

WITHOUT RESEARCH, WE CANNOT GROW

Gordon LaFontaine
Executive Secretary, Michigan Turfgrass Foundation
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Our industry representation at M.S.U. has been fantastic. It has been due in part to all the support organizations have given in the form of contributions to Michigan Turfgrass Foundation. Without these dollars we cannot have our research programs. I would like to express the Board of Directors personal thanks.

These monies will be disbursed in early March. Drs. Vargas, Branham, Rieke, Rogers, Smitley and Miltner will have a great deal of on going research for our industry. We will be looking at funding for our additional 10 acres of research plots to the east of the present location at the Hancock Turf Center. We hope to do some studies of lawn care needs on this site. Possibly some work on clipping removal versus mulching. Sod studies will also be done.

I would like to mention that the Agricultural Experiment Station has made a proposal to raise funds for M.S.U. research in 1990-91. Turfgrass management, ornamentals and horticulture will share approximately \$300,000, if legislation is approved. We will work very hard in the next few months to make this a reality. I believe turfgrass is a great way to join rural and urban agriculture.

Those organizations who have made great contributions to our research are Michigan Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association, Lawn Sprayers Association of Michigan, Western Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association, Mid Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association, Northern Michigan Turfgrass Managers Association, Green Industry, Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association and Ernie Fuller. I would also like to thank every individual person who has given support including all the vendors who so enthusiastically support us and the golf courses which have made their courses available for the turf research benefit days. This is truly a team effort. Together I believe we will continue to grow and lead in all turfgrass research in the world. Thank you.