

PICKSEED FIELD DAY

This particular field day attracted 115 delegates to a worthwhile, educational experience. Many of the delegates in attendance represented school boards and various parks departments and were first addressed by Ernie Pecore of Dol Brothers concerning product information, plus the support service provided for sports field re-establishment and maintenance, in conjunction with Pickseed.

Ernie demonstrated, later on, the effects that aerification and overseeding have on sports turf.

Annette Anderson, Turf Specialist with O.M.A.F. and the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, presented a short talk on her role, plus drought problems experienced in certain areas of Ontario and how to deal with them.

Norm McCollum gave an enlightening talk on the turf grass evaluation he is doing at the Cambridge Research Station, also the biological control research on dandelions which has now been approved for use. Norm talked about some of the herbicides that Dr. Chris Hall has found useful, particularly those specific to different types of grasses. He also spoke about coping with drought-related stress on sports fields.

Dr. Gerry Pepin, Head of Research for Pickseed West, in Oregon gave a very informative presentation of on production and evaluation of turfgrasses he is currently working with. In particular, dwarf varieties of bluegrass are showing good colour and development potential. Dr. Pepin continued about the fine leaf fescues and the low nutrient requirements, especially under drought stress conditions.

The final speaker of the morning, Doug McMillan, Sales Manager, Turf Division for Pickseed, discussed the many different types of varieties available to the sports turf industry, park operations and some homeowner applications.

The afternoon session commenced with a tour of the Pheasant Run Golf Club to view the course under construction. The group then proceeded to look at one of the Smilsky Sod farms. It was a beautiful sight, to behold such a lush green stand of sod sown with four varieties of bluegrass last August. The high nutrient program, including winter application produced a pure, totally weed free turf. The sod harvesters were in operation — most impressive.

Lastly was a visit to Dol Brothers production plant where Verdyl mulch and "grow" blankets are fabricated.

The day concluded with an excellent meal at the Nottawasaga Inn. Much information was obtained during a panel discussion and Pickseed are to be commended on this outstanding presentation.

ROLES OF SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS

Chair, Finance and Fundraising — R. Allen

To develop and implement a long-range financial strategy.

Chair, Membership and Nominations — G. Corlett

To develop an annual recruitment and renewal plan.
To establish and operate a nomination process for the Board of Directors.

Chair, By-Laws — J. Watson

To provide sound and consistent organizational practices by assuring compliance to by-laws and preparing motions for amendments.

Chair, Informational Services — R. Dubyk

To develop and direct an information management system for collection and dissemination.

Chair, Education and Research — P. Kleschnitzki

To develop a program for promotion and facilitation of education and research.
To liaise with educational institutions and research projects.

Chair, Co-operative Initiatives — W. Harding

To ensure a policy of co-operation and to actively seek participation in mutually beneficial events and projects of other turf-related organizations.

President — M. Bladon

A Final Note:

We sincerely hope that you have enjoyed this issue of the Sports Turf Association Newsletter.

We invite comments and suggestions for future articles from all of our members.

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