

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1992 has already started with a good omen.

The successful start was the Turf Grass Symposium at the University of Guelph on January 7, 8 and 9. It was well supported by all the members of the participating associations. The seminars of the Sports Turf Association had the highest participation throughout the two days. It showed how everyone is in need of new information to make their work place more effective and efficient. It is especially important in the times of economic restraint to share information, establish goals and objectives and to work smarter instead of harder.

A new executive was elected in January. All directors are looking forward to serving you

the members of our Association.

Many thanks go out to all past directors for their work and time spent to help the organization grow. A lot of work is still ahead of us. The goals of the new directors are:

1. To enlarge the newsletter, bring more information out to you.
2. Recruit new members, not only in Ontario, but throughout Canada.
3. Have a second field day in eastern Ontario - somewhere near Kempville.
4. Be more easily accessible through our Executive Secretary, Bob Sheard, who already does a fabulous job.

However, the directors need help in bringing these goals into reality. If everyone helps in his or her own capacity, we will continue to have an exciting year.

The annual field day is planned for June 17, 1992 and will be hosted by Western University in London, Ontario. The program is completed with Dr. Eggen as key speaker. We hope to see all of you there.

Even in the economic restraint we are facing, we should look to a brighter and more exciting future because only we can change the future, so let's work together.

-Peter Kleschnitzki

Turfgrass Trivia



Can grass help cool the environment? Just ask the residents of Palm Springs, California.

While surrounding areas are experiencing rising temperatures, the average temperatures in Palm Springs have dropped two to three degrees over the last 15 years. Arizona State's Laboratory of Climatology Director Robert Balling says the temperature reversal coincides with a surge of golf course construction!

Solar energy, which otherwise would have been absorbed by concrete, asphalt and houses, is used by the golf courses grass plants and they in turn set a cooling trend into motion. □

ATHLETIC TURF Rebuilding and resodding

Vicnor Farms of Connoquenessing, Pa. uses an innovative method of installing athletic fields.

The company strips off existing vegetation, tills, and adds lime, fertilizer and soil amendments. Fields are graded and sodded with a bluegrass blend.

Vicnor says the soil amendments loosen tight soils, reducing future soil compaction. Another amendment reduces the frequency of irrigation. According to Vicnor, amending the existing soil rather than using a sand base reduces divots caused by athletic cleats. Fields are playable in four to six weeks.

Vicnor Farms, which will con-

sult with schools in maintaining rebuilt fields, is located at Box 227, Connoquenessing, PA 16027. Its phone number is (412)789-7811. □

Brochure is offered

Dr. Bruce Augustin and Art Wick of Lesco, Inc. have authored a new brochure entitled "Athletic Field Turf Maintenance Handbook." The 12-page brochure gives specifications for a variety of athletic fields. To receive a copy, call the Sports Turf Managers Association at (702)739-8052 or Lesco at (800)825-3726.