

TURF NEWS

ROUNDUP



Meeting recently in West Palm Beach were ITS organizers of the next International Research Conference. They are (front l-r) Dick Schmidt, VPI; George Snyder and John Cisar, IFAS; (back l-r) Tom Mascaro, Turf-Tec of Fort Lauderdale; Francis Lamaire, INRA, France; Yoshishuke Maki, MAK Turfgrass Doctors International, Japan; Hasashi Yanagi, Toyo Green Co., Ltd., Japan.

Photo by Kit Bradshaw

International turfgrass conference slated for Palm Beach, July '93

The International Turfgrass Society will host its International Research Conference in the United States in 1993. The last conference took place in Japan in 1989.

Based on attendance at past conferences, program organizers anticipate more than 800 participants from more than 20 countries will come to the Breakers Resort and Hotel in Palm Beach the third week of July, 1993.

This past July, members of the organizing committee and society toured various turfgrass sites in South Florida before approving the conference location.

John Cisar, assistant professor of turfgrass management for the University of Florida's Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, and George Snyder, professor of soil chemistry at the Everglades REC, are organizing committee co-chairmen.

Cisar said the ITS chose South Florida because it is relatively accessible for attendees from around the world and it offers world-class resorts. Equally important, it also has a wide variety of warm-season turfgrasses available for field trips and it is a battleground for many environmental issues.

"The tour we gave them showed them sand and muck soil production of turfgrass in the Ever-

glades agricultural area; the moderation of bentgrass greens at the Loxahatchee Club in Palm Beach County; the integration of wetlands in a golf course at Old Marsh and the water control system at Joe Robbie Stadium. There's a lot of unique turf usage in Florida," Cisar said.

A call for scholarly papers went out earlier this month. Many papers not selected for formal presentation at the conference will be compiled for distribution at the conference. All presentations will be in English.

Program topics will include environmental impact of turf; pesticide and nutrient fate in turf systems; the biocontrol approach to controlling diseases and insects; advances in turfgrass management; environmental forecasting of pest responses; xeriscaping; turfgrass adaptation in the southern U.S.; soil testing technologies; and turfgrass root research.

The week-long conference is only part of the package, Cisar said. Pre- and post-conference tours of the South and possibly the seed production areas of Oregon and Washington are also in the planning stages.

Conference planners are encouraging attendees to bring their families.

"The Breakers is an ideal place for a family vacation and we are working with the resort to create special programs for spouses and children," Cisar said.

Others attending the July planning session include Jim Watson, retired vice president of Toro and president of the society; Dick Schmidt of VPI,

ALSO

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treasurer; John Hall III of VPI, secretary; Bill Meyer of Turf-Seed, Inc. of Oregon, chairman of the finance committee; Robert Carrow of the University of Georgia, program committee chairman; society directors William Adams of the United Kingdom; Peter McMaugh of Australia; Francis Lemaire of France; Hasashi Yanagi and Yoshishuke Maki of Japan and Mark Welterlen, editor of *Grounds Maintenance Magazine* and chairman of the publicity committee.

-Kit Bradshaw

Florida Golf Summit in Tampa, Oct. 3-4 to focus on water regulations

Water issues will be the focus of the second annual Florida Golf Summit scheduled Oct. 3-4 at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa.

The conference, sponsored by the year-old Florida Golf Council, will take place in conjunction with the state's 16th annual Water Management Conference.

Among the speakers expected are Gov. Lawton Chiles, representatives of each of the five water management districts and golf course architects Ed Seay of Arnold Palmer Course Design and Tom Fazio.

Session topics will include contract negotiations for re-used water, water conservation regulation and other tax-related issues.

Registration will be \$250 for Florida Golf Council members (\$175 for each additional employee), and \$300 for

nonmembers (\$225 for each additional employee).

For more information, contact Jack Mathis at 407-688-0800.

