OSU breaks ground on research facility

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Ohio Turfgrass Foundation (OTF) has broken ground for a new Turfgrass Research Facility here on the Ohio State University main campus.

The 8,000-square foot building will serve as the focal point for research in the areas of agronomy, entomology and plant pathology in the state of Ohio.

The facility, funded largely by the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation,

Lyme disease
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and loss of muscle coordination.

Work continues toward the development of a Lyme disease vaccine, but until one is perfected, the following tips can help further reduce the chances of contracting the disease:

• Keep informed on the risk of Lyme disease in your area. Know how to prevent tick bites and be familiar with the symptoms of Lyme disease.

• During the summer months, when ticks are most active, wear light-colored clothing to make tiny deer ticks easier to notice.

• Tuck long pants into socks and wear long-sleeved shirts with tight-fitting cuffs and collars.

• Spray socks and shoes with an insect repellent containing permethrin and use an insect repellent containing DEET.

• Examine yourself thoroughly when returning from outdoor excursions. Remove attached ticks immediately with tweezers by grasping the tick's head as close to your skin as possible, and slowly pulling it straight out.

Fescue choices

There are two major types of fescue grasses — fine and tall — and five varieties of fine fescues.

The fine fescues are:

• strong creeping fescue, which spreads and fills in well; and
• slender creeping fescue, which creeps but not nearly as much as strong creeping;
• chewings fescue, which has more bunch-type growth;
• hard fescue, also with a bunch-type growth habit; and
• sheeps fescue, which is bluish-green.

Hard and sheep fescues are more tolerant to heat, so they perform better in the transition zone.

Fine fescues are finer textured than tall fescue. They also tend to live long in heavy shade and have a more natural look.

Tall fescues are quite different. Less attractive, they nevertheless work best in transition areas and the South, performing well in the shade. Their main attribute is tolerance of heat and summer stress.

Note: Confidance is a program of turfgrass blends and mixtures formulated for performance under the broadest range of conditions. It's comprised of premium varieties—Saturn, Jaguar III, Prizm and others proven superior at independent trials. And each formulation is automatically upgraded whenever a newer, more advanced variety is identified.

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