

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

... for better, safer Sports Turf

MARCH 1998

Dr. R. W. Sheard Awarded an Honorary Life Membership to the STA



Dr. Bob Sheard was presented this prestigious award at the AGM on January 6, 1998. The following article pays tribute to Bob's contributions.

Bob was raised on a mixed grain/livestock farm in southeastern Saskatchewan. He received his post secondary education at the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Toronto (Ontario Agricultural College), and Cornell University in agronomy, plant physiology and statistics. Bob spent more than 36 years at both the University of Guelph and the OAC where his primary interests were in forage production, particularly those aspects dealing with fertilizer use, and he was responsible for a significant upgrade in the recommendations for phosphorous and potassium for forages. The latter study led to his interest in turf production where he pioneered the work on sulphur coated urea in Canada. Recommendations for late fall nitrogen use also evolved from these studies.

In 1979 he constructed a set of sand-based microgreens at the Cambridge Research Station, Cambridge, Ontario, for research in water use and fertilizer practices for turf on pure sand. He was associated with the development of several playing fields which were built on this principle.

In 1981 he served as Local Arrangements Chairman for the 4th International Turfgrass Research Conference and was editor of the proceedings. From 1968 through 1986, he taught soil science and plant nutrition at the Turf Managers Short Course.

In September 1990, following retirement, he took the position of Executive Secretary of the Sports Turf Association and began to put its administrative house in order as the organization was beginning to grow.

During this period he edited, supervised art work, printed, and marketed the *Athletic Field Managers Guide for Construction and Maintenance*. He also introduced the membership plaque, and edited and marketed the videotape series on turf. His other accomplishments include starting a members address book, complete with a code of ethics, constitution and bylaws; organizing field days and annual conferences; wrote and edited the *Sports Turf Manager*; and negotiated an office rental agreement to move the Sports Turf Association office to the Guelph Turfgrass Institute building in 1993. Prior to the move, the Association had been using an office out of his house. Bob resigned in 1994 from the position but continued to edit the newsletter, and designed and organized a booth to advertise and market the Association at conferences, seminars, and trade shows.

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In 1993 Bob was hired as a consultant by the Ontario Jockey Club when Woodbine Racetrack was redesigned. He consulted on the E. P. Taylor Turf Track.

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... Dr. Bob Sheard, continued from page 1

HONORARY ♦ LIFE ♦ MEMBERSHIP

Whereas the Board of Directors of the Sports Turf Association is empowered to present awards of outstanding achievement and whereas

Dr. Bob Sheard

has made outstanding contributions to the Turf Grass Industry particularly as it relates to sports turf, and

Whereas, professionally has exemplified the goals and objectives the Sports Turf Association endorses, we the executive and members, bestow this Honorary Life Membership.

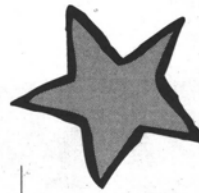
Presented at January this 6th Day of 1998

From 1995 to 1996, he worked with other turf researchers from the Department of Soil Science, University of Guelph, on a new technique for measuring soil moisture to examine the dry-down of the U.S.G.A. greens at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

Between Ecological Services and his own consulting company, he is still active in the field and is relied upon as an expert witness in court cases in addition to consulting on sports fields and their construction. To that end, he recently produced for the Association a pamphlet entitled "Constructing the Sports Field." He also represents the Association on several committees.

Bob is now entering his second year as a Director of the Sports Turf Association. He also has advised on the field for the Baseball Hall of Fame in St. Mary's, Ontario, and in February he traveled to Victoria, British Columbia, to give two papers at the Western Canadian Turfgrass Association Conference.

Congratulations, Bob!



ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

If you are looking for a specific market for your products, why not advertise in *Sports Turf Manager*? Published four times a year, this newsletter has a national and international distribution with the majority of the membership residing in Ontario. 1998 advertising rates are as follows:

- business card size \$40.00
- 1/4 page ad \$80.00
- 1/2 page ad \$160.00
- 1/4 and 1/2 page ads are available in either a vertical or horizontal page placement.

For more information, contact Lee Huether at the STA office, (519) 763-9431, or Joy Black at New Paradigm Communications, (519) 371-6818.

Content deadline for the June issue of *Sports Turf Manager* April 10, 1998

Meet New Board Member Paul Turner

Paul has been working in the turf equipment industry for the last 15 years. He started as a mechanic for J. H. Hancox Limited located in Birmingham, England. After graduating from Evesham College of England as a horticultural engineer, he worked for E. T. Breakwell. Paul moved to Canada in 1987 and started his career in turf equipment sales at Gordon Bannerman Ltd. In 1991, he accepted a sales representative position at C. G. Duke Equipment located in Burlington, Ontario. Paul currently works for C. G. Duke Equipment and is responsible for turf equipment sales to municipal governments and dealers located within the Greater Toronto Area.

Gordon Dol and Mike Van Beek will be featured in the June issue of the newsletter.

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