, and extension in the area of professional turfgrass management that will benefit all individuals who manage turfgrasses or derive pleasure from the results of such management.

75th Annual MTF Conference

January 17–20th, 2005
Holiday Inn South, Lansing

Annual meeting:
Wednesday, January 19, 2005

For 2006 new conference site! See page 10 for details.

Put this date on your Calendar!

Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program
Golf Outing and Fundraiser

Monday May 16th, 2005
Travis Pointe Country Club, Ann Arbor
Make sure to look for more information
regarding the MTESP Spring Outing

The Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association

invites you to sign up to receive
sport turf related updates, articles and news
through your e-mail. Just enter your e-mail
address at [http://www.mistma.org/listserv/
default.asp](http://www.mistma.org/listserv/default.asp)

Ski & Learn Turfgrass Symposium

See page 14
for registration form.

Water Use Reporting

Just a reminder that the Department of Environmental Quality will be sending out their yearly Water Use Reporting package and invoice during the winter months. You should expect to receive the package by mid March and have 45 days to complete the material. New reporting requirements include an increased fee, GPS location of the well(s), and yearly static water-level reading on the well(s). The reporting package includes instruction and forms. If you do not receive a package by the end of March, contact Ron VanTil at the number below.

As green industry professionals, it is important to abide by regulatory requirements and fulfill your responsibilities by accurately reporting your water use. This report also ensures that regulators and legislators understand the true volume of water demand in our state and should help reduce the likelihood that our water supply is traded or sold out-state.

For more information visit the website www.michigan.gov/deqmichiganwateruse or call Ron VanTil at DEQ, Water Division (517) 241-1414. The website also contains collected data from prior reporting.



My New Year's Resolutions

By Tom Smith



Another year ends, and that means it is time to make those resolutions for 2005. Of course, briefly reflecting on 2004 should make any resolutions for the new year a little easier to obtain.

2004 can be described in a number of ways, but the word that comes to my mind the most is water. Dry in April, way too much water in May and early June, and proposed laws that will regulate the water we use. Withdrawals, diversions, conflict resolutions, conservation, increased fees, water reporting...Water Legacy Act, Great Lakes Charter, and Annex 2001 all became part of my vocabulary in 2004.

Another word that was used a lot in 2004 was money, or should I say lack of money. The state budget had massive deficits with no relief in site. This affected MSU programs and our partners at Michigan Department of Agriculture. Cuts were suggested here, there and everywhere. Priorities became a priority.

Finally, communication was a word, a mission, and a goal for 2004. With

everything going on, the need for all of us to communicate became ever more crucial. E-mails, list serves, phone calls, *NewsNotes*, meetings, field days and conferences were the various forms that this communication took. It still felt like I said half of what I needed to say and it took twice as long.

So, for 2005, I resolve:

To make sure turf is in the driver's seat when it comes to water issues: We now have a Non-Ag Irrigator Subcommittee in place and a workgroup was formed to develop water Best Management Practices (BMP's). The first draft is already out for review. I serve on the MDEQ Water Policy Stakeholder's Group, and I will be making suggestions as to future water legislation. Craig Hoffman continues to serve on the Ground Water Advisory Council. The two of us communicate frequently and try very hard to engage MTF members and others in the industry. Please help! Water will again be a priority with the new legislature and continues to be a priority with the Governor.

To establish a comprehensive fund-raising plan for the Foundation: 2004 taught this industry that we must be as self-sufficient as possible. Don't get me wrong — we fared very well within MSU and MDA budgets, meaning budgets stayed flat. But you can't grow a program on flat funding. We need an annual gift program, a planned gift program, and need to develop unique and innovative ways to raise funds. We are now getting

advice from a professional fund-raiser, who is currently donating his time. We will be engaging a student group from the MSU Broad Business School who specialize in helping non-profits. And I would like to establish a fund-raising committee to help achieve this goal more effectively.

To communicate better, more frequently, more efficiently, and to make sure it's two-way: Kay and I have discussed in detail and will formalize a set communication path for all messages, updates and calls for input. The same message will go out in a number of different ways for rapid and thorough dissemination. Likewise, we need to make sure there is an efficient way to receive feedback from all members. We will be issuing regular press releases and our student intern is now finalizing a local, state and national distribution list. Our statewide directory will finally be released this year, and we will include key information from our industry survey and labor study. My goal is to have a copy of this directory on the desk of the Governor, every legislator, key state agencies, and MSU administrators. There are many great reasons to have a statewide turf directory, but for me, the impact it will have on those outside the industry is one of the most important.

