

# University of Illinois Research Field Day Moves North

*On Thursday, September 16, the University of Illinois Research Field Day made its inaugural visit to Lemont, IL, on the grounds of Midwest Golf House at the CDGA Sunshine Course. The event, long held on the campus in Urbana, will become a biennial fixture at Golf House for years to come, if this year's turnout and positive comments are any indication. With the help of the day's sponsors—CDGA, ITF and U of I—and the numerous vendors onsite, the day was a complete success. Heck, there was even a beverage cart (thank you Prime Turf) for those whose thirst got the better of them while walking from research station to station.*

The purpose of the Field Day is to spotlight the research being done throughout the state of Illinois both at our educational institutions and at Golf House, and to reveal to those of us who benefit from that research the results of that research. It is also a great chance to interact with the current students at these institutions who are assisting in these projects—students who are the future of our industry.

On this bright, sunny day, no fewer than 11 research projects were

highlighted in various locales throughout the course; each small group of attendees rotated through 30-minute stops at each station. Each research head was present to discuss his or her project, provide the results of these efforts and field questions from the various groups; this format gave the day a very light and informal feel. Following the presentations, participants partook of a barbecue lunch, after which the vendors took the stage for a hands-on demo session of their latest equipment and wares. This

turned out to be a great way to work off the huge lunch, as well as a chance to relearn the art of mowing a green and operating an aerator, to name but a couple. Hopefully, the Sunshine Course has recovered from the abuse it was forced to take.

Thanks to everyone involved in making the Field Day the success it was, and congratulations to our friends at Midwest Golf House for pulling this thing off—it was a tremendous day, and we look forward to the next one!



Lee Miller speaks on dollar spot control and resistance.



Bruce Branham, with new approaches to Poa annua control.



Zach Anderson discusses the use of sensors for early disease detection.



Tom Fermanian gazes into the future, where sensors are used to measure turf quality.



Hank Wilkinson (L) and Randy Kane review the big diseases of 2004—anthracnose and take-all patch.