



## NOER FACILITY'S EXPONENTIAL GROWTH IN NEW STUDIES COME SEE ALL THE NEW PROJECTS AT SUMMER FIELD DAY

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**S**ummer Field Day is the annual event when the UW-Madison and WTA introduce new and innovative turf management projects to the turf industry of Wisconsin. That is certainly the case for this year's show. So many projects are being constructed at the Noer Facility this spring; it mirrors many of Wisconsin's potholed roadways. See all the activity first hand at this year's Field Day being held on Tuesday, July 22 at the O.J. Noer Facility in Verona. If you haven't already received your registration brochure, you will be receiving it shortly. You may also download one at [www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org](http://www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org).

What are all the new studies, you may ask. To begin with, four new putting greens are being constructed on the Noer Facility this spring. One of the new greens will look at phosphorus and plant growth regulator levels needed to grow in greens in the fastest and most environmentally sound way. A creeping bentgrass variety trial will be installed on another new green, and shaded green problems will be studied on the other new ones. Two other new greens are scheduled for construction later this summer as well, but what will be investigated on them is yet undetermined.

Another new project to learn about at Field Day will focus on conservation of water at the Noer Facility during the summer. Rainwater will be collected off the roof of the Noer Facility and stored in rain barrels both above and below ground to be used in watering the front lawn. Differing depths of buried drip irrigation lines will be used to determine parameters to make this a viable method to maintain turf. A rain-out shelter was also built this spring at the facility to improve



Grad student Eric Koeritz prepares three new plots to study a quicker germinating Kentucky bluegrass.



Two new putting greens that were built by grad student Ben Pease will soon have structures installed over them to study growing greens in the shade.



Turf student Bill Kreuser puts the finishing touches on his newly constructed USGA Green.



Dr. Doug Soldat's new rainout shelter.





Two 4,000 gallon rain barrels that will be used to store rainwater to irrigate the Noer Facility front lawn.

researchers' ability to study turfgrass maintenance in drought conditions. The shelter is on wheels and is connected to a sensor, pulley and motor that will move the shelter over the plot whenever rainfall is detected.

Many other new studies are being installed this year as well. The Noer Facility is as torn up with installation of new studies as it's ever been. Although some of these studies will be too new to give results by field day, others will provide information that will be very useful at your facility.

Here is the list of studies that will be talked about during the research tour:

- The Future of Dollar Spot Control
- Localized Dry Spot: Prevention and Management
- Does *Primo* Change Putting Green Fertilization Requirements?
- Early Season Dollar Spot Control
- Nitrogen Source and Rate Effects on Velvet Bentgrass
- Kentucky Bluegrass Varieties for Fairways
- Carbon Sequestration "In The Rough"
- *Cutless* PGR for Controlling *Poa* in Fairways
- Going Green: Rainwater Harvesting and Drip Irrigation
- Compost Tea as a Turf Management Option
- *Quik-Germ* Kentucky Bluegrass for Lawn and Sports
- Bentgrass Removal from Lawns with *Tenacity*
- New Products for Crabgrass Control
- Latest Information on Managing Emerald Ash Borer
- Winterkill of Perennial Ryegrass in Lawns

The research tour that takes place in the morning is only half of what field day offers. The large trade show in the afternoon will feature thirty to forty exhibitors to help you with all your commercial inquiries. They'll have information on every product, service, and piece of equipment that you could ever need to help you in your job. Many will let you test drive equipment to com-

pare features between different makes and models.

New for 2008 is a lawn care industry workshop which will be offered in the afternoon of Field Day for an additional fee. The workshop will provide information on identification and control strategies for weeds, insects, turfgrass species, and disease. Calibration of granular and liquid application equipment and other relevant topics will be included. Be sure to tell any lawn care providers you know of this new educational offering.


Come see all the new studies at the Noer Facility on July 22. Many of them will provide great information that you can put into practice on your own turf. This is true no matter what turf you manage; be it golf, sports, sod production, lawn care, or other commercial turf. Contact the WTA office if you have any further questions about this important event at 608-845-6536 or [ajander2@wisc.edu](mailto:ajander2@wisc.edu). 🌱

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