

# Educational Opportunities For the New Millenium

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As this year's educational and conference chairperson it was my pleasure to serve this great organization in this capacity. It was wonderful to have on my committee a strong group of industry people. I would like to thank Mike Brower, Mike Olson, Dale Caldwell and Dave Krupp for helping to serve on my committee this year.

Though we are just one piece of the puzzle that makes up the bigger part of the MTGF Conference and Show, our members make up about 55% of total registration. Our committee worked with Bob Mugaas, the executive director of MTGF, to help formulate what we feel will be the best conference ever.

We decided to have a theme for the conference this year to add more interest: "Beyond the Millenium — Education for the 21st Century." The dates for the conference will be December 8, 9 and 10.

**Mark December 10th on your calendar** because we decided to go three full days this year, with the afternoon filled with Dr. Jon Powell's "Identification of Diseases" workshop where he teaches how to use I.D. Kits. There will be a limited amount of students that can attend this workshop so sign up early. In conjunction with this workshop there will be other speakers for the general attendees.

This year's inspirational speaker will be Dr. Jim Sherard. This will be a Friday luncheon for the entire conference. He will give a talk on emotional problems and self esteem.

The world-renowned golf course architect Dr. Michael Hurdzan will give the opening keynote address and later talk about the "Future of Golf Courses."

**Recertification for pesticide licensing** will be Thursday morning as always but starting at 9:40 a.m. instead of 7:00 a.m. like it was in the past. I feel good about making this change. Thursday afternoon will feature Dr. Jim Crum from Michigan State University. He will discuss various topics on identification and diagnosis on putting greens and the current concerns and issues of topdressing materials on putting greens.

The other sessions relating to the Allied associations are interesting enough to cover a lot of our industry needs as well, such as Sharon Lilly and Dr. John Ball discussing design and marketing of tree management programs for

golf courses. Minnesota Oak Wilt Update (Session III on Thursday). New insights for the use of mulches around trees are other typical subjects. Gary Custer, certified professional agronomist with PBI Gordon, will give two talks on the timely subject of biostimulant research and application. Also, Dr. Graves from Iowa State University will address drought stress problems in trees.

All in all, this year's Conference and Show promises to meet the needs for all of us professionals in this great industry which we are privileged to be a part of. All of you will be getting a complete program in the mail later this month.



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