



N.J. TURF ASSN. HONORS HURLEY

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - The New Jersey Turfgrass Association presented Dr. Richard Hurley the 1999 NJTA Hall of Fame Award during the New Jersey Turf Expo general session



here in December. The award is given to a person in recognition of a continuing lifetime commitment of dedication, service and achievements contributing to the advancement of

the turf industry in the state. The business director for AgriBioTech, Inc.'s Professional Turf Unit, is a past president of the NJTA and has been involved in breeding projects with Rutgers University, the University of Rhode Island and Texas A&M.

..... N.Y. TURF ASSN. CITES VILLANI

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - The New York State Turfgrass Association presented its Citation of Merit Award to Dr. Michael Villani of Cornell University during the organization's Turf and Grounds Expo here. Dr. Villani has served the turf industry in New York since 1984, providing leadership in scarab grub research, insect management and environmentally sound practices for pest management. He has collaborated on two important entomology references, The ESA Handbook on Turfgrass Insect Pests and Turfgrass Insects of the United States and Canada.

WILSHIRE NAMED TO FLA. BOARD

LAKELAND, Fla. - Roy Wilshire, superintendent of Grasslands Golf & Country Club Course at Oakbridge here, has been named to the board of directors of the Florida Turfgrass Association (FTA). Wilshire, who took over responsibility for golf course planning, stewardship and maintenance in 1993 at Grasslands G&CC, has more than 18 years experience in golf course stewardship and maintenance.

NYSTA ELECTS OFFICERS

SYRACUSE, N.Y. - The New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA) has elected Joseph M. Hahn as president of a new board for the Year 2000. The superintendent at Country Club of Rochester, Hahn succeeded Anthony Peca Jr. of Batavia Turf at the annual meeting. He is joined by Vice President John Rizza of Turf Partners, Inc., and Secretary/Treasurer Steve Griffen, owner of Saratoga Sod Farm. GOLF COURSE NEWS

MAINTENANCE **Bug off!** Beyond pesticides: Mosquito control goes high-tech

By ANDREW OVERBECK

hen it comes to controlling mosquitoes and other biting insects, common tools such as pesticides and electric zappers may soon become a thing of the past. Thanks to cooperative research between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and two New England-based biotech companies, the latest mosquito abatement technology is now available.

American Biophysics, based in East Greenwich, R.I., launched the Mosquito Magnet in September 1998 and BioSensory of Willimantic, Conn., will release its Dragonfly model this month.

While the science behind the two products is complicated, the concept is simple. Both use carbon dioxide and an octenol lure to mimic the respiration of mammals and attract mosquitoes to the trap where they are killed and collected. However, the two machines use different luring and killing techniques and have different sources of CO2.

American Biophysics manufactures mosquito abatement equipment for scientists and entomologists who collect live insects for study. The company's professional line of equipment uses dry ice or pure CO2, two items that present some difficulties in mass production.

In order to expand the technology and the market, we had to develop a device that used a readily available source of inexpensive fuel," said Karen Salvatore, sales director for American Biophysics. "We invented a catalytic converter that



The Mosquito Magnet, which is about the size of a barbecue grill, converts propane to CO2 to attract and trap biting insects.

Some myths debunked concerning blue-rye mixes

Continued on page 18

By DR. ERIC K. NELSON

Combining Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass can provide a versatile, high-performance turfgrass for golf course tees, fairways and roughs in coolseason grass areas, proving to be a quickestablishing, persistent, resilient and versatile playing surface.



Relative size of Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass after six weeks.

This statement is more true now than ever with recent releases of several new low-mow tolerant Kentucky bluegrasses. Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass have complementary characteristics, where the features and benefits of one can overcome the potential disadvantages of the other.

The key to taking advantage of both species in turf is to get them established in a balanced stand. There are many conflicting theories concerning the proper way to uniformly establish these species together. Some of the techniques are based upon research, experience and good agronomics. Others are based on hypotheses and conjecture.

However, there is more than one proper way to get the job done. Factors including species ratio in the seed mixture, seeding rate, seedling management, establishment timing and the immediate influence of Mother Nature on plant survival can all affect the results.

My general recommendation for taking advantage of features and benefits of both species in a balanced stand is to sow a mixture consisting of 80 percent (by Continued on page 14



New low-mow Kentucky bluegrass plus perennial ryegrass excel on tees, fairways and roughs.

GOLF AND THE ENVIRONMENT

AI develops Environmental Audit

By JEAN MACKAY

Talk to golf course superintendents and you discover that most consider themselves stewards of the environment. After all, they work outdoors amidst the natural beauty of water, grass, trees and wildlife. But how can superintendents and course managers be sure they're not just touting environmental stewardship, while in actual practice, hitting a double bogey? How do they know whether management practices are really on par with widely accepted standards for environmental performance?

Now, an effective new tool is available

to help superintendents and club managers do just that. Audubon International has developed an Environmental Performance Audit to help superintendents, club managers and others rate their environmental performance.

The Environmental Performance Audit is a self-assessment or evaluation that uses environmental performance indicators, or best management practices, to measure their work. The audit is a simple, inexpensive means to help superintendents and club managers evaluate current management practices that safeguard

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Barber forms Blue Ridge By MARK LESLIE

GREENVILLE, S.C. - He was a golf course superintendent, then a college profes-

sor and researcher, then an executive with two course management companies, at one time overseeing 44 courses



Dr. Joel Barber

in 17 states. Now Dr. Joel F. Barber has formed Blue Ridge Golf "to pro Continued on page 61

Golf Course Marketplace

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

Blue Ridge Golf

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-vide expertise, guidance and profitability to the golf course owner."

Working out of offices here, Barber will travel throughout the country for agronomic consulting visits, but will focus on the East Coast from Washington, D.C., to the Carolinas for the other side of his work: maintenance management.

"If the opportunity exists, I would love to expand into course management," he said.

As a vice president of agronomy/regional manager with Golf South from 1996-99, Barber's background is wideranging. He earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Missouri in 1975, a master's in horticulture and soils from Kansas State University in 1978 and then worked as a superintendent for five years. Returning to school, he earned a PhD in 1987 from the University of Nebraska, then took a job as a professor at Oklahoma State University for four years in research teaching.

When former Golf Course Superintendents Association of America President Bob Williams formed Golf Enterprise in 1991, Barber joined him as head of agronomy. When the company bought Jim Colbert Golf, its portfolio grew to 44 courses.

When American Golf bought Golf Enterprise, Barber took the post at Golf South.

He has overseen agronomy on courses from Idaho to Florida and from the Carolinas to California.

Already, Blue Ridge Golf has two maintenance management contracts, and Barber has performed agronomic audits for facilities as far away as Reno, Nev.

"I can customize my services to the needs of the clients," he said. "I will do single agronomic audits to maintenance management to superintendent searches."

Barber said the greatest need he has seen has been "finding good superintendents. That is the hardest challenge of the day— finding the right individual for the right club. They may be a tremendous superintendent but not like golf course management. Some don't want the problems of dealing with greens committees but love the golf course side."

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