

# OTS 2010. THE CULTURE OF GREEN.

FEBRUARY 17 & 18, 2010 • UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH • GUELPH • ONTARIO

## SPORTS TURF RELATED SESSIONS

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

**9:00-9:45. W3 "Field of Dreams": Real Turf for BMO Field** *Bob Hunter, Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment.* After successfully sodding BMO Field for the Toronto FC vs. Real Madrid friendly, the decision was made by Toronto city council to install permanent natural turf at BMO Field. With a four party agreement in place between the City of Toronto, Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, and the provincial and federal governments, Bob Hunter will talk about the plans to have the turf ready for the Toronto FC home opener next season.

**10:15-11:00. W4 If you sod it they will come: Sodding BMO Field for Real Madrid vs. Toronto Football Club Friendly** *Claus Zander, Zander Sod.* When Toronto FC wanted Real Madrid to fly in for a "friendly" game, it had to be played on natural turf. They were given 40 hours to cover the artificial field with sod, no room for excuses, the teams were going to play. The turf had to be removed immediately following the match with the artificial field prepared and ready to play on again. This talk will document the process from start to finish.

**1:30-2:30. W6 What are the true costs of the cosmetic pesticides ban for municipalities?** *Mark Dykstra, City of Waterloo, Bill Slute, City of Oshawa, Andy Wickens, City of*

*Mississauga.* Parks Directors from municipalities that have had bans in place for several years will speak about what it costs to implement the cultural practices that are necessary to maintain quality sports fields without pesticides.

**2:30-3:30. W7 Sports field speed and strength – Just the beginning..!** *Dr. Tim Vanini, New Dimensions Turfgrass.* This talk discusses the establishment of Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, *Poa supina*, and bermudagrass in 70 and 435 day windows. In these studies, establishment speed is not only evaluated, but also strength of the playing surface (traction, divoting resistance, sod strength, etc). In real life situations, traffic is applied at early stages of plant development and there is a need to identify grasses that withstand intense pressure. This information can aid sports field managers in making best decisions regarding species and cultivars.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**9:00-9:30. T1 Advances in fertilizer: Information on traditional, slow release, foliar and organic fertilizers** *Dr. Eric Lyons, University of Guelph.* Proper plant nutrition is essential in maintaining healthy sports turf. New products are always coming to the market and this talk will focus on both new and old fertilizer technologies and how to integrate them to better achieve the goals of your fertility program.

**9:30-10:30. T2 How to get a sports field ready in 70 days – from theory to practice** *Dr. Tim Vanini, New Dimensions Turfgrass.* Little information exists for sports field managers on optimal ways to re-establish trafficked areas on a sports field during a 70-day, summer window. This research study looked at turfgrass cover percent ratings, traction, and peak deceleration. The best strategies from this study were applied to a high school scenario in the summer of 2008. The results of this scenario will be discussed at this session.

**11:00-12:00. T3 What works best for building a sports field? In-house, architect bid-contractor, design/build or other?** *Gord Dol, Dol Turf Restoration Ltd., Mario Pecchia, City of Toronto and Harry Kodoors, MMM Group.* This panel will discuss the pros and cons of the different avenues for sports field construction.

## PLENARIES

- Overview of the cosmetic pesticide ban, Violet van Wassenae, MOE
- Making sense of new products, Dr. Eric Lyons, Univ. of Guelph
- Dealing with a critical injury/death at a sporting event, Terry Piche, ORFA
- Tweeting on turf: Linking social media with your business, Andrew Douglas, Univ. of Guelph, & Anne Douglas, Anne Douglas Communications

## IMPORTANT REGISTRATION DETAILS

**EARLY BIRD: DECEMBER 18, 2009**

**Discounts.** As an STA member in good standing, you qualify for lower association rates. In addition, others from your facility/organization who are not STA members qualify for the lower association rates when registered with a member. Send the registration in the same envelope, fax it at the same time, or make just one phone call to register. Visit [www.ots.open.uoguelph.ca](http://www.ots.open.uoguelph.ca) for more details.