

(Zebra Mussels continued)

However, the prolific mussel breeds itself to staggering numbers when the ducks migrate. Some fish species feed on Zebra mussels. Unfortunately the predation on Zebra mussels is limited, proving little effectiveness in controlling the pest to satisfactory levels.

It seems that it is a matter of time before golf course irrigation ponds and systems fall prey to Zebra mussels. The vulnerability of each system is different, however prevention is the key.

The spread of the mussels occurs in many ways. Scuba divers from infested waters may carry Veligers inside their BC. Veligers can be transported easily in water used in live bait containers. Waterfowl may disperse Zebra mussels by carrying Veligers and or adults in their feathers. Contaminated boots, cages etc. may spread the organism. Veligers die upon drying, however, adults may live for days out of the water.

Zebra mussels look like small clams with a yellowish or brownish D shaped shell. Their name stems from the alternating dark and light bands of color that usually occurs on their shells. They are 2 inches in size or smaller. Normally they are found in clusters. If you find any or suspect an infestation, contact the Illinois Sea Grant Institute at 708/818-2901.



U. of I. Field Day Scheduled for July 14, 1994

The 1994 University of Illinois Turfgrass, Nursery, Landscape, and Trial Garden Field Day has been scheduled for July 14, 1994. Field Day activities will begin at 8:00 a.m. and include viewing ongoing field research and demonstrations in the morning. The afternoon program will feature workshops and classes. This is an opportunity to visit the Landscape Horticulture Research Center, the Hartley Selections Garden, and see the new research and maintenance facility. Watch the mail for Field Day registration announcements.

The new research and maintenance facility at the University of Illinois' Landscape Horticulture Research Center is now in use. The new facility features a laboratory/classroom; employee areas including offices, rest rooms, and break facilities; equipment maintenance and welding shops; and storage areas for equipment and supplies. The new structure provides more than twice the space of the previous building that was destroyed in a 1991 fire.

For Field Day questions or information, contact Tom Voigt, University of Illinois Extension Turfgrass Specialist at 217/333-7847.

Supplied by: Tom Voigt, Extension Turfgrass Specialist, Department of Horticulture, S-410 Turner Hall, University of Illinois, 1102 South Goodwin Ave., Urbana, IL 61801.

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