NOTES FROM THE NOER FACILITY



WTA Summer Field Day Has Something for Everyone

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

The WTA Summer Field Day will L be here before you know it. The date is set for Tuesday, July 21, 2009. This is a wonderful day for you to visit the University and see all the turfgrass research being conducted at the OJ Noer Facility. There are over 80 studies being conducted this summer and 16 of those studies will be showcased during the morning research tour. The talks on the tour describe new research designed to help managers from sports turf, golf course management, sod production, lawn care, and general turf maintenance. Several of those talks are named here while others are still being decided on.

WTA **Summer** Field Day **Research Tour Talks**

- 1. Establishment timing of seed mixtures for sports turf
- 2. Fertilizer types and rates for velvet bentgrass greens
- 3. Putting green management in the shade
- 4. Certainty herbicide for maintaining a pure stand of Kentucky bluegrass
- 5. Best timing and rates for fall applied N on putting greens
- 6. When to re-apply *Primo*?
- 7. Subsurface drip irrigation for lawns
- 8. Dollar spot forecasting
- 9. Early-season timing for dollar spot
- 10. Combining dollar spot and snow mold chemical control

In the afternoon, there will be more education available during the lawn care workshop. This workshop was introduced during the 2008 field day to resounding



The crowd shows the value in attendance at the WTA Summer Field Day!

acclaim and will be continued for 2009. This session will show techniques for identifying turfgrass species, weeds, diseases, and insects as well as explain fertilizer and pesticide calibration. Though the program is still being finalized, new interactive talks and demonstrations will likely be added that deal with Emerald Ash Borer, water conservation and management, and pesticide safety. The workshop is not included in the field day registration price and requires an additional fee. Attendees from last year commented that it was well worth the additional cost. Space is limited, and attendees will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis to provide for a unique interactive experience.

More education will be available during the afternoon trade show. Learn about all the latest supplies, services, and equipment available to the turf industry from helpful vendors willing to answer questions about all their latest products. Several equipment vendors allow test drives of their products so you can compare between brands.

Look for the Field Day registration to arrive in your mailbox in early June. Summer Field Day is a great way to learn the latest research coming from the UW-Madison, compare the newest commercial offerings from the trade show, visit with colleagues over a great lunch, and to possibly participate in the new lawn care workshop. You will surely leave field day with new ideas to put into practice back home. Call Audra Anderson at 608-845-6536 if you have any questions or have suggestions of subjects you'd like to see addressed during field day. The field day brochure can also be found online at www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org.