

State Of The Art Research And The Basics - A Great Year To Bring Your Staff!

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

Most of you have been to the WTA Summer Field Day many, many times. This year's Field Day is a great opportunity to bring your staff who may have never experienced this great educational event. The UW turf professors and staff have lots of innovative research to share with you. There will additionally be plenty for your staff to brush up on, including sprayer and spreader calibration, weed control, grass selection and so much more. The morning education will be geared more towards the basics, while the afternoon will be focused on some of the most up-to-date research findings coming from your UW turf research program. Whether you're a veteran or new turf manager, you will have loads to learn at this year's Field Day.

Here is a list of some of the presentations that are scheduled for Field Day:

- Factors Affecting Weed Control
- Sprayer & Spreader Calibration
- Grass Selection in Seed Science
- Japanese Beetle Life Cycle
- Managing Rust on Lawns
- Tree & Shrub Ornamental Applications
- Reduced Water Volume Disease Control
- Recovery From the Harsh Winter
- Reduced Risk Disease Control
- Soil Testing for Potassium
- Cooling Turf with Fans & Syringing

Please see the registration form for specific times of these presentations. Many other research projects will have signs and information displayed on plots so that you can visit them on your own schedule as a self guided tour. The professors and research

staff will have time between talks to discuss any specific questions you bring to them. Catch them between talks or over lunch and they will be happy to work with you to give you the answers you need.

Field Day 2014 is on Tuesday, July 29th at the OJ Noer Turfgrass Research Facility in Verona. The registration form is included in the newsletter. Also note, the pricing structure has been changed for 2014 to allow you to bring more staff from your organization. Staff can register for a \$10 discounted price after the first registrant. What do you get for registration? First and foremost – great education. But a close second – donuts and coffee in the morning, a great lunch at noon, and a wonderful opportunity to share ideas and camaraderie with peers throughout the day.

One other benefit is the ever popular Field Day Tradeshow. There will be over 30 companies at this year's trade show. Helpful vendors will display and give details about their equipment, products and services to help you manage your landscapes better. Several equipment vendors allow test drives of their machines so you can compare performance between the different makes.

Summer Field Day is a great way to learn about the latest research coming from the UW-Madison, to compare the newest commercial offerings from the trade show, and to visit with colleagues over a great lunch. You will surely leave Field Day with many ideas to put into practice back home. Contact Audra Anderson, WTA administrative assistant, at 608-845-6536 or ajander2@wisc.edu if you have any questions.

Your Field Day brochure is included in this newsletter or may be downloaded from the WTA website, www.wisconsinturfgrassassociation.org. You may also register and pay online from the website. Field Day 2014 is going to be the best ever, and we hope to see you there on July 29th. ✓

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