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what a golf course superintendent does?  
Who he is? What he worries about?*

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it covers it all!*



# THE GRASS ROOTS

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## ***Wyse to Lead College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the UW-Madison***

Roger E. Wyse, a noted scholar, academic administrator and national agricultural policymaker, was named dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Wisconsin - Madison by Chancellor Donna E. Shalala on Friday, May 29th.

Wyse, 49, currently serves as both director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and dean of research at Cook College and Rutgers University. His academic experience at Rutgers followed a distinguished career as a plant biochemist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

During his six years at Rutgers, Wyse guided strategic planning and revitalizing of New Jersey's Agricultural Experiment Station. Under Wyse's leadership, Rutgers has hired outstanding young faculty, added \$120 million in new agriculture and environmental science research and teaching buildings, and attracted substantial government and industry funds.

"Our search and screen committee did a superb job in indentifying Roger Wyse as the top candidate for one of the nation's premier agricultural research and education posts," Shalala said on May 29th. "It took a while for all the details of his hiring to be finalized, but I know the university community and the citizens of Wisconsin will soon discover it was well worth the wait to draw Roger Wyse to the state," she said.

"We had a very strong field of candidates, with a large segment of the best people in agriculture as applicants," said Meat and Animal Science Professor Neal First, chair of the search committee. "But Roger Wyse was our overwhelming choice. He has the right combination of both basic and applied

research expertise, educational and personal background, and state and federal policy-making experience to be an exceptional dean," said First. "We are delighted that he will be CALS' new leader. He will be a wonderful complement to the existing strong leadership."

Wyse succeeds Leo Walsh, who was dean of CALS for nearly 12 years, and led the college through a period of both major growth and emerging public and political concern for farm productivity, environmental protection, genetic engineering and the survival of farm families and rural communities. Walsh stepped down in May 1991, and returned to the Department of Soil Science.

Shalala lauded Acting Dean Neal Jorgensen, who has ably guided the college through the 14-month transition period. "Neal took on the task of budget reallocation, and balanced the budget without alienating the faculty, showing that he has real leadership skills," she said.

Wyse officially becomes the ninth CALS dean, director of the Wisconsin Agriculture Experiment Station and professor of horticulture as of August 1. In the interim, he will split his time between Wisconsin and New Jersey so that he can prepare for new duties here while completing some projects at Rutgers.

At the national level, Wyse has chaired two White House task forces developing policies for minor use pesticides and for cranberry production. Last year, New Jersey Governor James Florio named him chair of the FARMS Commission, a panel examining the future of agriculture in that state.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## ***Interviews for UW Staff are Complete; Decisions Awaited***

*By Monroe S. Miller*

The Department of Plant Pathology has moved to fill the position vacated by Dr. Gayle Worf when he moved to the UW CALS Extension Dean position. Interviews for the Worf position are complete and the department has offered the position to the successful candidate. Word of either acceptance or rejection by the candidate is awaited.

The Department was well along in the same process last year when the Governor, responding to state fiscal pressures, instituted a hiring freeze on all state positions. That action required the officials in Plant Pathology to start the process all over once the hiring freeze was lifted and permission to proceed granted by the CALS and UW-Madison administration.

Sources indicate we should know by July who will be helping us with our turfgrass disease problems in the future.

The last two weeks of May saw four excellent candidates visit Madison as the interview process for Dr. Robert Newman's position in the Department of Horticulture moved forward.

The department chairman, Dr. Larry Binning, and the chairman of the search and screen committee, Dr. Ed Hasselkus, were kind enough to make industry representatives a part of the interview process.

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# Ferger Hosts Meeting at Country Club of Beloit

By Bill Knight

The May meeting of the WGCSA was held at the Country Club of Beloit. Host golf course superintendent Don Ferger delivered on excellent weather and a beautifully conditioned golf course.

Forty-nine golfers played in the two best ball/one worst ball event. The narrow fairways and mature trees took their toll on many golf shots during the day.

*Results of the event were:* First place: Chad Ball, Skip Wilms, John Feiner and Ed Devinger. Second place: Don Ferger, Dave Ferger, Jim Ferry and Chris Johnson. Third Place: Ron Grunwald, Chris Pinkerton, Mike Handrich, Roy Zehren and Bill Knight. Closest to the pin: Skip Wilms. Longest drive: Chuck Wollner.

After an excellent dinner, the evening was concluded with a lecture by Dr. Randy Kane of the Chicago District Golf Association. The CDGA represents 250 clubs and 70,000 to 80,000 golfers. Dr. Kane's main job is to identify disease problems. The title of his talk was "Disease Control of the 90s—Hit or Miss?"

Dr. Kane talked about southern turf diseases moving north as weather conditions change. He also emphasized the need to rotate systemic fungicides with contact fungicides to prevent diseases from becoming resistant to some fungicides.



Dr. Randy Kane, speaker at May's WGCSA meeting in Beloit.

He also made the point that some chemicals would not be re-registered in the future because of the enormous expense and the fact that turf is considered a minor crop.

A great big "thank you" to Don and the CCB staff for their part in making the day a success.

## Decision Awaited (Continued from front page)

Each candidate was taken to the O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility for a tour. While there, industry representatives from sod production, professional lawn care and golf turf were given the opportunity to meet with each candidate long enough to form an opinion on how each would relate to Wisconsin's grass industries. Jim Huggett, Terry Kurth and Monroe S. Miller represented their respective professions.

The opportunity was given to let the search committee know if any of the interviewees were unacceptable.

None were, by the way. The individuals interviewed represented an enormous range of experience and education. It seems the industry will be well served by whomever successfully completes the hiring process.

Again, we should know of Dr. Newman's replacement sometime in July.

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