KEEPPING TO TRADITION, OTS 2009 IN GUELPH ANOTHER SUCCESS

The 18th Annual Ontario Turfgrass Symposium (OTS) was held at the University of Guelph, February 18 & 19, 2009, offering leading edge seminars to hundreds of delegates. The OTS is a two-day conference that allows turf experts from both academia and industry to share insight and research regarding best practices for turf care.

“Feedback from delegates suggested that sessions were very informative and engaging. These lectures allow for new ideas to be taken back to the workplace for discussion and implementation,” says Steve Fleischauer, Manager of Program Development, Office of Open Learning.

Delegates from a variety of provinces were in attendance to gain practical and applied knowledge from over 25 training sessions.

“This year’s topics generated a lot of discussion,” commented Paul Turner, OTS Executive Chair. “This kind of training opportunity can really have a huge impact on the skill set of turf industry management and staff.”

Details for OTS 2010 will be available later this year. Interested individuals are invited to visit www.open.uoguelph.ca/OTS or call 519.767.5000 for more information.

On December 31, 2008 membership in the STA numbered 275. A historical graph of our membership numbers since Y2K illustrates the slow, steady growth we continue to experience. 56% of our membership was from the municipal sector, 27% were industry suppliers of products/services, and 11% were from the college/university and public/private school board sector. 53% were initial members and 47% additional members from the same municipality/organization/company. 91% of our members are in Ontario with 4% in the western provinces of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan, 3% are in Quebec, and 1% in the eastern provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland/Labrador. 1% of our membership is international, based in the USA.

STA Membership Trends