



TURFGRASS MATTERS

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Education Update

9th Annual

Spring Education Seminar

What a great turnout for this year's educational seminar! The event was the best attended event we've had in recent memory, and we appreciate your interest in and support of MAAGCS Education! I would like to thank our sponsors first and foremost, who generously give to this worthy cause each year, and who enable us to offer the seminar at an affordable price to our membership.

This year's sponsors for this event were Turf Equipment & Supply Co., Inc., Fisher & Sons, Finch Services, Genesis Turfgrass, and Syngenta. Thank you all for your charity and support!

I would be remiss if I didn't mention those who played a critical support role in making this event a success. Hats off to Steve Evans and Theresa Baria!

Based on the comments we've heard, it sounds like the decision to change the location of the meeting to The Gathering Place in Clarksville, MD was a good one. The more centrally-located, modern facility had plenty of room for social networking between presentations, and the food (and ice cream!) was delicious. We always appreciate any feedback you have that can help us to improve the experience for next year (and I promise we'll fix the sunlight problem in the afternoon!).

A number of superintendents took advantage of the promotion offering the seminar free of charge to their assistants who signed up for new membership. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome new MAAGCS Assistant Superintendent members!

Steve McDonald presented some of his research updates, and gave us some good reminders for the upcoming season on a variety of products and application procedures. He then gave an "outside-the-box"

presentation about doing your own research on the golf course. This was very pertinent because I hear of more and more superintendents who are doing this. What better way to know for sure if that product is going to do what they say on your course, in your microclimate, with your subspecies of turf, etc.

Brian Steinwand enlightened us on the extensive and highly bureaucratic pesticide registration process at the Environmental Protection Agency, and helped us understand why it takes 10 years to get a product on the market.

Paul McMahan provided us a good irrigation snapshot of what things he has seen in this region and how superintendents are dealing with various problems, such as addressing proper selection and spacing of sprinkler heads.

And finally, Dr. Shawn Askew reviewed his data and provided new recommendations for selective control of bermudagrass and other undesirable species in cool-season turf.

In case you missed the seminar, you may want to call your neighbor and get his or her notes from the day, because there was a lot of solid new information presented. We hope to see you at monthly meetings throughout the season where we will continue to provide educational opportunities to bring extra value to these golf events.

Thank you again for your continued interest and support of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents!

Jon Lobenstine

Education Chair



Learn it. Do it. Share it.