



# New EXPO Format Is a Hit

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

The new year brought a different format to the Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO, which was welcomed by attendees and trade show exhibitors alike. The biggest change was seen at the trade show with booths going to table top displays only. In past years, the trade show included mowers, sprayers, tractors and every other piece of iron you could imagine. Everyone agreed that more business, networking, and learning took place with the new table top format. The educational sections likewise benefited by being conveniently located adjacent to the trade show, thus no long walks were made between the trade show and talks.

The education and roster of speakers were excellent, as in previous years. Two educational tracks were offered, one for golf turf education and the other for sports and landscape turf. Speakers included Dr. John Sorochan from the University of Tennessee, and Dr. Lane Tredway from the University of North Carolina who presented information on rolling putting greens, managing sports turf wear, and use of new fungicides for summer turf stress and disease control. Mike Andresen and Abby McNeal, president and vice-president of the national Sports Turf Managers Association, gave informative presentations in the sports turf section.

More excellent presenters shared an additional wealth of information with attendees. Jason Dettman-Kruse from UW Extension and Doug DeVries from Reid Municipal Golf Course gave a progress report on the new DNR NR151 nonpoint source pollution



The trade show/networking room was packed during the opening session.



All the breakout session rooms were likewise full.

regulations. Drs. Richard Wolkowski and Doug Soldat, from the UW-Madison, talked about using compost and biosolids in turf management. Doug also presented the latest developments in turfgrass fertility.

Paul Koch and Eric Koeritz from the Turf Diagnostics Lab and Department of Horticulture gave updates on their latest research at the UW-Madison, as did professors Stier, Williamson, and Kussow. Bob Vavrek from the USGA gave an informative 2006 review of golf turf management in the upper Midwest, and Melissa Gugliotti

from Syngenta informed everyone how best to manage weeds and other problems in small ponds. Adrian Barta and Jane Cummings from WDATCP and DNR talked about Wisconsin's response to the imminent emerald ash borer crisis. Lukas Dant from Syngenta talked about using sprayer nozzles to maximize pesticide performance. To finish off the education, Mike Maddox from the UW Extension presented ideas to manage woody plant stresses in the landscape.

In addition to the wonderful presentations, the annual membership meetings of the WTA and the



WTA president Rich Riggs accepts a Reinders/ Daconil promotion check from Dean Musbach during the awards and scholarship program.



Dr. Doug Soldat, right, pictured with several of his UW turf management program students. The students helped with logistics during the presentations.

WSTMA were held at EXPO. Another highlight was the presentation of scholarships and turf research donations during the opening session. The list of this year's recipients and donors are shown below. Also listed on page 33 is a description and contact information for all the exhibitors who help to sponsor the great education. Be sure to return the favor by calling them with all your commercial needs in the coming season.

Everyone finished off the day with some fun during the Wisconsinizing social gathering.

The numbers of attendees were down this year despite the great conference. There were 202 attendees and 85 exhibitors staffing 36 table top displays. The balmy January weather can't be blamed for attendance, with temps in the low 40s and no precipitation. Regardless of the low attendance, everyone left with a great experi-

ence and new ideas.

These new ideas are what make the Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO such a great way to start out the year. The planning committee is already working to bring the best education to you for next year's show. The format of the trade show will remain and the education will be worth the wait. Stay tuned to hear about the exciting new theme of EXPO '08. You won't want to miss it! 🌱

**2007 Wisconsin Turfgrass and Greenscape EXPO Research and Scholarship Recipients**

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**Amount**

\$1,500  
 \$500  
 \$1,000  
 \$500  
 \$500  
 \$600  
 \$500  
 \$600  
 \$600  
 \$600  
 \$600

**Recipient**

WTA  
 WTA  
 WTA  
 WTA  
 WTA  
 WTA  
 Distinguished Graduate Fellowship  
 Distinguished Graduate Fellowship

**Amount**

\$500  
 \$1,000  
 \$1,375  
 \$795  
 \$1,260  
 \$6,657  
 \$250  
 \$2,450

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