Seed Research fills marketing and research director posts

Seed Research of Oregon, Inc. has hired Steve Poitras as marketing manager and Dr. Leah Brilman as research director.

Poitras holds a bachelor's degree in soil science from Montana State University and a master's in agronomy from Washington State University. His work experience includes research on seed production, weed control, and prevention of winter injury to golf course putting greens; teaching of weed science and turfgrass science labs at W.S.U.; and nine years of experience on golf courses including three years as a golf course superintendent. He has had numerous papers published dealing with seed production and turf maintenance. He has received several scholarships including one from the Wyoming-Montana Golf Course Superintendent Association. He is a member of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America.

Dr. Brilman has a strong background in the breeding of turfgrass species, and received her master's and PhD degrees from the University of Arizona in agronomy and plant genetics.

From 1982-1986 she was research director at Jacklin Seed Co. While with Jacklin, Brilman was instrumental in developing the turfgrass varieties Arid, Mesa, and Wrangler tall fescues; Nassau, Classic, P-104, Liberty, Huntsville, Dawn, and Destiny Kentucky bluegrasses and All-Star perennial ryegrass.

Brilman will be expanding the research program at Seed Research with continued emphasis on the turf species. Special emphasis will be on the bentgrass program with expanded breeding efforts towards special adaptations within the Agrostis species.

Seed Research has two creeping bentgrass varieties on the market, SR 1020 and Providence (SR 1019).