TURF DISEASE COURSE TO BE OFFERED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, WINTER, 1996

A course on diseases of turfgrasses will be offered Winter Quarter, 1996, by the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota through Continuing Education and also through regular day school classes. The course, entitled *Diseases of Turfgrasses*, PIPa 1004, will be offered for 2 credits and will emphasize identification and management of turfgrass diseases with special attention to diseases common to the north central United States.

Dr. Phil Larsen, Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology, will serve as instructor. The course will consist of nine sessions on Monday evenings, 6:30-9:30 p.m., starting January 8, and will meet in 365 Borlaug Hall on the St. Paul Campus. Representatives from the turf industry and the Minnesota Extension Service will also participate as guest lecturers in the course. Enrollment is limited to 20 students. Professional turfgrass managers are invited to enroll. For registration information, contact Continuing Education at the University of Minnesota, phone 612-625-2500, or you may call Phil Larsen at 612-625-1999.

After serving as Head of the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Minnesota for over nine years, Phil Larsen will return to teaching and research in the area of plant disease management in the urban setting. His primary focus will be on diseases of turfgrass. Larsen will also have supervisory responsibility for the Plant Disease Clinic in the Department of Plant Pathology.

Larsen is presently engaged in surveying golf course superintendents and other turf professionals to assess their research and educational needs. Results of the informal survey will be used to set teaching and research priorities on turfgrass disease research and education programs for the future.