

NEWS FROM ALLIED ASSOCIATIONS  
Brad Chamra, *Lake Shore Country Club*



# 2011 iTurf Expo Preview

*The calendar has flipped to September and hopefully all of the torrential downpours and oppressive heat remain a faint memory until next summer. With the arrival of cooler temperatures, area golf courses can jump-start plant health through heavy doses of cultural practices. Fall projects such as drainage, overseeding, and tree removal are gearing up to lessen the effects of another extreme growing season. Another crucial tool turfgrass professionals can use to educate and prepare for the 2012 season is the iTurf Expo, an event sponsored by the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, the CDGA, U of I and SIU.*

The 2011 iTurf Expo will once again be held on the Sunshine Golf Course located at the Midwest Golf House Complex in Lemont, IL on September 22. The iTurf Expo presents a great medium for interactive training and education, as well as networking with peers and other industry professionals on successful practices for 2011 and improvement strategies for 2012. Not only is it a great “one stop shop” to see new or updated equipment and products being offered for turf professionals across all turf trades, it is also a valuable opportunity to listen to unbiased research on diseases, turfgrass varieties, and annual flowers.

With the help of the CDGA Turfgrass Program and Dr. Derek Settle, The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation (ITF) has bought together some of the most highly respected educational minds in the turfgrass industry. Dr. Settle developed a very well rounded educational program for the golf course superintendent, assistant golf course superintendent and the industry that support our courses. Every year, the ITF looks to improve the experience for attendees while at the iTurf Expo, and this year’s line up of researchers should not disappoint.

Dr. Jim Kerns from the University of Wisconsin will share his research, “Everything Dollar Spot.” Dr. Kerns research discusses the suppression of dollar spot through different fungicidal families, rates, intervals, and growth regulators. He will also present a new dollar spot model, in collaboration with Oklahoma State University, in which dollar spot outbreaks may be predicted in the future.

Dr. Aaron Patton from Purdue University will be presenting his research, “Selective control of creeping bentgrass and other weeds in golf course roughs.” With his research Dr. Patton focuses on planning, implementing, and leading projects devoted to managing quality lawn, sod, golf, and



sports turf while reducing management inputs.

Dr. Lee Miller (will return to his old stomping grounds) from the University of Missouri will examine how DMI fungicides can be used for fairy ring prevention and how spring DMI applications combined with wetting agents and PGRs work into a greens’ management program.

Dr. Bruce Branham from the University of Illinois and Dr. Ken Diesburg from Southern Illinois University will be on hand to discuss problems and current research that are specific to turfgrass professionals in Illinois.

Tim Sibicky, Manager of Research for the CDGA will discuss, “Multi-State Evaluation of Dollar Spot Susceptibility in Creeping Bentgrass Cultivars.” Mr. Sibicky’s research findings and analysis are usually presented in parts for weekly CDGA Scouting Report, but at the iTurf Expo he will be able to fully expand on his research.

Dr. Settle, Director of Turfgrass Programs for the CDGA, will present his research “Waitea Gone Wild- Research Experience of Early Summer 2011” and “Testing Newer Fungicides for Disease Control on Golf Course Greens.” Dr. Settle’s research, along with information gained from numerous site visits during the past two difficult growing seasons, will combine for an invaluable presentation.

With all of the research and expertise available at the 2011 iTurf Expo, skipping this event may be more foolish than skipping fall aerification. Mark your calendar to travel to Lemont on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and take in a day of education, networking, and enjoyment. For more information on registration along with an agenda, go to the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation web site, [iturfexpo.org](http://iturfexpo.org). **-OC**

