"Strength in numbers", is an old saying and was a real truism at the Minnesota Green Expo. The MTGF had a good show in December and the MNLA had a good show in January. Both offered educational opportunities and vender exposure. Combining them seemed like a natural fit to pool resources and have one big conference for the benefit of the Green Industry.

Paul Olson formerly with Lebanon Fertilizer and currently with Fosters Inc. commented, "Ten years ago when I sold to the turf community I saw lots of blue jeans and seed caps. My how things have changed. Today many have sport jackets on and that is very professional, very impressive. The MGCSA adds considerably to the Green Expo. It is good to see so many familiar faces."

The goal was an attention grabbing conference with a win-win objective for both the vender and the attendee. With a continued combined show, there will be an increase in educational opportunities and thus bring in more new faces to the trade show floor. This will keep the MGCSA on the cutting edge of industry technology.

"I made it to the turf show for several years and I was very, very impressed with the trade show. Lots to see and do," said Justin Gustafson, Superintendent at Ely Golf Club. "The show was HUGE!"

For those of you who tank mix for a synergistic effect, you understand the reasoning behind the new Big Show. The first combined conference was a learning experience and will only get better with time.