



President's Message

The Florida G.C.S.A. is pleased to announce that six thousand dollars has been donated to the Bermudagrass Decline Project that is being implemented by the F.T.G.A. in conjunction with the University of Florida IFAS. Dr. T.E. Freeman and Dr. Bruce Augustin will be heading a team of experts that will be involved with identifying the problem and determining different types of control. The total cost of the program is twenty thousand dollars with an estimated duration time of two years. Hopefully the research team will come up with some answers in a shorter time period with the assistance of golf course superintendents who will become involved in field trials and observations.

Since the Scholarship and Research Committee of the F.T.G.A. is organized to oversee various research programs, we feel confident that these people can effectively represent the interests of the Florida golf course superintendents. An additional five thousand dollars was earmarked for the general S&R Fund to be used at the discretion of the committee knowing full well the Florida G.C.S.A. will continue to be actively involved in selecting various projects that will warrant research funds. Many thanks to the local chapters and Nematode Controllers Inc. for the collection of these funds.

Since our association's rebirth in 1977 we have gotten involved with a lot more projects than we ever anticipated. It always seems that each new problem is just as important as the last endeavor and they all seem to be critical to the improvement of our profession. Our executive board feels that it is now time to sit back and evaluate our goals and objectives and formulate a realistic and practical set of long range plans. Our direct working relationship with F.T.G.A. must be determined so that the two organizations don't conflict and end up counter-productive. Various ideas have been discussed to get the association more involved with improved public relations throughout the golfing community, creation of more services available to the members, expanded fund raising efforts for research programs plus striving to present educational topics that superintendents truly want to participate in. At our summer board meeting we will be discussing the formation of these plans and a committee to compile them. PLEASE LET YOUR FEELINGS BE KNOWN by contacting your External Vice-President. ■

Kevin Downing