

Turfgrass '95

Turfgrass 95, sponsored by the Maryland Turfgrass Council, was held at the Baltimore Convention Center on January 9 - 12, 1995. The entire conference focussed on the environment with added emphasis on safety. There was, once again, a session available for the equipment managers where Mr. Mike Rislund from Toro Company helped our mechanics better understand the servicing of today's equipment. Other sessions were also geared specifically to fellow professionals in related turf fields such as the seeding industry, sod growers, sport turf managers, lawn care operators, contractors, etc. A trade show representing all our local commercial supporters was in the exhibit hall so everyone had a chance to see their suppliers.

Monday was one of the most interesting days in that the morning session was designed to make us aware of problems in the Chesapeake Bay and what programs are being implemented to both improve the water quality and the monitoring of the bay's water. The afternoon session then concentrated on the use of tools available to scout and diagnose pest problems in turf. These ranged from simple field testing tools to the use of UNP testing and on-line computer systems. These talks led to more detailed sessions on alternative strategies to controlling specific pests that are encountered here in the Mid-Atlantic area.

For golf course managers, Wednesday finished with a fine panel of speakers including our own Doug Pederson from Baltimore Country Club on needed attitude

adjustments, both on the part of the golfer and the superintendent, and what is in the future. Of particular interest during the afternoon was the talk by Roy Brown on multiple chemical sensitivity. A brief legislative update was provided along with the announcement of the formation of the Maryland's Association of Green Industries who will continue to represent the green industry in Annapolis.

There was a lot of good information available this year. Hopefully, you took advantage of it in preparing yourself and your course for the upcoming season.



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