

Crowds Rain Down on Noer Facility for Summer Field Day 2008



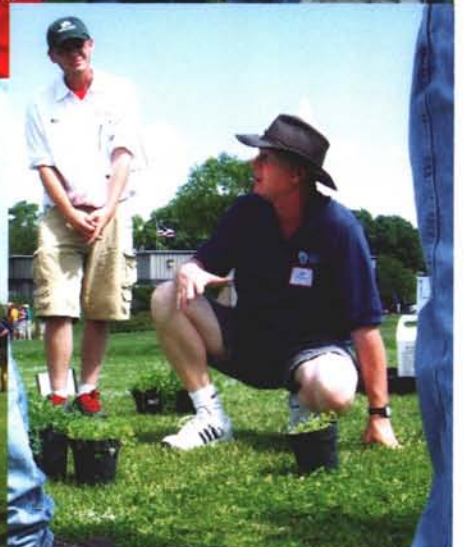
By **Tom Schwab**, O.J. Noer Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The rains and flooding that occurred in southern Wisconsin during the summer of 2008 were devastating, but the crowds that rained down on the OJ Noer Facility on July 22nd for the 25th annual Wisconsin Turfgrass Association Summer Field Day were amazing. Attendance numbered over 300 with 255 turf managers and 69 sales representatives. The attendance increased over past years' events, as did the number of new studies that were featured.

Amazing was also the word for this year's weather as visitors were greeted with temperatures in the upper 70s, mild breezes, and beautiful blue skies. The amount of education offered was enough to satisfy everyone who came. One attendee, Charles Granger, said about a putting green management talk, "I learned more from that one presentation than in 10 years of attending other various field days."

The field day started out with the research tour that

Charles Granger was so impressed with and was followed by the afternoon commercial trade show and the first ever lawn care training session. The morning



research tour had something for everyone in the two separate groups of talks. One group tour was geared for golf turf managers and the other for sports, sod, lawncare, and commercial turf managers. The titles of the talks included:

- Localized Dry Spot Prevention and Management
- Alternative Methods for the Control of Dollar Spot
- Cutless PGR for Controlling *Poa annua* in Fairways
- Control of Dollar Spot Using Standard and Experimental Fungicides
- Soil Carbon Loss from Recently Established Turf, Pasture and Prairie Grasses
- Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties for Fairways
- Velvet Bentgrass Nitrogen Type and Rate Evaluation
- Does Primo Change Putting Green Fertilization Requirements?
- Quick-Germ Kentucky Bluegrass for Lawns and Sports Turf
- New Products for Crabgrass Control

- Rainwater Harvesting and Drip Irrigation
- Insecticide Options for Managing Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)
- Bentgrass Removal from Lawns with Tenacity
- Winterkill of Perennial Ryegrass in Lawns
- Lawn Responses to Liquid Fertilizers
- Ryegrass Rust and Other Common Diseases of Lawn Grass


Everyone was treated to a wonderful lunch following the research tour where friendship and conversation were shared among attendees. The trade show had 28 companies displaying turf equipment, supplies, and services to improve everyone's turf management. The sales representatives were helpful in discussing all aspects of their products and services. The list of exhibitors is mentioned here. Please be sure to give them your business and thank them for helping to support Field Day.

The lawn care workshop became part of Field Day for the first time in 2008. It was a huge success considering space was limited to 65 participants which sold out and had 19 people on the waiting list. The workshop was mainly for lawncare staff training although there were participants from other industries and several managers taking advantage of the refresher course. Subjects covered in the workshop included:

- Fertilizer spreader and sprayer calibration
- Weed/ disease/ insect identification and management
- Turf species choices
- Fertilizer properties and considerations

Field Day 2008 is going into the books as being one of the most successful. The weather, learning opportunities, crowds, and number of new studies were hard to beat. Thanks go to everyone who attended and helped make the day such a success. 🌱

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**2008 Wisconsin Turfgrass Association
Summer Field Day Exhibitors**

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| Arthur Clesen | Pumpstation Professionals |
| Bayer | Reinders |
| Central Sod Farms | Seed Solutions |
| Cleary Chemical | Sports Turf Specialties |
| Contree Sprayer | Spring Valley |
| Deer Creek Seed | Standard Golf |
| Ero-TEX | Syngenta |
| Floratine | The Andersons |
| Frontier FS Coop | UAP Distributing |
| Horst Distributing | Valent |
| John Deere Golf | Volkering Consulting |
| Links Land LLC | Waupaca Sand & Solutions |
| Midwest Turf Products | WDATCP |
| Pendelton Turf Supply | Wisconsin Turf Equipment |

NOTES FROM THE NOER FACILITY

