MASSACHUSETTS GUIDE AVAILABLE

WORCESTER, Mass. — The 1994 edition of The Professional Turfgrass Management Guide for Massachusetts is now available from the University of Massachusetts Cooperative Extension Service. The booklet covers turfgrass culture, insect, disease, nematode and weed management. Among its features are a comprehensive key to turfgrass insects, a list of turfgrass variety characteristics, monitoring techniques, and suggested threshold levels of turfgrass insects. The books cost $7 each and are available from Bulletin Center, Cottage A, Thatcher Way, UMass, Amherst, Mass. 01003.

JUST ADD SLUDGE

VENTURA, Calif. — A University of California-Ventura study indicates that sewage sludge added to yardwaste composts increases the yield and color of perennial ryegrass. The study showed best turfgrass color rating was in a mixture composed of 50 percent yardwaste and 50 percent sewage sludge.

TURF MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY SET

WORCESTER, Mass. — The 3rd Annual Athletic Turf Management Field Day at Holy Cross College, Aug. 10, will combine demonstrations and talks with the annual meeting of the New England Sports Turf Managers Association. Concentration will be on sports fields. Danvers (Mass.) Superintendent of Grounds and Turf, Dan Wood, will present a demonstration on irrigation heads. Concentration will be on sports fields. Danvers (Mass.) Superintendent of Grounds and Turf, Dan Wood, will present a demonstration on irrigation heads.

OVERT FIELD DAY CHANGED

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The date for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and Ohio State University Turfgrass Research Field Day has been changed to Aug. 17. It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Ohio State Turfgrass Research Center on Kenny Road.

OVERT FIELD DAY CHANGED

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The date for the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and Ohio State University Turfgrass Research Field Day has been changed to Aug. 17. It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Ohio State Turfgrass Research Center on Kenny Road.
Diversity proves to be the root of longevity in many turfgrasses

The ghost of Toronto C15 lives on, ever pushing superintendents to seek a genetically diverse stand of turfgrass, according to Skip Lynch of Seed Research of Oregon. The tale of Toronto C15, a vegetatively propagated creeping bentgrass, is simple and devastating. "It dominated the market, even more than the common bentgrasses, and devestating. "It dominated the mar-

crocly, according to Lynch, Seed Research’s marketing director. "Then, suddenly, out of nowhere a disease started eating Toronto everywhere. Greens were going — everything. They called it C15 Decline — a bacterial disease that the cure cost more than renovation. "It turned out the monostand was the absolute monostand. There was no genetic diversity like today’s bentgrasses have. Researchers — and superintendents — have learned from the experience. "Penncross bentgrass, for instance, is three entirely different plants. Providence is five, Cobra has seven plants in it, Cutter six, Crenshaw five. Those are varieties, but in the strictest sense blends," Lynch said.

A superintendent "planting bluegrass in the rough will specify three different varieties. Why? He’s trying to get a genetically diverse stand," he said.

Lynch added that the idea that a superintendents seeds a stand once and never goes back is a mistake some people make. But they learn the mistake very quickly. You can always, always, always improve a stand — whether it’s increasing the population of the stand, or by adding genetic diversity by going out and putting in some new genetic."

— M.L.