Research Foundation needs \$125,000 more for goals

The Florida Turfgrass Research Foundation must raise an additional \$125,000 within the next year — \$25,000 of it by Nov. 15 — to meet all of its funding goals through 1992, according to a letter to all FTGA members from Executive Director Bob Yount.

The Nov. 15 deadline applies to money needed to complete the \$100,000 G.C. Horn Fellowship Fund. If the Horn endowment is fully funded by that time, the FTRF can apply for a \$50,000 matching grant from the State of Florida. The Horn Fellowship Fund, honoring the late turfgrass professor at the University of Florida, will finance post-graduate students at the University of Florida.

The FTRF's Arnold Palmer Endowment Program "will require an additional \$100,000 to support the anticipated research grants, scholarship and commitments for 1992," wrote Yount. "We need to increase this fund quickly."

Yount mentioned the need to equip the Envirotron turfgrass research facility at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Construction is expected to start later this year. Computers, microscopes and other laboratory instruments will probably have to be donated, he said, because "further budget cuts have been made at

all educational levels."

Equipment frequently is easier for companies to donate than cash, Yount said, adding, "The slow economy has had some negative effects on our funding efforts, but we feel very positive about our future."

GCSAA's John Schilling among Golf Digest's list of 36 most powerful in golf

Architects Pete Dye and Tom Fazio, EPA Administrator William K. Reilly, President George Bush, GCSAA Executive Director John Schilling and National Golf Foundation President Joe Beditz are among the 36 most powerful people in golf, according to the September issue of *Golf Digest*.

Deane Beman, PGA Tour Commissioner, topped the list of people who, in the opinion of *Golf Digest's* editors, "have the capability and the option of acting in ways that have an effect on both phases of the game — the big-money, show-business side, and the game we all play."

Golf Digest's 36 Most Powerful People in Golf are:

1. Deane Beman - PGA Tour Commissioner
2. Mark McCormack - International Management Group
3. Jack Nicklaus - Professional golfer/golf course architect
4. David Fay - USGA executive director
5. Arnold Palmer - Professional golfer/golf course design
6. Karsten Solheim - Clubmaker (Ping)
7. Jackson T. Stephens - Masters tournament chairman
8. Michael Bonallick - Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews secretary
9. Dan Rostenkowski - U.S. Congressman
10. Robern Dedman - Club Corporation of America founder/chairman
- 11.

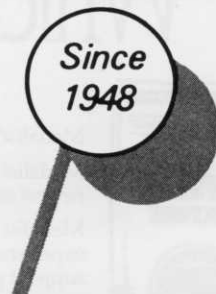


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Minoru Isutania - Pebble Beach owner **12.** Lee Trevino - Professional golfer **13.** Pete Dye - Golf Course architect **14.** William K. Reilly - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency administrator **15.** George Bush - President of the United States **16.** Ralph Maltby - The Golf Works owner **17.** De. De Windt - PGA Tour's Policy Board chairman **18.** Greg Norman - Professional golfer **19.** Tom Fazio - Golf course architect **20.** Grant Spaeth - USGA president **21.** Bobby Jones - Golf legend **22.** Ken Scholfield - PGA European Tour executive director **23.** Frank Chirkinian - CBS Golf producer **24.** Tim Finchem - PGA Tour deputy commissioner/COO **25.** Gordon Jeffrey - R&A general committee chairman **26.** Hughes Norton - International Management Group senior vice president **27.** Nancy Lopez - Professional golfer **28.** Charles Mehan - PGA commissioner **29.** Peter Alliss - TV commentator **30.** Judy Bell - USGA executive committee member **31.** Jim Awtrey - PGA of America executive director **32.** John M. Schilling - GCSAA executive director **33.** Roger Maxwell - Marriott Golf vice president of golf operations and development **34.** Joe Beditz - National Golf Foundation president/CEO **35.** Leonard Decof - Legal counsel for Karsten Solheim **36.** Joe Jemsek - Chicago club pro.

