



## Dr. Robert Newman Honored at Field Day and Other Highlights from a Wonderful Day

By **Tom Schwab**, Manager, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

WTA Summer Field Day 2003 had all the elements of being a perfect day. The UW-Madison turfgrass researchers disseminated plentiful turfgrass research ideas. There were over 300 interested turfgrass professionals ready to soak up those ideas. The trade show was large with close to 40 different exhibitors who had a broad range of information and product ideas for the attendees. Even the weather was perfect with temperatures in the mid 70's and overcast skies. But the highlight of the day for many in the audience was witnessing a most respected and former professor of ours get a new scholarship named after him.

Dr. Robert Newman was honored in a short ceremony after the morning research tours. He was named on a fellowship that will forever provide support to future turfgrass graduate students in the Department of Horticulture. These students will discover new technologies for turf managers to use well into the future. The industry appreciates the funding support of the Robert Newman family and the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association for sponsoring the fellowship. Research results from the Robert Newman Distinguished Graduate Fellowship will be presented at one of the next Summer Field Days.

Research information from the fellowship that was given three years ago, named after Dr. Wayne Kussow, was presented during this year's research tour. Doug Soldat was the graduate student recipient of the first Wayne Kussow fellowship. Doug gave a presentation about using several inorganic amendments in the root zones of sand putting greens for better nutrient and moisture retention. That was just one of the many

interesting talks given during the research tours.

There were seven other presentations during the research tour aimed at the golf turf industry and eight for the landscape, sports turf, and sod industries. Golf subjects included mapping for dollar spot resistance genes in bentgrass, fungicide evaluations, mowing reductions with plant growth regulators, and calibrating soil tests to achieve better putting green establishment, among others. The subjects for the landscape, sod, and sports turf tour included herbicides for controlling bentgrass in established lawns, managing new heat tolerant bluegrasses, influence of buffer strips for water quality and surface runoff, turfgrass species and management, and others. A description of all these presentations was outlined

in the field day tour book and results will be given at the Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO in January.

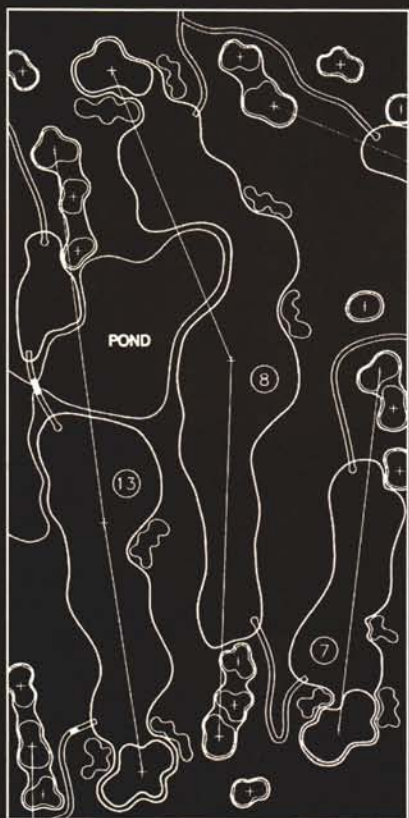
If you didn't get all your questions answered during the morning research tours, there was the afternoon ask-the-expert period. That period allowed time for you to have one-on-one conversations with the professors and other researchers about any turfgrass subjects of concern you had. A wildlife habitat tour also took place in the afternoon that showed attendees how to create more wildlife friendly environments on their properties.

But the main activity in the afternoon was the trade show. Many attendees use the trade show to comparison shop among the many vendors present. There are so many different products,



Dr. Newman commenting on having a Wisconsin Distinguished Graduate Fellowship named for him, while his wife Diane and professor emeritus Lloyd Peterson look on.

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services, and supplies to find out about during the WTA Field Day trade show. And the exhibitors were all eager to help solve your needs and show you their most recent offerings. They also did the turf industry a great service by helping sponsor the Field Day through their registration fees and silent auction. I hope you return the favor by shopping with them throughout the year. The 2003 Field Day exhibitors are listed below.

The whole field day was superb this year. The only negative aspect was the numbers of attendees and

exhibitors were down slightly this year. There were 301 attendees compared to last year's 334. The number of companies represented in the trade show was down one to 38 from last year's 39, and the number of sales personnel went from 93 to 78. But that didn't dampen the enthusiasm of a wonderful and educational Summer Field Day. Just seeing Dr. Newman being honored would have been enough for me — but there was so much more. Attendees, vendors, and guests left with smiles on their faces. ♣

**2003 Wisconsin Turfgrass Association  
Summer Field Day Exhibitors**

**Be sure to call these Summer Field Day exhibitors any time you need supplies, equipment, or advice on growing better turfgrass.**

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|------------------------------------|---|
| BASF Corporation                   | National Seed                               |
| Bayer Environmental Sciences       | Olds Seed Solutions                         |
| Beacon Golf                        | ProLawn                                     |
| Brillion Turf Division             | ProSource One                               |
| Conserv FS                         | Reinders                                    |
| Contree Sprayer                    | Spring Valley                               |
| Deltalok Midwest                   | Syngenta                                    |
| DHD Tree Products                  | Tee Shot Marketing                          |
| Dow AgroSciences                   | The Andersons                               |
| Extreme Equipment                  | Turf Time                                   |
| Flowtronex                         | United Horticultural Supply                 |
| Herford Norby Golf Architects      | Vissil International                        |
| Horst Distributing                 | Waupaca Sand & Solutions                    |
| J W Turf                           | WDATCP                                      |
| Johnson Turf Equipment             | Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association  |
| K E I                              | Wisconsin Turf Equipment                    |
| Lebanon Turf Products              | Wisconsin Turfgrass Association             |
| Lesco                              | Wolosek Landscaping & Golf Course Materials |
| McFarlanes                         |   |
| Miller & Associates - Sauk Prairie |   |

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