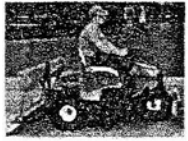


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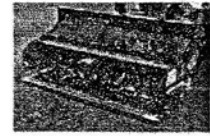
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“Letter from the Editors”

by *Eleanora Murfitt & Jim Hermann, CSFM*

As co-editors of SFMANJ Update and also both sports field managers, Eleanora and I feel compelled to continue to provide our readers with a plethora (I love that word) of information applicable to the day-to-day activities involved in sports field management. The challenges in sports field management bring with them the demand for commitment, perseverance and knowledge. Much of the information we provide will by design test the knowledge and understanding of our readers.

We hope to continue to provide information intended to help you to develop a proactive and effective sports field management program. As part of a proactive management program it is important for the SFM (sports field manager) to remain up to date and aware of the rules and regulations affecting the industry.

There is currently state legislation slated to take affect within the next eighteen months which will govern the way that many schools and institutions initiate their pest control strategy both indoors and out. This legislation will mandate the implementation of IPM (Integrated Pest Management) into the system.

IPM necessitates the need for a deeper understanding of those factors affecting environmentally conscientious pest control. SFMANJ Update will therefore be providing information and education concerning those factors.

One such factor affecting the development of an environmentally sound IPM program is an understanding of the weather conditions and how day-to-day variations affect decisions. The following column written by Dr. Joe Russo and Dennis Watkins will provide the SFM with a deeper understanding of this decision making tool. ▲

“Information as a Decision-Making Tool “

by *Dr. Joe Russo and Dennis Watkins*

This is the first in a series of columns in which we wish to share with readers our knowledge, experience, and in some cases, our opinions about the scientific and technical issues that either directly or indirectly impact sports turf management. Who are we? We are an agricultural meteorologist and systems scientist (Joe) and a turfgrass agronomist (Dennis). We have between us over fifty years of experience in agricultural and turf-related fields. The information provided in our columns is aimed at the practitioner of sports turf management and it will be delivered with an awareness of related environmental, social, and economic concerns.

In this column, we would like to talk about information itself. If correctly understood and appropriately

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