



The new Turfgrass Science Museum will be dedicated to Thomas Mascaro, left, and Eberhard Steiniger.

Penn State has Turfgrass Science Museum in works

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — Pennsylvania State University and The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council have announced a new Turfgrass Science Museum will be dedicated to Thomas Mascaro and Eberhard Steiniger. The museum will be named the Mascaro/Steiniger Turfgrass Museum.

The 40,000-square-foot museum is being constructed on the Penn State campus and will display many inventions, including those developed by

Mascaro and the collection of Steiniger. The need for a museum was conceived by Dr. Joseph Duich, now retired from Penn State.

Mascaro was president of West Point Products for 55 years. In 1986 he and his son, John, formed Turf-Tec International which designs diagnostic turfgrass instruments for golf course superintendents to obtain factual information. The business is located in Oakland Park, Fla.

Steiniger was golf course

superintendent at Pine Valley Golf Club in Clementon, N.J., for 57 years. Steiniger collaborated with Mascaro on more than 20 inventions in testing and evaluating their performance. His private collection of equipment will also be on display.

The formal dedication of the museum will be held at the Penn State Turfgrass Field Days, Aug. 10-11. For more information, contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, P.O. Box 1078, Lemont, Pa. 16851-1078; 814-863-3475.

Quick sod

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Afterward, Overland Park's maintenance schedule included "periodic mowing to get it down to [desired playing] height as soon as possible," Queen said. "We did not aerify until the next spring.

"In our new process we are immediately going in with a pre-emergent because the reason we renovated in the first place was the amount of poa annua we have. We've also integrated a turf growth regulator and it seems to fight the poa off the greens."

Queen recommended top dressing be delayed for a week after laying the sod. He did top dress and said, "It caused a sand layer across the seam and developed a slight ridge area that took 30 days to top dress it out."

While Queen found that using 18-inch rolls "significantly reduces the cross-seams on the green and greatly shrinks the size of the crew necessary," Lietzen has made a 30-inch sod blade to use this fall.

"This will reduce 75 percent of the seams," Queen reported.

No one in Overland Park is scoffing any longer. Plus, the reputation of the course, which plays 75,000 rounds a year, is intact.

"Being a public course, our philosophy is to be always open. We don't think we can get away with temporary greens for three or four months," Queen said. "If we closed nine holes it would cost us about \$3,000 a day. But more important is, what does it do to your reputation for the next two years? Whenever a golf course closes for renovation, people get the mind set that it is under construction and they steer away from it. Then, after the course opens up, people are used to visiting other facilities. We don't want them going anywhere else."

The project's total cost? "Not much," Queen said. "We built the nursery and spent \$400 to \$500 in sod blades.

"But, mostly, the results were successful because the staff was allowed, and had the initiative, to come up with ideas to improve the entire process."

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