To grow the Foundation: Clearly there is strength in numbers. Past-president Jerry Grossi has just started a comprehensive

continued on page 11

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Emerald Ash Borer Update

CONTACT: Jennifer Quimby, MDA, 517/241-2485

Michigan officials today announced the outcome of several prosecutions the state aggressively sought after investigations showed willful violations of the state's Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine. "The investigations and subsequent judgments demonstrate how seriously Michigan views the importance of the quarantine and our commitment to pursue violators," said Dan Wyant, director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), the agency responsible for issuing and enforcing the quarantine. "The quarantine is integral to the state's battle of stopping the spread of this devastating pest as well as reducing the tremendous environmental and economic impacts EAB creates for our communities, residents and local, state and federal governments." One case Wyant noted in particular was that of OGW Tree Service and Trucking of Southfield. The company began working with a community in Oakland County in 2003 removing dead and dying ash trees from that area. Despite numerous trips to the state's no-cost disposal sites and awareness of the EAB quarantine, the company illegally moved ash wood out of the quarantined area to properties in Gratiot and Luce counties. "The Department's investigation showed that the company is directly responsible for the introduction and infestation of Emerald Ash Borer into Gratiot County. Thankfully, Luce County was spared from a similar fate as we have found no evidence of EAB infestation there to date," Wyant said. "Sadly, Michigan citizens and ash resources

end up paying the ultimate price for this type of disregard for the law." Detailed MDA evidence and investigations led both Gratiot and Luce County prosecutors to charge the company with multiple counts for willfully violating the state EAB quarantine. In Gratiot County, OGW Tree Service and Trucking was found guilty and ordered to pay the state \$8,680 in fines, court costs and restitution as well as serve 90 days in jail should the fees fail to be paid in a timely manner. The company was also found guilty in Luce County and fined \$200. "I was impressed by the documentation and thoroughness of the investigation conducted by the MDA staff," said Steve Knittel, assistant prosecutor for Gratiot County. "Their commitment to detail and diligence in pursuing this case compelled this office to seek the maximum penalties allowed under the law. "Other recently prosecuted cases include: J & J Hardwoods of Lansing was convicted of illegally moving ash saw logs out of the quarantined area. The owner pleaded guilty to 10 counts of violating the quarantine and ordered to pay \$1,240 in fines and court costs. Progressive Timberlands, based in Traverse City, was convicted of violating the quarantine by illegally moving ash logs. The owner was ordered to pay \$2,000 in fines and court costs. Roberts Tree Service of Livonia was convicted of violating the quarantine by illegally moving firewood. The owner was sentenced to one-year probation, 80 hours of community service, and ordered to pay \$690 in fines and courts costs.

With the discovery of EAB in July of 2002, MDA immediately issued a quarantine prohibiting the movement of ash logs, materials and all firewood to contain the beetle and prevent potential artificial spread. After review and updates, the quarantined counties now include: Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Shiawassee, Washtenaw and Wayne; as well as several townships, cities or villages within seven other counties. There is also a federal quarantine in place to complement and supplement the state quarantine for any movement across state lines.

"Michigan is working tirelessly to stem impacts from EAB and to save our state's forestland and natural resource heritage," said Patricia Lockwood, State EAB Policy Director for Governor Jennifer M. Granholm. "In order to be successful, however, this effort also requires the awareness and cooperation of all Michigan residents, especially those living, doing business, or visiting quarantined areas. We urge full compliance and also for residents to immediately report any potential questionable activity to the state's EAB toll-free hotline at 866/325-0023." ❁

For more information about EAB or Michigan's response efforts, visit the MDA web site at www.michigan.gov/mda and click on "Emerald Ash Borer" in the spotlight section; or visit www.emeraldashborer.info.

Grossi Honored by PLCAA



Gerald Grossi received the Legacy of Success award at the Professional Lawn Care Association of America's annual meeting in November, 2004. Grossi, immediate past-president of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, was honored along with five others for their many years of service to the PLCAA.

Grossi is a former president of PLCAA and has been active in the Association for over a decade. He has also been heavily involved on the Green Industry Expo Board, currently serving as the chairman of this large industry event.

