Root Growth
Continued from page 11

tion in root growth. This relationship be-
tween water supply and root growth sug-
gests that the turf manager would be
advised to allow the root zone to dry to
near the wilting condition before irriga-
tion. Water budget systems for scheduling
irrigation can prevent over irrigation
while giving guidance for when wilting
may occur.

The rhizomatous Kentucky bluegrass
has a more rapid recuperative potential
than most other cool season grasses fol-
lowing a period of moisture or heat stress.

Longevity

The longevity of root life varies with
species from less than six months to a
maximum of two years. Kentucky blue-
grass tends to retain its root system for
more than one year, whereas perennial
ryegrass, the fescues and the bentgrasses
will replace their root system at least once
each year. Roots originating in the fall live
longer than roots initiated in the spring.
Roots associated with flowering tillers
usually die shortly after seed set. Rhizome
and root initiation stops within 24 hours
after severe defoliation and does not be-
come significant until shoot growth re-
cover is well advanced.

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COMING EVENTS

January 7, 8, 9, 1997
Ontario Turfgrass Symposium
Venue: Constellation Hotel,
Toronto
Contact: Office of Open
Learning,
Room 160, Johnston Hall,
University of Guelph,
Guelph, ON.
(519) 767-5000

February 7 and 8, 1997
Niagra Parks Alumni Assoc.
Educational Conference,
Venue: Ameri-Cana
Conference Centre,
Contact: Michael Scmahl
(905) 687-3307
or
Russ Nutley,
(905) 627-3783

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number with area code, and time of calling. The office may also be
reached at any time by faxing 519-766-1704.