Dr. James R. Watson, Vice-President for Customer Relations and Agronomist for the Toro Company, and a member of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America. It was presented to him at the National Conference of the G.C.S.A.A. in Atlanta last week. The Distinguished Service Award is given to individuals who have helped advance the golf course superintendents' profession either nationally or internationally.

Dr. Watson is a recognized "expert's expert" on turfgrass, a status that can be traced back through an illustrious career to its formative years when he held a U.S.G.A. Green Section Fellowship at Pennsylvania State University (where he studied under Professor H. B. Musser).

Watson's professional contributions as a scholar have been extensive. He has conducted research on adaptability of species and strains of turfgrasses, on fertilization practices, on snowmold prevention, and on techniques for winter protection of turfgrasses.

Watson's professional recognition has included receipt of the 1976 U.S.G.A. Green Section Award for distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass, selection as fellow of the American Society of Agronomy, and granting of the Agronomic Service Award by the American Society of Agronomy in November 1977. More recently, he was appointed to the U.S.G.A. Turfgrass Research Committee in 1982.

To sum it all up, we quote from a letter to Dr. Watson from M.G.C.S.A. President John Nylund:

"Your achievements and accomplishments in the turfgrass industry have benefited many individuals and associations across the entire globe. Our Minnesota Chapter of G.C.S.A.A. is especially proud of your professionalism in all facets of Turf Management. We are even more honored to have a member of our association receiving such a fine award. Thank you and congratulations again from our association."