Congratulations to Jerry for this award that recognizes him for the many hours that he has dedicated to the development and expansion of PLCAA, and his devotion to the green industry. ❁

2005 Research & Support Grants Awarded



On December 16, the MTF Board awarded research and support grants to MSU turf faculty. This year, over \$550,000 in pre-proposals were submitted during the summer for industry comment. Following this comment period, almost \$380,000 in full proposals were submitted and reviewed by the research committee. The research committee is made up of representatives from all segments of the turf industry. The entire MTF Board then reviewed all full proposals, the industry comments, and committee recommendations, and made final decisions on funding at the December meeting. A total of \$137,500 in projects was approved.

This year, excellent proposals were submitted, all very worthy of funding. Research ranged from "basic" to "applied" and represented all segments of the turf industry.

The following projects were at least partially funded for 2005:

Faculty	Proposal
Bughrara	1. Discovery of Genes for Drought Tolerance and Development of Molecular Markers to Assist Turfgrass Breeding
Calhoun	2. Weed Garden 3. Best Management Practices for Weed Control 4. T3 Weed Protocols
Frank	5. Developing Phosphorus Recommendations for Turfgrass 6. Nitrogen and Phosphorus Leaching from a Mature Turfgrass
Hammerschmidt	7. Fungicide-Plant Resistance Activator Interactions in Dollar Spot Management
Lang	8. Physiological Parameters Essential to Improving Tolerance of Turfgrass Under Shade
Nikolai	9. Putting Green Mowing Height Study 10. Mowing Height Water Management Study
Rogers	11. Re-Establishment Philosophy for Sports Fields in MI 12. Effect of Mulched Maple Leaves on Broadleaf Weeds
Smitley	13. Long-term Solutions for Outbreaks of European Chafer and Japanese Beetle, and Management of Ants and Earthworms on Golf Courses
Vargas	14. Moss Control Strategies for Michigan 15. Disease Resistant Bentgrass

The following projects were approved subject to additional funding:

Buhler	Best Management Practices for Lawns and Commercial Turf
Calhoun	Weed Suppression During Turfgrass Establishment
Crum	Modifying Soil Environments to Promote Turfgrass Growth and Recovery
Frank	Nutrient Delivery Systems in Turfgrass
Smitley	Determine if Golf Courses Can Protect and Preserve Ash Trees with Annual Insecticides
Swartz	DVD Development

Thanks to all of the organizations that continue to support the MTF through donations and fund-raisers and a special thanks to Sue Shockey for chairing the Research Committee. 🌿

Smith Accepts “Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award” for MTF



At the annual dinner of the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association, President Kathy Aznavorian awarded the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation with the “Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award.” This award is presented to an individual or organization that over the span of a lifetime has provided steadfast leadership, outstanding service, and continuous commitment to the Michigan golf industry. The award is named after W. Bruce Matthews. Mr. Matthews spread his expertise throughout the fairways of Michigan for many generations. Past recipients are W. Bruce Matthews (1996), Everett Kircher (1997), Bill Howard (1998) and Darl and Letha Scott (1999), the Kapnick Insurance Company (2000), Terry Moore (2001), Art McCafferty (2002), and Estelle Dul (2003).

President Aznavorian presentation of the award: Without grass we wouldn't be in business. This may not sound very profound to you, but for 75 years our industry has benefited from the expertise of a very special group of individuals who made our businesses flourish, in more ways than one. The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation works

in partnership with Michigan State University, supporting ongoing programs in research, education and extension in the areas of professional turfgrass management. This benefits all individuals who manage turfgrasses or derive pleasure from the results of such management.

Executive Director Tom Smith stated “What we have is an industry driving the MTF that continues to expand economically, environmentally, and politically. We created it, nurtured it and now it's running full tilt, and we're all trying to climb on board and keep it steered in the right direction.”

Yes, it is headed in the right direction. Because of the success of the MTF, interest and an excitement for turf in Michigan has increased. Membership in the MTF reflects the full diversity of turfgrass professionals and aficionados, including golf courses, seed and sod growers, lawn and landscape contractors, sports turf managers, athletic associations, and other facets of the industry. The success of the MTF will bring a significant return to our industry. This ensures the continuation of what was started long ago, which had led to the fruits of what we enjoy today. Congratulations to Tom Smith, Executive Director of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, this year's recipient of the “Matthews Lifetime Achievement Award.” ❁

Turfgrass Species and Cultivar Selection

By Suleiman S. Bughrara, Ph.D.,
Turfgrass Breeding
and Genetics, MSU

It is important to select a grass species and cultivar that is well adapted to the area, able to perform well, and well suited to the intended level of management. In Michigan, Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, tall fescue, fine-leaf fescue and creeping bentgrass are the most commonly used turfgrasses. These species vary in their characteristics, site adaptations, and management requirements. This article recommends cultivars on the basis of National Turfgrass Evaluation Program testing done at the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center at Michigan State University. All the cultivars are commercially available. A description of several common turfgrass mixtures is also included.

