## **O.J. Noer Foundation Announces New Research Grants**

The O.J. Noer Research Foundation. Inc. recently announced four new grants covering a variety of interests in the turfgrass industry. Recipients are: Dr. Wayne Hanna, Coastal Plain Experiments Station, Tifton, Ga., toward developing fine textured seeded bermudagrasses; Dr. Robert Shearman, University of Nebraska, to lead a study on the impact of cultural practices on putting greens and their microbial communities; Dr. Henry Wilkinson, University of Illinois, to study genetic resistance to patch diseases by bluegrasses and bentgrasses. and Dr. Joe Vargas. Michigan State University, who will continue his work on anthracnose crown rot of Poa annua

The grants were approved at the annual meeting of the Foundation during the 1996 GCSAA Conference in Orlando, Fla., according to Research Director Jim Spindler. Also, President William R. Schmidt announced that 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, Tex., 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 Foundnation 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, professionial associations and turforiented corporations.

Milorganite distributors have been especially helpful, as well as the Mil-

waukee Metropolitan Sewerage District which makes annual contributions based on Milorganite sales.

Information on contributions or membership in the Foundation may be obtained by writing O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 1464, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

— Jim Latham Secretary O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc.