USGA \$4.1 million grant extends research programs through 1997

The USGA has extended the turfgrass research program begun in 1982 with a \$4.1 million appropriation for projects to be conducted through 1997.

The money will fund research projects, still to be selected, in plant improvement and resource management. The former appropriation includes turfgrass breeding and biotechnology; the latter includes cultural practices, biotechnology and pest management.

A request for "pre-proposals" will be sent to university researchers next month and final decisions on projects to be funded will be made by the Turfgrass Research Committee in March.

In the final round of awards for the previous USGA program, University of Florida researchers at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center re-

ceived funding for two projects at the FGCSA's Otto Schmeisser Memorial Research Green on the FLREC campus.

Among the objectives of the original 10-year research program was the significant reduction of water use and maintenance costs by breeding new grasses and developing improved cultural maintenance practices.

Two improved turfgrass varieties, NuMex Sahara bermudagrass and NE 84-609 buffalograss are now available for use on golf courses and other turf areas as a result of USGA funding.

Much of the background work has been accomplished with the breeding programs sponsored by the USGA and the organization expects more varieties to be released this decade.

During the next five-year phase of the program, emphasis will be placed on developing grasses and cultural maintenance practices that conserve natural re-

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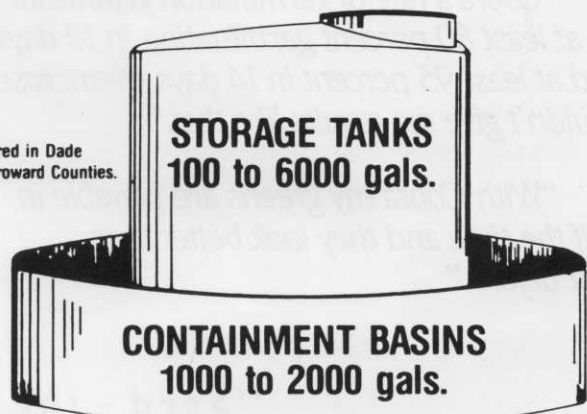
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NEWS ROUNDUP

sources. New grasses will be sought that require less water, pesticides and fertilizer, and that exhibit other desirable characteristics, including:

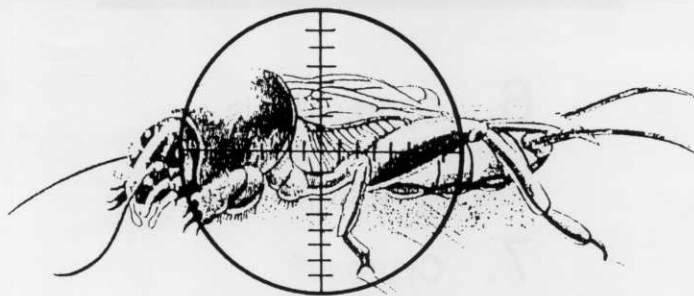
- ability to survive temperature extremes
- tolerance of non-potable water
- tolerance of alkaline, acid or saline soils
- reduced need for mowing and fertilization
- resistance to diseases, insects, nematodes and weed competition
- tolerance of smog and other pollutants
- shade tolerance

By extending the funding of the turfgrass research program for a five-year period, the USGA hopes to ensure continued high standards for the maintenance of golf courses while addressing environmental concerns about the protection and conservation of natural resources.

Tennessee golf course gets Audobon honor

The Honors Course in Ooltewah, Tenn., site of the U.S. Amateur Championship last month, has become the first golf course recognized for its conservation and preservation efforts under the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses. The course was awarded an original oil painting by Adriano Manocchio depicting a view of the ninth hole, capturing its natural habitat, nest boxes, and wildlife.

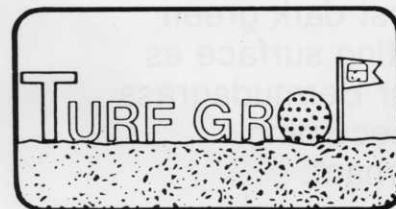
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