Kentucky Bluegrass

Kentucky bluegrass does best cut at 2 to 3 inches, growing on a sunny to lightly shaded site that is well-drained and moist with neutral to slightly acidic soil. It requires 2 to 6 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per growing season. This species grows rapidly during cool, moist weather. Hot, dry weather can cause it to become dormant unless irrigated. Seed germination and grass establishment are slow, and weeds may become a problem if an area is seeded in late spring or early summer. Kentucky bluegrass can be established from seed or sod with equal success. For better turfgrass performance, a blend of two to four Kentucky bluegrass cultivars should be used.

Top-performing cultivars:

- A 96-451
- Absolute†
- Alpine
- Award
- Bartitia†
- Barrister
- Bedazzled
- Blackstone
- Blue Knight
- Bluestone
- Boutique
- Excursion
- Freedom II
- Impact
- J-1838
- Langara
- Midnight II
- Moon Shadow
- North Star
- Nuglade
- Rugby II
- Serene
- Total Eclipse
- Tsunami
- Unique

† Cultivar performed well at our Traverse City testing plots.

Perennial Ryegrass

Perennial ryegrass is adapted to well-drained, moist, neutral to slightly acidic soil, and should receive 2 to 6 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per growing season. It requires full sun and performs best at a mowing height of 2 to 3 inches. Perennial ryegrass has poor tolerance to excessive heat, cold and drought. It performs better in a cool environment without extreme winter or summer temperatures. Recuperative ability is poor.

Top performing cultivars:

- Amazing
- Applaud
- Blazer IV
- Charismatic
- Citation Fore
- Elfkin
- Gator 3
- Grand Slam
- Inspire
- Mach 1
- Majesty
- Manhattan 4
- Paragon
- Pentium
- Pick PRNGS
- Pinnacle II
- Premier II

Tall Fescue

Tall fescue tolerates low soil fertility and persists well under low maintenance (approximately 2 to 3 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per growing season). Mowing height is 2 to 3 1/2 inches.

It possesses good insect (European chafer) and disease tolerance under Michigan conditions and tolerates some shade. It is useful in the transition zone between warm season and cool season grasses. It even tolerates short periods of submersion. It has excellent wear tolerance but poor recuperative ability.

Top-performing cultivars:

- Avenger
- Barlexas
- Biltmore
- Bingo
- Blackwatch
- F-4
- Focus
- Forte
- Grande II
- Inferno
- Justice
- Kalahari
- Plantation
- Proseeds
- Rebel Exeda
- 2nd Millennium
- SR 8550

Fine-leaf Fescue

Creeping red, sheep fescue and Chewings fescue turfs are medium to dark green. Sheep fescue tends to be distinctively blue green; hard fescue is gray-green. The growth habit of red fescue is rhizomatous; the other species are bunch-type grasses.

Creeping red, Chewings, and hard fescue are the best turfgrasses for dry, moderately shaded areas and infertile, acidic soil. The fine fescues require well-drained, slightly dry soils and minimum levels of management. Apply no more than 1 to 2 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per growing season. They are often mixed with Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass for planting dry shaded areas. Best mowing height is 2 to 3 inches. Avoid mowing during dry, hot weather. Note that red fine-leaf fescue can form thatch and develop disease when grown in moist areas of high fertility.

Top-performing cultivars:

Sheep fescue: Quatro

Chewings fescue:

- Ambassador
- Banner III
- Brittany
- Longfellow II
- PST-4HM
- Shadow

Hard fescue:

- ABT-HF1
- ABT-HF4
- Berkshire
- Minotaur
- Nordic
- Reliant II
- Scaldis II
- Stonehenge

Creeping red fescue:

- Dawson E+
(our research showed susceptibility to European chafer damage)
- Eureka II
- Jasper II

Creeping Bentgrass

For cultivar recommendations, see MSU Extension Bulletin E-2910, “Establishing a New Lawn Using Seed.”

