

Grow Your Knowledge

OTS 2012, FEBRUARY 22 & 23, 2012, ROZANSKI HALL, UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

Sports Turf & ORFA Specific Sessions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

W6. Best management practices for sports fields. Brad Park, Rutgers University.

High traffic sports fields that receive little or no synthetic pesticide inputs require strict attention to cultural management. These practices include regular mowing, irrigation (where available), fertilization, cultivation and seeding. This presentation will describe these practices in detail and show how to integrate them into a practical management plan.

W7. How to influence the sports field maintenance budget. John Lohuis, City of Mississauga (retired). Parks, recreation and sports administrators are continually challenged to meet expectations when fiscal resources are dwindling and demands are increasing! Identify key stakeholders and learn new ways of “making the case” to procure necessary resources to be successful.

W8. Panel discussion: Working with purchasing, permitting, specification writing and special events. Dwayne McAllister/Town of Oakville, John D'Ovidio and Rob D'Ovidio/City of Mississauga, Terry Henderson/City of Guelph, Dennis Wale/City of Brantford.

Purchasing compliance agreement – does one exist in your municipality and are you in compliance? How do you make sure purchasing understands what you do and how you do it? What's your relationship with permitting and how can it improve? How do you get the product that you require and stay within guidelines when writing tenders? Do you have the necessary policies and procedures in place to be successful at hosting special events? Learn how to react to these challenges and more.

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Panel Discussion: Purchasing, permitting, specification writing & special events.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (W3)

The history of turf. Dr. James Beard, International Sports Turf Institute.

Dr. Beard is one of the world's leading authorities on turfgrass science. He has spent most of his career in academic research and has pioneered investigations concerning turfgrasses and the ecology of grass. As the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and the Sports Turf Association celebrate 25th anniversaries, it is timely for Dr. Beard to discuss “The History of Turf.” This talk addresses the initial uses of turfgrass from the 15th century through the 18th century, early turfgrass cultural practices plus pre-1950 innovations in turf maintenance and post-1950 advances in turfgrass science.

General Sessions

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

W2. GTI update and 25th anniversaries of the GTI and STA. Rob Wither- spoon, Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

W4. Plant responses to climate change. Dr. Jonathan Newman, University of Guelph. A brief introduction regarding the impact of climate change on plant growth habits in Southern Ontario. Of particular interest will be how grass and weed species may respond.

W5. Phosphorous losses from turf and urban areas. Dr. Doug Soldat, University of Wisconsin. Environmental issues associated with phosphorus pollution from urban and turf areas. Learn strategies to minimize loss and respond to research regarding the accuracy of soil testing.



ONTARIO'S KEY ANNUAL TURF CONFERENCE

Registration for OTS 2012 is now open. Individuals interested in attending the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium on February 22 & 23 can register online by going to www.turfsymposium.ca. The new website is easy to use and provides both online and printable registration opportunities. Look to the website to provide other current and important information. The print brochure for Grow Your Knowledge, OTS 2012, will be distributed in early December. Join turf industry experts, speakers, delegates and sponsors for two exciting days at the University of Guelph this February.

Important Registration Details

EARLY BIRD DATE: JANUARY 6, 2012. STA 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.turfsymposium.ca or call 519.767.5000 for more information.

Grow Your Knowledge

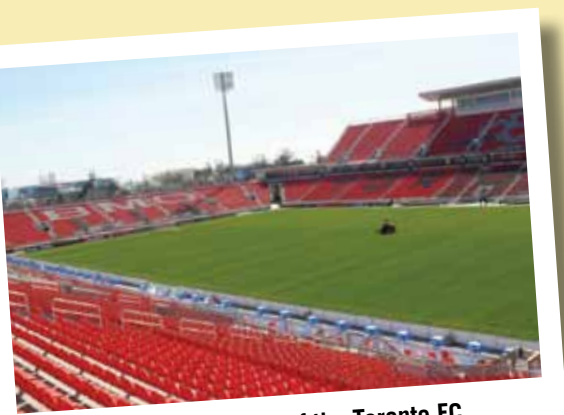
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Sports Turf & ORFA Specific Sessions

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

T1. Synthetic turf: Understanding certifications and testing. Alistair Cox, Labosport.

An increasing number of sports governing bodies are setting standards for playing and material qualities of their synthetic sports surfaces. This session will describe how standards are set, what characteristics they cover and how governing bodies certify products and installations. Learn why an increasing number of markets around the world now use these standards as the basis of construction specifications for new fields, courts and track.



BMO Field, Home of the Toronto FC.

T2. What Lies Beneath BMO Field. Rob He

ggie, BMO Field. This session provides a brief history of the construction of BMO Field and illustrates some of the systems such as SubAir and glycol heating that helped to deliver green, natural turf in April. Also learn about the maintenance challenges of a sports field that is sodded with a native soil sod placed upon a sand based root-zone. Future plans for BMO's field surface are also discussed.

T3. Problems facing sports field managers. Brad Park, Rutgers University.

Some of the most common problems facing sports field managers include field overuse, poor drainage conditions, baseball and softball skin surface irregularities, and encroachment of summer annual weeds. This talk will take a case study approach to defining these problems and providing solutions that can be accomplished using practical methods.

T4. Rhizomatous tall fescue and regenerating perennial ryegrasses for sportsfields.

Dr. Joseph Wipff, Barenbrug. How do these differ from traditional tall fescue and ryegrasses and what are the applications of rhizomatous tall fescue and regenerating perennial ryegrasses on a sports field.

T5. An update of the bioherbicide Phoma macrostoma and its potential use on sports fields.

Dr. Karen Bailey/Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Stuart Falk/The Scotts Company. Phoma macrostoma is a new bioherbicide registered in Canada in 2011. Pre-emergent applications control emerging dandelion and other broadleaved weed seedlings, reducing the weed seed bank and preventing new weed establishment in established turfgrass or when sowing grass seed. The presentation will show how application may be beneficial in the maintenance of sports fields.

General Sessions

T21. Circle checks are not just for your equipment. Terry Piche, Ontario Recreation Facilities Association.

The injury and death rate for park workers is three times higher than other workers. The parks' workforce is varied: permanent, part-time and/or seasonal staff that includes young and new workers with a range of job experience, literacy levels, and health and safety training. Have you prepared for the health and safety of your staff?

T22. Turf things microscopic. Dr. Tom Hsiang, Dr. Ken Carey & Aurora Patchett/University of Guelph, Sharam Shariffar/Natural Insect Control, Pam Charbonneau/OMAFRA.

This session will take advantage of on campus laboratory space to allow participants the use of dissecting microscopes to see things not easily seen with the naked eye. This includes mycelium and spores of turf, disease causing organisms, grub rasters, plant parasitic nematodes, insect parasitic nematodes and grass vegetative features.

T23. Cultural practices for high school and municipal sports fields. Dr. François Tardif/University of Guelph, Gord Dol/Dol Turf Restoration, Ken Pavely/Dufferin Lawn Life.

This session covers the results of a three-year trial that examined overseeding at the GTI and City of Guelph in-use soccer fields as part of an integrated weed management system. Also presented is a 2010 study looking at the relative effectiveness of different aeration methods and slow release nitrogen products.

Browse the OTS brochure for more sessions and details!