

# Dr. Ralph Engel Receives 1993 Green Section Award

Dr. Ralph E. Engel, a turfgrass expert, educator, and researcher, has been named recipient of the 1993 Green Section Award of the United States Golf Association.

The award has been presented annually since 1961 in recognition of distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass.

Active in turfgrass management programs at the university level for nearly 40 years, Engel served on the faculty of Rutgers University in New Jersey. His research work contributed many of the basic principles on which turfgrass management practices are based today.

Dr. Engel was instrumental in the development of **misting** as an aid in turfgrass survival during high-temperature stress periods. Mist systems have since become a popular tool in greens maintenance programs. In addition, his early work with nitrogen fertilization of bentgrass concluded that the application of smaller nitrogen amounts, applied more frequently, is the best way to manage bentgrass.

Engel's expertise was instrumental in collecting the first turf-type perennial ryegrasses. Some of his selections were used for Manhattan ryegrass, while his discovery of a superior looking Kentucky bluegrass resulted in the release of the variety Mystic.

The teaching role assumed by Engel may have been nearly as important as his research work. Many of his former students play influential roles in the turfgrass industry today, and more than 125 golf course superintendents in the New Jersey/New York Metropolitan area received their basic turfgrass science training from him.

The author or co-author of hundreds of scientific and popular articles over the years, Engel has lectured at Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) national conferences and regional seminars, as well as many state turfgrass conferences and local association meetings. He also served as a member of the USGA Green Section Committee from 1954 through 1963.

In recognition of his dedication and expertise, Engel has received many honors: the GCSAA Distinguished Service Award, election into the New Jersey Turfgrass Hall of Fame, Professor Emeritus from Rutgers University, and the John Reid Lifetime Achievement Award given by the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents.

## Winners of the Green Section Award

- 1983 Alexander Radko
- 1984 Dr. William Daniel
- 1985 Dr. Victor B. Youngner
- 1986 James B. Moncrief
- 1987 Sherwood Moore
- 1988 Dr. Roy Goss
- 1989 Dr. James B. Beard
- 1990 Chester Mendenhall
- 1991 Dr. Joseph Troll
- 1992 Dr. C. Richard Skogley
- 1993 Dr. Ralph E. Engel

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