Noer Foundation awards four grants for turfgrass research

Also, President William R. Schmidt announced the Board of Directors was expanded from 9 to 12, with the addition of Wally Fuchs, Turf Products Ltd., West Chicago, Ill.; Dick Morey, Brantwood Publications, Clearwater, Fla.; and Jim Latham, Whitney, Texas, as secretary.

The Foundation was created in 1959 to honor O.J. Noer, who was known internationally for his expertise in turfgrass agronomics. His career as agronomist for Milorganite spanned 40 years, during which he worked closely with golf course superintendents and other professionals in turfgrass management. His many contributions to the turfgrass industry were acknowledged by the GCSAA's dedication of the 1960 International Turfgrass Conference to him, and the USGA's presentation of the Green Section Award in 1963. He is also the only non-golfer in the Wisconsin Golf Hall of Fame.

The purpose of the O.J. Noer Research Foundation is to fund basic turfgrass research. This has provided a vehicle for many students to receive advanced degrees. Since its inception, it has provided over $400,000 for turfgrass research, as well as establishing a means for the Turfgrass Information File at Michigan State University to purchase rare books for its collection. Funds are generated through membership subscriptions, contributions from individuals, professional associations and turf-oriented corporations. Milorganite distributors have been especially helpful, as well as the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District which makes annual contributions based on Milorganite sales.