

Education and Conference Committee Update

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My committee has been working very hard to coordinate with Bob Mugaas of the MTGF to make this year's conference a great success.

Most of the pieces are in place and we hope to have everything put together by next month. There will be some new additions and at a later date we will provide you with the details.

We ran a survey last month on a variety of subject matter to see which ones would be important to our membership for future educational opportunities. We also wanted to find out if we should change the month for the annual Mini-Seminar and GCSAA Seminars.

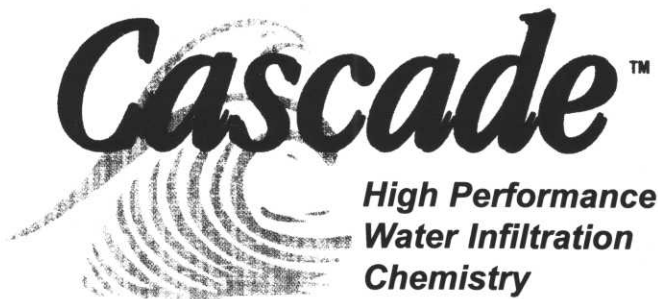
We had 70 responses to the survey. Business Management Environmental Regulatory Issues and Personnel Training/Management received the most votes from a list of 11 categories.

The old stand-bys of turfgrass science, Ggeneral golf course maintenance and integrated pest management were up there but followed behind.

My conclusion was that golf course superintendents are interested in subjects that require more challenges in professionalism than technical skills that require more of the "hands-on" approach. With the emphasis on hiring more educated and well-rounded individuals with good backgrounds, this doesn't surprise me.

There also is so much more emphasis on management of budgets and personnel than there has been in the past.

The environment these days is a subject which must be added to our agenda of things to look into. This is, indeed an added responsibility to our growing list of things to do as golf course managers as we approach the 21st century.



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