

## TURFGRASS RESEARCH LIBRARY

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
East Lansing, Michigan

Dr. Richard E. Chapin  
Principal Investigator

1987 Research Grant: \$65,000  
(fifth year of support)

The USGA Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) is housed in an Alpha Micro multiuser microcomputer, using STAR DEMS software. Both the hardware and software continue to work well. By October 1987 11,000 records were in the database. During the past year, service requests were received from 26 states. Requests may be made by contacting Peter O. Cookingham, Project Manager, at Michigan State University Libraries, East Lansing, MI 48824 (517-353-7209).

As the use of the Research Library increases, file users have become acquainted with the database objectives and usefulness and materials have been contributed for processing and addition to the file. Such contributions are particularly important for annual progress reports, theses and dissertations, and unpublished manuscripts. Current published literature is added to the file after processing by the TGIF staff; older materials are being added to the file on a systematic basis. Current emphasis is on the completion of the 1980-1987 conference proceedings.

On a quarterly basis the files and bibliographies of the National Agricultural Library, Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau, FAO, Biological Abstracts, and others are being reviewed and/or computer searched for omissions and for other titles that do not usually report turfgrass research. In addition, citation tracing of currently published refereed material adds to the comprehensiveness of the file. These file building techniques have resulted in TGIF citations originating from more than 1,270 different serial sources.

Recent monographs in the O. J. Noer Collection have also been added to the database, but have not been analyzed in detail for subject access. A proposed separate database, an interfiled index of "standard turf reference works," could provide intellectual access to the limited number of turf books.

A comprehensive brochure will soon be available to provide potential users with information on how to access the TGIF online, via telephone, or via mails. In addition, development and fine tuning of the software to distribute for use by remote PC's will enable direct searching of TGIF. Unfortunately, preparation of the software has taken longer than anticipated, but is now available for final testing by USGA Green Section staff. After final enhancements, the package will be ready for distribution on a broad scale. A formal announcement of availability and actual "sale" of this service will be made at the earliest possible date.