



## SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDY

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This issue's version of the SURVEY will not have any measures or quantitative characteristics to it.

Instead, we decided to canvas a wide number of WGCSA members and see what they need the most help with in their particular golf course management situations. The results are, in effect, suggestions for research work at the new NOER research facility.

Really, there are no surprises here for our faculty at Wisconsin. The results are pretty much a reaffirmation of issues confronting Wisconsin golf course superintendents and are well known.

The most consistent suggestions related to pesticides—their fate on turfs, alternatives, etc. A lot of people alluded to the need to do a better job in telling the public the beneficial side of these products. That matter, which is very real, needed to be addressed in quarters other than the NOER facility.

### GRASS RESEARCH

Fescues vs. ryes in overseeding  
Bentgrass varieties which are most prosperous without pesticides  
Bentgrass variety trials and evaluations

Determine which Kentucky bluegrass varieties are most tolerant of lower heights of cut

Development of bentgrass variety with growth habit best suited to support of a golf ball. This could be part of a broader plant breeding program

Dormant seeding techniques of bentgrass into new and also into existing stands of other grasses, especially *Poa annua*

Determine the best fairway turf for Wisconsin conditions

Do a definitive study on shade tolerant grasses

### PESTICIDES

Fate of pesticides applied to turf areas. Complement work already done elsewhere, only specific with regard to Wisconsin conditions

Study disease resistance to fungicides

Study sterol inhibitors, their best use in disease control, resistance to them, their effect on turf growth

Determine most effective snow mold fungicides for use in northern Wisconsin, especially new materials

Comprehensive studies dealing with disease control on *Poa annua*

Pestcasting for use in turfgrass management

Active role in development of a more broad spectrum fungicide with extended or season-long control

Develop a research program for extensive evaluation and rates of all fungicides

Develop management practices that will reduce need for fungicides

Evaluate synergism of fungicides

### WATER USE

Evaluate various turfs for use in low irrigation situations

Duplicate runoff study done at Penn State, only do so for situations found in Wisconsin

Use of effluent water for irrigation of turf in Wisconsin

Determine if pesticides used on turf can affect water supplies (wells) or adjacent bodies of surface water (lakes and rivers)

### FERTILITY

Study influence of fertility on drought resistance

Organic fertilizers, their value in turf management and their limitations

Function of organic fertilizers in disease control

Determine how use of growth regulators affects nutrient requirements

Fertilizer loss from turf

Extensive testing areas for controlled evaluation of specific fertilizer materials

Develop low fertility programs

Potash thresholds—can you actually have too much?

Develop a fertility program for use in new USGA greens—from construction through maturity

### MISCELLANEOUS

Root pruning effects of pre-emergence herbicides used on golf turf (bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass)

Spring vs. fall applications of turf regulators

Green cover testing

Determine exact causes of winter injury of turf in Wisconsin, especially *Poa annua*

Develop a management program to minimize winter damage

Finally, three other suggestions were made that aren't actually research studies. A number of people questioned mentioned these items for incorporation into the NOER facility and its work:

1. Do not give up statewide research;
2. Build a rhizotron, and;
3. Incorporate soils broadly representative of the rest of Wisconsin at the NOER facility.

### In remembrance of FRANKLIN J. RANNEY

Franklin J. Ranney, 88, of West Salem, passed away on January 29, 1992 in La Crosse.

Mr. Ranney began construction of a golf course on the family farm outside of West Salem in 1928. This golf course became known as the Maple Grove Country Club. He was the owner and operator of Maple Grove until it was sold in 1977.

He was a member of both the WGCSA and the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America.