



# Ontario Turf Industry News

STA CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY • OTRF STRIVING TO MAKE THE GTI A WORLD CLASS RESEARCH FACILITY IN 5 YEARS...

## The Sports Turf Association Celebrates 20 Years in 2007

The Sports Turf Association was conceived in 1987, when, at a 'brain storming' session held at the University of Guelph, a broad segment of the turf industry endorsed its need. Of particular concern at that meeting was the need to minimize and avoid injury to participants using athletic facilities where they relate to turf. Twenty years later the STA continues to promote safe, natural sports turf through education and professional development.

## Ontario Turfgrass Research Foundation (OTRF) Fall Information Session

Despite a rainy day in October for an outside tour, the OTRF hosted an information session and visit of the turf plots at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. Invited guests to the roundtable forum included representatives from turf related associations such as Landscape Ontario, National Golf Course Owners, Sports Turf, Ontario Golf Superintendents and the Golf Association of



Ontario. Dr. Rene Van Acker, recently appointed Chair of Plant Agriculture at the University of Guelph, joined the discussions to learn of the history of OTRF and its mandate.

Ron Schiedel, President of OTRF, explained the OTRF mission statement which is to direct and promote turf research for the benefit of the turfgrass industry and the general public. University of Guelph turf researchers, Dr. Tom Hsiang, Dr. Eric Lyons and Dr. Katerina Jordan were on hand to showcase their research. These expert turf specialists provided a united voice that spoke volumes of enthusiasm to the future of not only turf research but research at Canada's top turf research facility, the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

Following the presentations during a roundtable dialogue, association leaders and the OTRF Board exchanged ideas on how to take the OTRF to the next level. With a long term goal in place, the OTRF can be instrumental in making the GTI a world class turf research facility in the next five years. Subsequently, with both industry and end user financial support, the OTRF would continue to fund cutting edge research at one of North America's largest turf research institutes. ♦



**ODDS & ENDS**

### 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.

### Spring 2007 Submissions

If you have something you'd like to submit for the next issue, please forward it to the STA office by February 23, 2007.

### 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.



## New Members WELCOME TO THE STA!

### Janis Bortolotti

EZflow Canada  
McGregor, ON

### John Gormley

St. Francis Xavier University  
Antigonish, NS

### Gino Turchiaro

Earthco Soil Mixtures Inc.  
Concord, ON

### Nick Farrell

Tartan Turf Industries Inc.  
Delson, QC

### Ian Ferguson (student)

University of Guelph, ON

### Katerina Serlemitsos Jordan, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Turfgrass  
Science and Nematology  
University of Guelph, ON

### Rick Brouwer

York Region District School Board  
Richmond Hill, ON

### Randy Travaglini

### Travis Reid

City of Sault Ste. Marie, ON

### Stella Williams

Town of Kirkland Lake, ON

### Steven Piche

Turf Care Products Canada  
Newmarket, ON

### John Howard

City of Owen Sound, ON

### Steve Halbert

I C Improvements Inc.  
Stoney Creek, ON

### Kevan Moxam

### Pamela Cranston

City of Greater Sudbury, ON