Dr. Jim Watson to get ‘Old Tom’

A giant figure in the history of the golf course and turf industries, Dr. James Watson, will receive the Old Tom Morris Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

The award was established in 1982 to acknowledge individuals who have made outstanding lifetime contributions to golf. It will be presented during the closing banquet of the International Golf Course Conference and Show on Feb. 27, 1995 in San Francisco.

“Dr. Jim has been a great friend to the GCSAA and its members for half a century,” says GCSAA president Joe Baidy. “His career provides a perfect example of how one person can make a tremendous impact on an entire profession.”

Watson studied turf at Penn State under the famed Dr. Burton Musser following military service in World War II. He went from assistant agronomy professor at Texas A&M in 1952 to director of agronomy at The Toro Co. For more than 40 years with Toro, Watson’s research touched on nearly every aspect of turfgrass management.

Later, as Toro’s agronomist and vice president of customer relations, Dr. Watson helped develop and evaluate equipment and served as liaison to professional turf groups.

He won the USGA Green Section Award in 1976, the American Society of Agronomy’s Agronomic Service Award in 1977, the GCSAA’s Distinguished Service Award in 1983 and the Golf Course Builders Association’s Don Rossi Award earlier this year.


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GREAT INDUSTRY EVENTS

What's going on in the industry

AUGUST

10-11: Penn State University Turfgrass Field Days, University Park. Phone: Christine King, (914) 355-8010.
16: New York State Turfgrass Association Golf Course Design/Construction Seminar, SUNY Delhi. Phone: NYSTAA, (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.
16-17: California Pesticide Regulations Course, Holiday Inn, Capitol Plaza, Sacramento. Information on new registration and regulations. Phone: Western Ag Chemicals Assn., (916) 568-3660.
17: Massachusetts Assn. of Lawn Care Professionals Golf Classic, Glen Ellen Country Club, Millis, Mass. Phone: Dick Picco, (508) 238-8550.
24: University of Rhode Island Turfgrass Field Day, URI turfgrass research farm, Kingston, R.I. Phone: Dr. Noel Jackson, (401) 792-2932; or Bridget Ruemmele, (401) 792-2481.
25: Indiana State Lawn Care Association’s Summer Field Day, Oakhill Mansion & Northern Beach Park. Phone: ISLCA, (317) 575-9010.
30: Nebraska Turfgrass Field Day and Equipment show, Mead, Neb. Phone: Dr. Roch Gaussoin, (402) 472-8619.

SEPTEMBER