

SPORTS TURF MANAGER

... for safe, natural sports turf

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are being sought to serve as committee members on the Field Day and *Sports Turf Manager* Editorial 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.



IPM Lawn Demonstration Project

YEAR 2 REPORT BY RESOURCE TECHNICIAN GEMA CHEONG

The Municipal Integrated Pest Management Lawn Demonstration Project began in spring 2003 and continued on the same areas in spring 2004 (see cover article in the Summer 2004 *Sports Turf Manager*). This project compared and demonstrated the effectiveness of conventional, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), alternative, and no-pesticide approaches to lawn maintenance.

The conventional approach uses chemicals exclusively for pest control. IPM is a process that uses all necessary techniques to suppress pests and sustain healthy landscapes. This is achieved by managing turfgrass to prevent problems and using thresholds to decide how and when to treat pests. The alternative man-

agement program uses organic pesticides, Corn Gluten Meal and Nature's Weed and Feed (beet juice extract), for pest control. Lastly, no pest control is applied under the no-pesticide management program.

The trial was established in three municipal settings (Guelph, Brantford, and London) to show the impact that the different lawn maintenance programs have on areas with slightly different microclimates, pest pressure and soil types.

This study also provided an opportunity for communication with area residents, municipal staff and turf managers regarding the different alternatives of lawn care programs.

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Above: Overall layout of plots at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, Guelph, Sept. 8, 2004.