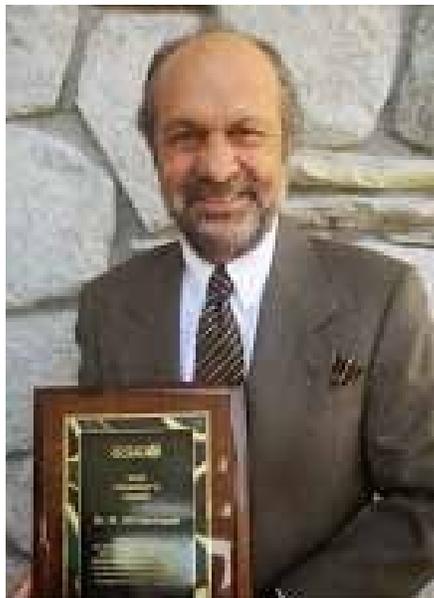


# Dr. Ali Harivandi—Worthy Recipient of the Prestigious GCSANC Presidents Award



The Northern California Chapter of the GCSAA is pleased to announce that Dr. Ali Harivandi, Emeritus, Environmental Horticulturist with UC Cooperative Extension is the worthy recipient of the association's 2013 Presidents Award. He was presented the honor during the chapter's Annual Meeting in early January at Oakhurst Country Club in Clayton, CA.

The GCSANC Presidents Award is a highly coveted honor, and un-

like other awards, this distinction is bestowed only on rare occasions-- to an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the Association and to the turfgrass industry. And as most GCSANC members know, Dr. Harivandi has dedicated his career to extensive research and education in the areas of turf, soil and water for the benefit of the Industry.

This honoree, holds both M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Turfgrass Management from Colorado State University, where he was a Research and Teaching Associate while completing his graduate studies. He joined the University of California Cooperative Extension in the San Francisco Bay Area in 1980.

Dr. Harivandi has been published extensively in both scientific and popular press. To be exact, he's been published 380 times. His work appears in books, scientific journals, professional and trade journals, and also in several University of California publications. Additionally, he's been featured on several occasions in this publication, *Thru the Green*, and in other leading golf and turf care publications.

Dr. Harivandi has played an integral part in GCSANC education, through his exceptional planning and involvement in Institutes, Seminars, and Field Days. His research and findings have been invaluable to golf course superintendents, spanning beyond the Northern California Chapter. In addition to his written work, Dr. Harivandi has served as a keynote speaker and expert panelist for the GCSANC and at other professional and scientific meetings regionally, nationally and internationally.

## Key Areas of Work/Research

Dr. Harivandi's work has spanned a variety of "key" areas including: Turfgrass management and variety improvement; water conservation; soil and water salinity management; use of recycled water for irrigation; efficient irrigation practices; reclamation and re-vegetation of disturbed lands; development of new landscaped sites (e.g. golf courses, parks, sports fields, cemeteries); turfgrass

weed, disease and insect management; and urban green waste management.

## On the Forefront of Water Conservation and Sustainability

While Californians have been forced to conserve water in recent drought-ridden times, Dr. Harivandi has been committed to the cause for quite awhile. He was a leader in introducing turf that requires less water and maintenance (i.e. tall and fine-leaf fescue species). He even designed a map that shows evapotranspiration estimates which helps prevent overwatering, a guide that residents and landscapers can use when programming their sprinkler systems. In early 80's, he first introduced the concept of using recycled water for turfgrass irrigation at golf courses and elsewhere. His research and educational activities related to recycled water irrigation has now made the practice common. He taught a one day seminar on this topic at the national Golf Industry Show for 22 consecutive years. Currently close to 30% of south western US golf courses are irrigated with recycled water.

## Organization and Affiliations

This honoree stays involved, evidenced by the numerous organizations he has supported (and/or served with) during his 33-year tenure with UC Cooperative Extension. They include Turfgrass & Environmental Research Advisory Committee (USGA), CSAA Technical/Resource Advisory Committee (1988-1993), Crop Science Society of America, American Society of Agronomy (Certified as Professional Agronomist), Soil Science Society of America (Certified as Professional Soils Specialist), American Society for Horticultural Science, International Society for Horticultural Science, International Turfgrass Society, European Turfgrass Society, and Turfgrass Producers International.

## Previous Awards and Special Distinctions

Dr. Harivandi adds the GCSANC Presidents Award to other honors he has received throughout his stellar career. His previously-earned distinctions include 2009 Piper & Oakley Award (USGA), The International Sustainability Council, Certificate of Excellence (The Council for Agricultural Science & Technology), Excellence in Teaching & Outstanding Service (UC Davis Extension), Industry Award for Excellence in Public Information (Northern California Turf and Landscape Council), Research & Education Award (Nor Cal Water Efficient Landscape Conference), Research & Education Award (Northern California Turfgrass Council), 1990 Distinguished Service Award (GCSANC), and 1995 Distinguished Service Award (GCSAA).

"We are fortunate to have Dr. Ali, so closely affiliated with our association," said GCSANC Outgoing President Jon Christenson. "He has been recognized world-wide as a top expert in recycled water and he constantly shares his knowledge with us...providing viable solutions, which in turn, help us become better turf managers and environmental stewards. There is no one more deserving of this award, than Dr. Ali."