

Morris named new NTEP director

Kevin Morris has been named the new executive director for the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program. Robert Shearman, past executive director, has been named special projects coordinator.

Morris has been with NTEP since late 1982, first as technical coordinator, then as national director, and most recently as national program coordinator. He is the first and longest tenured employee of the program, which evaluates turfgrass performance under a wide variety of environmental conditions. Characteristics studied in the tests include color, density, texture, pest resistance and stress tolerance. NTEP is a cooperative effort between the USDA and the National Turfgrass Federation.

Taylor leads Tift 94 association

T. Don Taylor is the new executive director of the Tift 94 Growers Association. Dr. Taylor was formerly Southeast regional research and development manager for Novartis Specialty Products.

The group is the exclusive producer of TifSport Certified Bermudagrass, the newest bermudagrass to be released by the University of Georgia, Tifton.

Tift 94 is used for golf course fairways and tees, sports fields and landscape turf.

States may have wetlands control

Legislation is being drafted in the US Congress to provide delegation of wetlands regulation to states. The plan is to separate wetlands from the Clean Water Act to increase the amount of coordination of about 20 agencies with wetlands oversight.

Other goals include streamlining the permit process, rewriting rules for draining wetlands and changes in regulations for wetlands mitigation.

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