Turfgrass Mixtures

Kentucky Bluegrass and Fine-leaf Fescue: Mixtures — such as 85 to 90 percent Kentucky bluegrass and 10 to 15 percent fine-leaf fescue — are recommended for shady areas with low fertility, areas prone to frequent moisture stress or areas with low management. For better results, perennial ryegrass can be added to the mixture. (Note: Rough bluegrass forms light green turf and adapts well to moist, shaded areas but has poor traffic tolerance and poor tolerance for hot or dry conditions. It is useful for wet, shady sites where fine-leaved fescue will not persist.)

Kentucky Bluegrass and Perennial Ryegrass: This mixture is recommended when quick cover is needed for aesthetic reasons or erosion control; when seeding in the summer; when Kentucky bluegrass is difficult to establish alone; or when irrigation is not available. Perennial ryegrass should never constitute more than 20 to 50 percent of the mixture by weight.

Kentucky Bluegrass and Tall Fescue: This mixture is recommended for high-traffic areas or areas receiving minimum management. Tall fescue must be the predominant species, making up at least 80 percent of the mixture. Areas seeded with this mixture should be maintained with low rates of nitrogen fertilizer. If the seeding areas receive high fertilization rates and more frequent irrigation, the Kentucky bluegrass will dominate the stand, leaving scattered bunches of tall fescue. This mixture is commonly used on playgrounds, park areas, athletic field and roadsides. When overseeding is required, tall fescue seed should be used. 🌿

Avoid turfgrass mixtures containing:

- Annual ryegrass
- KY 31 (coarse-leaf tall fescue)
- Linn (perennial ryegrass cultivar)
- Orchardgrass
- Redtop
- Timothy



Announcing Joint Winter Conference for 2006



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Amy Frankmann
MNL Executive Director
1-800-879-6652

Tom Smith
MTF Executive Director
(517) 321-1660

Nursery and landscape professionals from across the country will be meeting in Grand Rapids in January for the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association's 2005 Great Lakes Trade Exposition. The exposition, in its 82nd year, will take place January 10-12, 2005 at the new DeVos Place in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

One week later the 75th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference will take place in Lansing, Michigan at the Holiday Inn South.

Many in the green industry have wondered why not join forces for a bigger and better event? Well wonder no more!

The Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association and the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation are pleased to announce a joint agreement of the formation of a combined trade show centered around the 2006 Great Lakes Trade Exposition and the 76th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference. This combined event will take place January 9-11, 2006 at the DeVos Place in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Tim Doppel, President-elect, Michigan Turfgrass Foundation: "We feel this partnership will broaden the interactions of all segments of the green industry by expanding our educational programming and providing a more comprehensive trade show."

Mike Bovio, President-elect, Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association: "This partnership brings together the long history of our two organizations and creates an event of international-scale that benefits all of the green industry in Michigan and the region."

This joint agreement is in effect through 2007 and will be subject to renewal for future years. Exhibit space for 2006 will be made available at the individual 2005 Great Lakes Trade Exposition and the 75th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference.

For more information on these events contact either Amy Frankmann at 1-800-879-6652 or Tom Smith at (517) 321-1660. ❁

Our Work Isn't Done

By Tim Doppel, MTF Vice President



The MTF has a budget line item called Restricted Funds. Contributions are ear-marked for these funds by the donor. These special accounts are available for specific needs, identified by the Turfgrass Team at MSU, and are administered by the MTF Board. These restricted funds are used over and above the generous donations that are given by our members to support on-going research projects. I have listed the three Restricted Funds below with a brief description of each.

Founders Society

What are the objectives of this fund?

The Founders Society is a group of people past and present, who want to see the Hancock Turfgrass Research Center equipped with the necessary tools for research.

How is this account funded?

Originally one hundred members of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation donated \$1,000 each to the Founders Society with the understanding the principle would never be spent. At this time all wishing to join the Founders Society are welcome. Levels of support start at \$100 (Bronze), \$250 (Silver), \$500 (Gold), \$1,000 (Emerald), and \$2,500+ (Diamond).

How much is needed in this fund?

The principal amount should increase each year as a result of continued increases in membership in the Founders Society and directed donations.

LaFontaine Endowment Fund

What are the objectives of this fund?

The LaFontaine Endowment Fund was created to establish a source of funding for basic research in the field of turfgrass science. Basic research tends to be longer term, more involved and more expensive than applied research, and seeks to address research issues of long-term significance.

How is this account funded?

Donations are solicited from all individuals interested in improving the Turfgrass Science program at MSU.

How much is needed in this fund?

The initial goal of this fund was to raise one million dollars in principal. The long term goal is to continually build the principal amount such that the interest will support the stated goals of the fund.

