

Economic Impact of Turfgrass Industry Quantified

NEW YORK TURFGRASS SURVEY RELEASED: 80-PAGE IN DEPTH REPORT

The New York Turfgrass Survey, sponsored by the New York Turfgrass Association and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets in cooperation with the New York Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), has been published on the NASS website, www.nass.usda.gov/ny.

The newly released survey, which has been in the planning and implementation stages for the past five years, is the first of its kind to evaluate the magnitude and economic importance of the turfgrass industry in New York State. The 80-page report, *Turfgrass Final Publication*, can be accessed by clicking "Special Surveys" on the NASS home page.

The New York Turfgrass Survey illustrates that the turf industry employed 43,000 people and contributed five billion dollars in turf maintenance expenses to the economy in 2003. Other interesting facts the survey reveals:

- Turfgrass covers 3.43 million acres in New York

- 93% of the 3.4 million acres are private lawns and golf courses

- Over 843,000 new turf acres were established in 2003 at a cost of nearly \$1.56 billion

- The value of turf equipment owned by all sectors surveyed totaled over \$6.3 billion

- The total payroll for turf employees was nearly \$467 million

This important data will position the turfgrass industry as a growing agricultural commodity in New York State and enable the public, industry and government to work together to ensure its continued growth.

The New York State Turfgrass Association is comprised of 1,800 green industry professionals who have joined together to share technology, promote environmental stewardship, support education, advance research and disseminate research findings. For more information, contact Denise Lewis, Public Relations Coordinator at 518-783-1229. ♦

Odds and Ends

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are being sought to serve as members on various STA committees. Get involved with your association! No experience is necessary! This is a great networking and professional development opportunity. Contact Lee at the STA office for further information.

COMMITTEE
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED

2005 STA Membership Fees

Thank-you to all members renewing in 2005! Membership fees are now due. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to remit them in order to remain a member in good standing. The annual STA Membership Roster is now being compiled and will be distributed on completion.

Turf Agriphone

The Turf Agriphone is up and running. To access this information, call toll free 1-888-290-4441. For the email version, contact Pam Charbonneau at pamela.charbonneau@omaf.gov.on.ca to subscribe.

STA Membership Plaques

Display membership plaques are available in executive engraved walnut for \$50 plus S&H. To order, contact Lee at the STA office.

Autumn 2005 Submissions

If you have something you'd like to submit for the next issue, please forward it to the STA office by July 22, 2005.

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.

WELCOME SPORTS TURF ASSOCIATION NEW MEMBERS

Evan Elford (student), University of Guelph
Department of Plant Agriculture (Hort), Guelph, ON

Bob Johnson
Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, Bradford, ON

Jim Plasteras, City of Nanaimo, BC

Susan Hamilton
Mountainview Turf Agronomics, Quyon, QC

Ron Laturnas, City of Saskatoon, SK

Barry Portt, City of Ottawa, ON

Ken Hoard, City of Belleville, ON

Jim Gardhouse, Lindsay Peterson, City of Toronto, ON

Klaus Griese, St. Andrews College, Aurora, ON

Lorne deHaas, Town of Markham, ON

