

1987 Candidates for MAGCS Board

PRESIDENT	Mike Nass, CGCS
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	Al Fierst Dave Meyer
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Bruce Williams, CGCS Dennis Wilson
SECRETARY/TREASURER	Roger Stewart, CGCS Dave Behrman, CGCS
DIRECTORS (Two to be elected)	Ray Schmitz, CGCS Joel Purpur Rick Hahn, CGCS

A Local Place of Interest

by David Behrman, CGCS
Deer Creek Golf Club

For those of you who are of the opinion that the University of Illinois Turfgrass Field Day is not worth the trip because, "they do the same thing every year". I suggest you take another look.

As you begin your trip down I-57, the first thing you will notice is that special interest groups concerned about accessibility of the turf plots have raised the speed limit to allow a more timely arrival.

Once on the scene a variety of changes are noticeable, dependent upon when your last visit was. The rows of columnar maples are now some thirty feet tall, the bent grass plots have been moved up close to the test station, mowing practices reflect the new age; thanks to equipment donations, and there are more scientific minds than ever working to make our jobs easier.

As I began my tour the first stop was the crabgrass field tests. Of course if you do not have any crabgrass problems this year, who cares. For me, it was interesting to note that there were a few preemergent materials that worked this year. I also witnessed excellent results from some new experimental chemicals. As for postemergent control we all need more rate information and wouldn't you know they had that too.

Stop two was plant pathology. Analysis of patch disease, fungicide field trials (offering real results not sales pitches), and a new venture to determine nematode threshold levels. Here it was a pleasure to meet Dr. Tom Melton our state turf nematologist. He is one of those friends you hope you never need.

Next we heard from Roscoe Randall, reporting on insects and their whereabouts in the state. It seems that the beetles are only attacking non-ITF member courses.

Moving on we see field trials for bluegrass, ryegrass, turf type fescues, and fairway bent blends. Once you have decided your personal preference, you will find that computerized establishment recommendations are just over the horizon.

As you can see I could go on and on and never mention everything there is to see. Anyway, I would not want to hear next year, "Why go to U of I, Behrman wrote about everything last year."

Oh yeah, one last thing — Murphy's hasn't changed a bit, but that's another story.

U of I Field Day

by Tony Meyer, Retired Supt.
(but still active)

August 6, 1987 was the University of Illinois Turfgrass Field Day at the Ornamental Horticulture Research Center. I realize it is not always possible for a superintendent to attend, as I know of two who had all intentions of attending, when the day before other commitments came up preventing them from being there.

There were nearly 200 present, 90% lawn care people and 10% Superintendents, Sod Nurseries and Jobbers. I believe most of us are well acquainted with fungicides, as some of the newer ones on the market the last few years, seem to be doing a good job.

Dr. Hank Wilkinson and Dr. Randy Kane are working on Patch diseases, which are caused by soil fungi, living in the sod, and there is no single control procedure to get satisfactory results. I am sure we will hear and learn more about this in the future. The analysis of soils for the kinds and population of nematodes that cause diseases in the root zone of plants is on the increase. They explained about the ones that enter the grass plant root, and the ones that pierce it, causing damage and weakening the plant, subjecting it to other diseases.

Dr. Tom Fermanian and Jean Haley showed us the newer pre-emergence crabgrass control evaluation study and Pro-diamine 65WDG that will be marketed as Blockades, which looks very promising to be the best so far. The postemergence program is very interesting also, and Acclaim seems to be the most effective, but rate and timing of applications are still being evaluated. Dr. Roscoe Randall did a fine job on insects.

More work is being done on turfgrass varieties, and different blends plus other projects too numerous to mention. The research personnel at the University certainly appreciate the support of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, and they say there is no question that without the I.T.F. there would be no research farm facility. It is sad to hear that there will be no raises in salaries, at the University, and the personnel asked us to write our State Representatives for help, otherwise they may be looking elsewhere for better wages.

I certainly enjoyed the day and hope that future field days will be better attended by Golf Course Superintendents.



The "catch" from a 6" drain tile — a 28' willow root