Professors (Rieke) Endowment Fund

What are the objectives of this fund?

This fund was originally begun to support a graduate student at MSU in turfgrass science from the interest earned on the principal.

How is this account funded?

Donations were solicited when Dr. Paul Rieke retired with a goal of \$100,000. While this goal has been met, an amount closer to \$300-\$400,000 is actually what will be required to meet the obligations of this fund.

How much is needed in this fund?

The long-term goal of this fund is to earn enough interest to fund a graduate student at MSU. As this amount will continue to grow, so too must the principal through continual fund raising.

Each of these funds serves a critical need in turfgrass research at MSU. If you have given to any of these funds in the past, thank you! Perhaps you can increase your total donation by sending another gift this year? If you have not joined one of these funds yet, you are always welcome to do so! All of these funds need your support. Spread the word and thanks for your help! ❁

continued from page 2

membership drive with the goal of adding 500 members to the MTF within three years. With all that will face this industry in the coming years, it is critical to have MTF positioned to best represent the needs of turf in Michigan.

To move forward with a vision for the next 10–20 years: Over the last four years, the MTF Board has worked hard to clearly articulate a strategic plan. It started with a formal planning process. It has now progressed to a comprehensive plan that we are calling the **Michigan Turfgrass Stewardship Initiative — Affecting Environmental and Social Change**. This initiative includes

strengthening the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program for golf, expanding environmental stewardship into other segments like lawn care and sports turf, addressing critical water issues, developing K–12 curriculum to teach math and science in urban schools, creating a student internship program linked to corporate-sponsored scholarships, exposing K–12 students to turf to create awareness of jobs and career opportunities in turf to ensure a qualified work force for the future, and positioning turf systems as desirable land use alternatives in urban and suburban areas. This initiative has caught the attention of the Governor, key state agency directors, and MSU administrators.

Happy New Year to all, and hopes for a prosperous and healthy 2005! ❁

MTF Board Candidates

(elections will be held during the Annual Meeting on January 19, 2005.)

Nominated Position: NMTMA



**Daniel J.
Bissonette**

Election Statement:

It would be an honor and a privilege being elected to the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation Board of Directors. The MTF has always been a leader in research, education and environmental issues. Pending legislative issues only solidify the need for more involvement from the Foundation's members. I hope to continue the proactive efforts made by volunteers past and present sustaining the value of the turfgrass industry to the economy and environmental stewardship of Michigan.

Employment:

Worked in family business for 10 years until terminated by my father who afforded me the opportunity to get involved in the turfgrass industry by default.

Lakewood Shores Golf and Country Club: 1985–1986

Birchwood Farms Golf and Country Club: 1987–1989

Walloon Lake Country Club: 1989–Present

Professional Affiliations:

Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

United States Golf Association

Master Gardener

Nominated Position: Lawn Maintenance



**Dan
Boak**

Election Statement:

With a second term on the horizon, I look forward to continuing the work of the MTF board and members, if re-elected. It has been an honor to serve our membership and an enlightening experience to learn of all the internal mechanisms currently in place that bring the education, professionalism and research to this industry. Working together with the MTF board and members along with MSU professors and faculty for the common cause of bringing research to our industry to better our livelihoods is truly a team effort. With all the challenges we face in the green industry, we are fortunate to have MTF in our corner and I look forward to supporting and serving on behalf of all members again. I encourage all MTF members to participate as well, to further our industry.

Employment:

President and owner of Lawn Tech, Inc. of Grand Ledge.
Specialists in Turfgrass and Landscape Design

Professional Affiliations:

Capital Area Landscape and Nursery Association – President 2001

Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association

American Nursery and Landscape Association

Greater Lansing Home Builders Association

Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

Nominated Position: At Large

**John
Fulling, CGCS**

Election Statement:

I believe the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, its Boards and its staff members have done great things for the turfgrass industry in the State of Michigan and around the world for the last 75 years. I have a great passion for this industry and always welcome the opportunity to contribute in any way I can. I have been a strong supporter of environmental stewardship, industry research, and member education for many years. I value the great relationship between the MTF and Michigan State University. I would like the opportunity to serve you as a board member of the Michigan Turfgrass Foundation.

Employment:

January marks my 11th year as golf course superintendent of Kalamazoo Country Club. Prior to coming to Kalamazoo I was golf course superintendent at Berrien Hills Country Club in St. Joseph, MI for 2 years. I came to Michigan from Medinah Country Club in the Chicago area where I was Course #1 superintendent. I was at Medinah CC for just under 5 years.

