

## ITF FIELD DAY JULY 27, 1983

The ITF Turf Field Day on July 27, 1983 at Urbana, Illinois was well attended by over 100 turf managers from across the state. The day began at 8:30 A.M. with registration and after welcoming address proceeded into the various turf trials and experiments being conducted by the University of Illinois. Dr. Wehner, Dr. Fermanian, and Dr. Wilkenson explained the various projects they were working on as each group went from one area of the test plots to another. Continuing research on Bentgrass fairway trials and sand topdressing trials were observed by the crowd and Roscoe Randall filled us all in on the insect activity affecting turf in Illinois. Roscoe also gave a brief question and answer session on the latest controls for insects and how they are most effectively used.

A catered lunch was provided in the welcome shade of a group of ash trees on the west side of the field building. At lunch, Dr. Bill George made the long awaited announcement that the turfgrass pathologists position held by Dr. Hank Wilkenson, has been made a tenured position. This is due to the support from the ITF, CDGA, and turf managers across the state. Congratulations to Hank and all those who helped make this position possible. Dr. Wilkenson is already busy with many projects from Fusarium research to a bacterial control Pythium, to a natural control for Brown Patch, to his involvement in researching the interface between soil and sod and it's role in Fusarium Blight of Bluegrass.

After lunch, the ornamental portion of the program provided an insight into the work being done on trees and shrubs. New varieties were exhibited, herbicide experiments and recommendations were discussed by Dr. Dave Williams, and Martin Meyer showed us his conifer propagation experiments. Dan Neely from the Illinois Natural History Survey gave an excellent presentation on proper pruning methods and held an impromptu discussion on the problem of Oak Wilt.

There were, by this writer's count, less than twenty golf course superintendents at the Field Day and less than half of those represented the Midwest. Look, I know it's HOT, and I know it's the middle of JULY, and I know it is a 2½ hour DRIVE, but really, less than 10% representation from the MAGCS was a little discouraging. Please plan now to attend next year. These people at the U. of I. plan this day for US. Let's show them we are interested in the work they are doing to help us out and not just show them we are interested only in what they can do when our turf is brown and we are hoping they have found some miracle cure. Get a group of superintendents in your area and ride together to next year's Field Days. What you see is what you are getting and it's something you shouldn't miss.

By the way, have you all made your plans to attend the ITF Golf Day at Turnberry C.C. on September 19, 1983? If not, do so now. Bring your greens chairman, golf chairman, pro, owner, or president. See Mike Nass, Don Spiers, or Jim Reed for tickets.

**Roger Stewart, Riverside G.C.**

### "BIT-by-CHING"

Ripple soled shoes were banned years ago,  
Now we have lugged shoes that Waffle.  
Putting on a true Green's an Artform,  
Putting through a Waffle is Awful.  
Ching cites, "like hitting head with hammer,  
Sure feels good when you stop."

Superintendently,

**Kenneth R. Zanzig**



**Dr. Tom Fermanian explains topdressing trials**



**L. to R. - Conrad Stynchula, U. of I. Golf Courses; Roscoe Randall, U. of I. Extension Entomologist; Mike Nass, Supt., Bryn Mawr C.C. & President of ITF.**

The American Phytopathological Society announces the release of a new title in its Compendia of Plant Diseases series - **Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases**.

This book is a practical reference for anyone involved in the culture of fine turf. It includes contributions from recognized scientists and agribusiness leaders from more than a dozen countries on all six continents. It reviews diseases as they occur on the most common grasses maintained for fine turfs on lawns, sod farms, sports fields, golf courses, bowling greens, cemeteries, airport and highway rights-of-way, and other areas. In addition, it represents a collection of the most common diseases occurring on fine turfs throughout the world and includes a "World Checklist of Turfgrass Diseases" reviewing turf diseases across the globe.

Contents include: Introduction--Grasses Managed as Turfs. Part I. Noninfectious Diseases--Algae; Moss; Insects: Pesticide Damage; Animal Urine; Salts; Air Pollution; Chemical Spills; Extremes in Temperature and Water; Mower Injury; "Scalping"; Abrasion, etc. Part II. Infectious Diseases--Red Thread; Powdery Mildew; Leaf Smuts; Rusts; Snow Molds; Fusarium Diseases; Fairy Rings. Ecology and Taxonomy of Pathogenic Fungi in Turfgrass. Disease Control Strategy. Disease Diagnosis. Guide to Diseases and Disease Groups. World Checklist of Turfgrass Diseases. Glossary. Index.

**Compendium of Turfgrass Diseases** was prepared by Richard W. Smiley, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. It contains 136 pages, 185 color plates, and 66 illustrations. To obtain a copy, send a check for \$15.00, payable to TURF, N-423 Turner Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL, 61801, attention: Dr. H. T. Wilkinson.