

# Lake Noer

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The months of May and the first part of June were one of records. The amount of rain that came down on the Noer Facility was astronomical, so we decided that it would be in our best interest to convert the O. J. Noer Turfgrass Facility into the O. J. Noer Turfgrass and Lake Research Facility. If you don't believe me take a look at the pictures that follow (pages 62 and 63). As the sayings go, "pictures don't lie" and "a picture tells a thousand words."

Most of the color pictures were taken on the evening of June 1, 2000. The black/whites were taken over the next week. During the flood about half of the research plots were under some amount of water. On average the fairway plots were under a foot of water. Many of the greens, even though they are elevated, were under ankle deep water. During June 1 we received 2-2.5" of rain in about 45 minutes. This was on top of the 4" we received earlier in the week.

Some explanations of the pictures are provided below.

**Color Photo Page** (page 63, clockwise around outside then down center from top left): at the fork of Noer River looking upstream from Noer Lake; four newly installed boat lifts for the upcoming Summer; ducks wading in the shallows of what was once the brown patch study; a Painted Turtle that took up residence in the run-off plots because that was the only dry ground; wading on the sandbar which was once a putting green constructed in 1999; the beginning of Noer River as you look north from the Noer property; the only thing bad about the new boat lifts is that they collect all of the debris that floats downstream; my favorite fishing hole on the south side of Lake Noer; the two deserted islands where *Survivors* is filmed; we thought that the look of a Northwoods lake would attract some of the F.I.B. and F.I.S.H. so that they don't buy all of the land in Northern Wisconsin; the Lake shortly after the dam was finished; harvesting wild rice can be a fun activity; a view across Lake Noer to Highway M, the eastern boundary of the Lake; the peaceful tranquility of Lake Noer; Plant Path was lucky because their green turned into beach front property and should fetch a decent price from a Chicago executive; the new shark barrier being lowered on the west shore of the Lake.

**Black/White Photo Page** (page 62, clockwise around outside then down center from top left): new USGA green washed away by the floods; cleaning up

the tons of cornstalks that washed off neighboring fields; washing the silt off the Plant Path green; seedlings don't germinate very well under a foot of water; the field to the west provided the field day exhibit area with a 1" topdressing of silt; this may be the future take-all patch area, because baseball mounds are predominantly made of limestone; about a 1/4" of silt was deposited on Horticulture's green, which was later stripped and reseeded; cornstalks at the base of the new transformer and well; Toro workman can handle a high volume of cornstalks in one load; the only thing that didn't wash downstream was the kitchen sink, but that might be under all the cornstalks; the bentgrass NTEP fairway had its share of flood debris; greenhouse baseboards act as a good debris collector; clay mounds hold up better to floods than clay-brick mounds; you have heard of footprints in the sand, but now there are footprints in the grass; more cornstalks by our new well; clay bricks even crumbled under the forces of mother nature; somebody started their slide into home plate a little early and left a rut down the third base line; the heck with sand art when you can use a clay pitching mound to create exciting artwork.

Enjoy the pictures and be sure to check out the high water marks at the Noer during the 2000 WTA Summer Field day. ♣



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