Professional Affiliations:

Western Michigan GCSA
Greater Detroit GCSA
Northern Michigan TMA
Mid Michigan TMA
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation
Golf Association of Michigan

Offices Held:

Secretary – Treasurer WMGCSA (Current)
President WMGCSA 2003 & 2004
Board member WMGCSA 1995 – 2004
GCSAA Chapter effectiveness Task group Chair 2003 – 2004

Nominated Position: Sports Turf

**Rick
Jurries**

Election Statement:

I would like to be elected to the MTF Board to represent the interests of sport turf managers throughout Michigan. I have served as President of Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association for a term of 5 years. I believe I can use the experience to serve the MTF. I have dedicated 20 years in the industry and will dedicate my time and resources to the sports turf position.

Employment:

West Ottawa Public Schools
Sports Turf Management of MI, LLC

Professional Affiliations:

Sports Turf Managers Association
Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

Announcing the Inaugural Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium March 7 & 8, 2005 at Crystal Mountain Resort

• The School

The Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium is a cooperative effort between the MTF and the NMTMA. After all, what better way to celebrate the end of winter than to cap-it-off with a turf conference at Crystal Mountain Resort? Ok, there may be better ways but we think this is a good one.

This first annual event, and all proceeding Ski and Learn Symposium, will be dedicated to addressing a single turfgrass issue. This symposium is also unique in that participants will earmark the funds towards a specified research project and will also vote to pick next year's symposium topic.

• Session Times

Session times are from 8:00 A.M. – Noon on Monday March 7 and Tuesday March 8 with a Vendor Happy Hour from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. on Monday March 7. As you can see we built time into the conference to ski, snowboard, or hang by the fireside one last time before spring arrives.

• Lodging

Lodging at Crystal Mountain includes a breakfast buffet prior to the session and lunch afterward, a lift ticket for the slopes, and dining gratuities. The cost for lodging is \$118.00 single rate and \$79.00 double rate per room, or \$130.00 single rate and \$85.00 double rate for a suite. Additionally, special lift ticket and rental rates will be given to spouses, children, or significant others that share a hotel room or suite with a conference participant.

• More Information

Now a little bit more info about the symposium. The Inaugural Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium feature Dr. Thomas A. Nikolai of MSU, Mike Morris CGCS Crystal Downs C.C., and Jon Scott PGA Tour Agronomist addressing the topic of green speed. For nearly 25 years industry recommendations concerning the green speed debate has been 1) speed kills 2) get your members to lower their expectations or if all else fails 3) lie to your clientele. For many superintendents these recommendations are about as useful as putting a band-aid on a broken arm. The dream of Eddie Stimpson and Al Radko, key players in the creation and distribution of the Stimpmeter, was that each course would create their "ideal green speed." Unfortunately, no set of instructions came with the Stimpmeter as to the best way to establish an ideal green speed. This class covers problems that have led to golf course superintendents being on the defensive in the green speed debate and offers a proven method for establishing your courses ideal green speed. The role the environment, mowing height, lightweight rolling, fertility, PGRs and other cultural practices have on green speed will be discussed and probably debated. Additionally, Jon Scott's will give advice regarding "The Do's and Don'ts of Tournament Preparation."

Clearly, space is limited in this unique setting. Pre-register by December 1, 2004 and save \$20 off registration.

[Cut along dotted line and mail]

Registration Form

Make \$100 check payable to:
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

Complete form and send with check to:

Michigan Turfgrass Foundation
P.O. Box 80071
Lansing, MI 48908

Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325

Inaugural Ski and Learn Turfgrass Symposium

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Fax: () _____

Email: _____

Register soon to hold your spot!

MSU Turf Team & their Support Staff

Botany and Plant Pathology

- **Dr. Joe Vargas**
517-353-9082 • vargas@msu.edu
Ron Detweiler—Research Assistant III
Nancy Dykema—Research Assistant III
Phil Dwyer—Graduate Student

