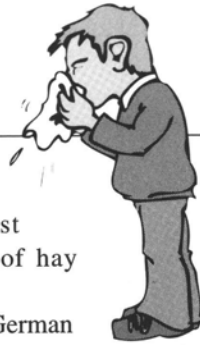


News Clippings

ALLERGY-FREE GRASS PRODUCED IN AUSTRALIA



Researchers at the Co-operative Research Centre for Molecular Plant Breeding at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia, have developed a genetically modified, allergy-free grass.

After five years of research, the research group has de-activated the gene in a species of perennial ryegrass responsible for inducing allergic reactions.

Perennial ryegrass, typically found in lawns, golf courses and other sports fields,

is one of the most common triggers of hay fever and asthma.

Program leader German Spangenberg explains the benefits of this new grass will impact individuals worldwide. "Hay fever and seasonal allergic asthma are key environmental diseases that affect a large portion of the population in temperate climates and grass pollen is a major contributor to that."

— *GreenMaster*, Vol. 38(1), Feb. 2003

Request for Proposal

The International Society of Arboriculture - Ontario Inc. (ISAO), is seeking proposals to replace their administrative functions and Executive Director (ED).

ISAO is a dynamic, professional not-for-profit organization serving approximately 600 members across Ontario. In addition, a certification program exists which serves almost 500 arborists, not all of whom are members. There are standing volunteer committees, an annual three-day educational conference, workshops, an exhibitor booth at industry shows, a newsletter (published 6 times/yr), web site and book sales (approx. '02 gross over \$30,000). A typical week would have the "office" open three days with longer hours through January, February and November. The Executive Director has in the past carried out most of the administrative operations. New innovative ways of carrying out these functions are encouraged. The office, including part-time clerical assistance, operates currently on approx. \$22,000 per year plus traveling expenses.

Reporting to a Board of Directors, the ED will display contagious enthusiasm, have good diplomatic and communication skills, exhibit vision and leadership skills, be a good organizer and be able to work well with a minimum of direction. The ED position is considered part-time; however, at certain times of the year, full time attention is required. Some limited travel is involved. The position would be ideal for someone recently retired from the "green industry." The incumbent will be expected to provide their own workspace, which may be located at the candidate's home or office. The office operates a budget 'flow through' of approximately \$400,000. An inventory of books and pamphlets must be maintained. The Board will also consider alternate proposals for only the administrative operations of the society, i.e. through partnerships with existing organizations or businesses, etc., and/or only the 'ambassador' Executive Director functions. Any other proposals that include the above requirements will be considered. Start date is August 2003.

Reply to: A. Fyfe, Allan Fyfe Equipment,
261 Bowes Rd, Concord, ON L4K 1H8
F: 905-669-9802, E: afyfe@allanfyfe.com

ONTARIO CHAPTER
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
of ARBORICULTURE



Odds and Ends

2003 STA Membership Fees

Thank-you to all members renewing in 2003! Invoices for membership fees will be mailed at the end of March and are due on or before May 1. Please take a moment to verify your contact information as it appears on the memo accompanying your invoice. The Membership Roster is compiled from this information.

Quotes of the Month

The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month.
Henry Van Dyke

An optimist is the human personification of spring.
Susan J. Bissonette

Membership Plaques

Now available! Sports Turf Association Display Membership Plaque in executive engraved walnut. Just \$50 plus S&H. Contact Lee Huether at the STA office to order.

Summer 2003 Submissions

If you have something you'd like to submit for the next issue, please forward it to the STA office by April 25, 2003.

Editorial Content

Opinions expressed in articles published in *Sports Turf Manager* are those of the author and not necessarily those of the STA, unless otherwise indicated.

Voice Your Opinion!

We appreciate all member feedback. To make this process easier, we have a form on our website, www.sportsturfassociation.com, under the "newsletter" link called *Feedback*. Check it out!