

GCSAA Expands TGIF Access To All Member Superintendents

The most comprehensive index of turfgrass information in existence is now available at the touch of a button to all GCSAA Class A and Superintendent Members.

Through an agreement between the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information Center, the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) can be accessed by Superintendent Members along with Class A members, who



were given access in 2007. GCSAA Class A and Superintendent Members can enter the TGIF through the GCSAA Web site at <http://www.gcsaa.org/solutions/TGIF.aspx> or by clicking on Solutions/Tools on the left-hand side of the gcsaa.org homepage and then clicking on Turfgrass Information File (TGIF).

The TGIF is a computerized database available through the Web that covers full scope of the turfgrass industry, including content from journals and magazines, research reports, conference proceedings, Extension bulletins, books and book chapters, technical reports, theses and dissertations, web documents, published Q-and-As, scanned golf course plans, and video interviews. In all the TGIF contains more than 130,000 records and continues to grow daily. Among its holdings is the complete digitized archive of GCSAA's Golf Course Management magazine and its predecessor from 1933 to the present.

Mark Krick, GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at The Homestead Golf Course in Lakewood, Colo., was first introduced to the TGIF as a graduate student at Michigan State and now sees it as an invaluable tool in his work as a superintendent.

"I knew what a great tool it was back in the '90s in school, but now it has tremendous value for me. It's a great reference tool to have all of that information right at your fingertips," Krick said. "For example, I had a problem with Fairy Ring. I knew I would find information about how to fight Fairy Ring. When you can find the answers right in the convenience of your office, you are also saving time and money."

In addition, Krick said the extensiveness of the information in the TGIF makes it a vital tool for any superintendent and facility, no matter the geographical area. "It's worldwide. I would recommend it to any superintendent to use this great GCSAA membership benefit," Krick said. Subscriptions to the TGIF for individuals usually cost \$100 a year.

For those GCSAA members who are not familiar with the TGIF, the Turfgrass Information Center is developing a series of guides and tutorials to get the most out of the TGIF. The first of these, "Getting Started with TGIF," is now available at http://tic.msu.edu/Getting_Started_TGIF.pdf. This two-page handout provides a quick overview of the basic search, guided search and more.

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