Crop & Soil Sciences

- **Dr. Suleiman Bughara**
Turfgrass Breeding and Genetics
517-355-0271 x 142 • bughara@msu.edu
Lori Williams—Technician
Jianping Wang—Graduate Student
Han Zhao—Graduate Student
- **Dr. Doug Buhler** *Turfgrass Weeds*
517-355-0217 x 103 • buhler@msu.edu
Aaron Hathaway—Graduate Student
- **Mr. Ron Calhoun** *Enviro. Turfgrass Specialist*
517-355-0271 x 139 • calhoun@msu.edu
- **Dr. James Crum** *Soils*
517-355-0271 x 134 • crum@msu.edu
Matthew Anderson—Graduate Student
- **Dr. Kevin Frank** *Turfgrass Extension*
517-355-0271 x 147 • frankk@msu.edu
Jeff Bryan—Research Assistant II
Sang-Kook Lee—Graduate Student
- **Mr. David Gilstrap**, *Coordinator*
2-Year Sports and Commercial Turf
517-355-0271 x 140 • gilstrap@msu.edu
- *Environmental Education*
517-355-0271 x 145 • swartzd@msu.edu
Deborah Swartz—Enviro. Stewardship Spclst.
Marc McMullen—Enviro. Stewardship Spclst.
- **Dr. Thom Nikolai** *Turfgrass Academic Specialist*
517-355-0271 x 133 • nikolait@msu.edu
- **Dr. John N. Rogers III**, *Coordinator*
2-Year Golf Turf
517-355-0271 x 136 • rogersj@msu.edu
Alexander Kowalewski—Graduate Student
Tim Vanini—Graduate Student

Entomology

- **Dr. David Smitley**
517-355-3385 • smitley@msu.edu
Terry Davis—Research Assistant III

Hancock Center

- **Mr. Mark Collins**, Farm Manager
517-353-3117
Frank Roggenbuck—Irrigation Specialist

Horticulture

- **Dr. Suzanne Lang**
517-355-5191 x 377 • langsu@msu.edu

Special Thanks

A special thanks to the MTF Board of Directors for all their hard work!



Front row left to right: Terry Poley, Rob Carson, Jim VanAntwerp; 2nd row—Tim Doppel, Randy Hahn, Tom Smith; 3rd row—Paul Muelle, Jerry Grossi, Kathleen Hilbert, Dan Boak; 4th row—Jeff Holmes, Sue Shockey, Jim Naugler

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Your MTF Board members, the annual meeting date their term expires, their employer, constituency they represent, and committees they chair.

Foundation Secretary

Kay Patrick
517-321-1660
mtfturf@comcast.net

Newnotes Editor

Kathy Antaya
269-731-2082
kantaya@msn.com

Michigan Turfgrass Foundation: P.O. Box 80071, Lansing, MI 48908
517-321-1660 • www.michiganturfgrass.org • mtfturf@comcast.net

MDA Pesticide Recertification Credits and GCSAA Education Points

Workshops:

1. Plant Growth Regulators–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–4: Comm. Core, 3A, 3B, or 6
2. Electrical Troubleshooting Irrig. Systems–GCSAA .55 points
3. Turf Math–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core, 3A, or Priv. Core
4. Budget and Forecasting–GCSAA .35 points
5. Id & Management of Ornamental Tree & Shrub Diseases–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: 3B
6. Turf Soils–GCSAA .25 points
8. Winter & Summer Temp. Kill–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: 3A
9. Sprayer/Spreader Calibration–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core, 3A
10. Ornamental Plants: Selection & Mgt.–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: 3B
11. Setting Up Lawn Care Business–MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core
12. Integrated Turfgrass Diseases Management–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2:3A

13. IPM for Athletic Fields and Grounds–MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core, 3A
14. Strategies for Developing Fert. Programs–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core, 3A
15. Beyond the Big Ten: Ornamental Grasses–GCSAA .25 points: MDA Credits–2: 3B
16. Golf Rules for Supers–GCSAA .25 points
18. Weeds Indeed!–GCSAA .35 points: MDA Credits–2: 3A, 6
19. Advances in Pond Management–GCSAA .35 points: MDA Credits–2: 5

Credits for Concurrent Sessions:

- Tues.–Golf Turf Mgt.: GCSAA .25 points
Tues.–Athletic Fields: MDA Credits–1: Comm. Core or 3A
Tues.–Lawn and Landscape: MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core, 3A, or 3B
Wed. am and pm sessions approved: GCSAA .60 points
Wed. (am)–MSU Update: GCSAA PDI .60 for all day: MDA Credits–2: Comm. Core or 3A
Wed. (pm)–Turfgrass Agronomy: MDA Credits–1: Comm. Core or 3A
Wed. (pm)–Water Matters: MDA Credits–1: Comm. Core or 3A



Michigan Turfgrass Foundation

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