

MAGCS IN MOTION

Charles Anfield, CGCS, Heritage Bluffs Golf Course



iTurfExpo: Version 20.10

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (no different than any other golf operation) continues to evolve and change with the new global economy. The ITF's existence is based on funding turf research and education. The ITF's purpose maintains the importance of keeping turf a science and provides direction for the future of turf in Illinois. This year's iTurfExpo featured a one day field event loaded with lots of new "technical stuff". If you haven't been there to see the set up, it is quite unique. There are not many other facilities in the world like we have at the C.D.G.A. Golf House and Sunshine Course in Lemont.

The day started early at 8:00 am with registration and coffee. Attendees were welcomed and then listened to a short presentation of the daily schedule of events. The research plot tours began promptly at 8:30. The attendees were divided into groups and moved from research plot to plot at the sound of a horn. At each stop there was a featured speaker to make a short presentation.

Research Stops

- Turf- type Tall Fescue Variety Performance for Lawns or Roughs
- Newer Creeping Bentgrass Variety Trial, established 2002
- Creeping Bentgrass Performance with Reduced Fungicide Inputs on Greens
- Fungicides for Dollar Spot and Brown Patch on a Chicago Bentgrass Fairway
- Low- Mow Kentucky Bluegrass Variety Performance in a Fairway
- Tenacity a Selective Herbicide To Take Annual Bluegrass Out of Kentucky Bluegrass Rough
- Can Zoysia and Bermudagrass Establish Within Cool-Season Turf Environment – Chicago
- Fungicides with Ulterior Motives to Promote Golf Green Health
- After a Long Hard Summer How to Renovate With Seed/Sod – A Teebox Needs Help
- Fairway Creeping Bentgrass Variety Performance With Reduced Fungicide Inputs
- Disease Control Using Newer Fungicide Products on a Chicago Golf Green



- Amicarbazone a Newer Herbicide for Annual Bluegrass Control in Bentgrass
- Imprellis a New Granular Combo Fertilizer-Herbicide To Control Broadleaf Weeds In Lawns or Roughs

The Attendees were treated to a delicious BBQ pulled pork lunch sponsored by Syngenta, served in the Open Air Turf Patio. Ice cream sandwiches were served for desert.

After Lunch the Attendees were invited to walk around the Trade Show and view the various exhibits inside the tented areas. Some of the latest in turf products, services and equipment were displayed. It was a great place to mingle with people and create new business

relationships. Attendees could play the Turf ID Cup where plant materials were spread around the trade show tent area and Attendees had to identify each species. The winner would receive an apple I-Pad.

The Open Air Turf Patio sponsored by Bayer Environmental Science, Burriss Equipment Company, BASF, Dow Agrosciences, Dupont Professional Products, DHD Turf and Tree Products, Arthur Clesen Inc. and Qualipro was a great place to take a break, hang out and rehash the season with friends.

Burriss Equipment Company, J.W. Turf and Reinders had equipment demonstrations on some of the Sunshine Course turf. Once again the iTurfExpo provided a unique opportunity not seen at many other trade shows. Not only could the Attendees kick the tires of equipment but also got to see it perform in action.

Chicagoland Turf captured most people's attention with their afternoon event, The iTurf Golf Classic. The event was played on the Sunshine Course Hole #2. It was an elimination event with the lowest score on the hole "moving on" to the next round. There was plenty of banter, heckling and cheering by the patrons in the gallery. A bleacher was set up for viewing and caddies were provided to assist the players.

It was a fun and educational day. It was a slightly overcast day, really a good day to get away. But like all businesses in the new millennium the ITF will learn, grow and move forward. Of all the years when people who own and manage golf courses and athletic turf are looking for answers to turf related problems the good people at the ITF are still doing the research. Now more than ever, they need your support. **-OC**

