

New Jersey Turfgrass Association's Expo 2004 ...even more in '04!

By Brad Park, Rutgers University
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The New Jersey Turfgrass Association is proud to present **New Jersey Turfgrass & Landscape Expo 2004** to be held December 7-9, 2004 at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino-Resort at Virginia Avenue and the Boardwalk in Atlantic City, NJ.

Among the highlights of this year's program, include Paul Caligiuri, Soccer Coach, Cal State Poly, Pomona, CA. Mr. Caligiuri is a former soccer player known for scoring the goal that put the United States National team into the World Cup after a many-year drought. His presentation: "**Team effort – The Coach, the player, the field**" will be part of the **Expo 2004** General Session on Wednesday, December 9 beginning at 9:00 am.

Additionally, the **Expo 2004** Sports Fields sessions will consist of educational topics ranging from the maintenance of synthetic infill turf systems to reducing potential litigation through improving field safety. Pesticide credits will also be available for those applicators in attendance.

For more information on registration, please call 856-853-5973.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 NJ DEP Credits: (1) 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2

Introductions:

Dean Marzocca, Treasurer, Board of Directors

1:00 pm Construction procedures for synthetic turf fields

Mike Ryan – President, LandTek

1:30 pm A realistic viewpoint on maintenance of infill systems

Jay Warnick – Brigham Young Univ. Grounds Dept.

2:00 pm Factors to consider in athletic field construction

Dr. James Murphy – Rutgers Univ./Cook College

2:30 pm Searching for a qualified athletic field engineer
Eleanora Murfitt Hermann – CRS, President SFMANJ

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Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey. For information regarding this newsletter, contact:

SFMANJ at 908-730-7770

Co-editors:

Jim Hermann, CSFM and
Eleanora Murfitt-Hermann, CRS

SFMANJ does not necessarily support the opinions of those reflected in the following articles.

3:00 pm Problems experienced in the construction of athletic fields

Jeff Cramer – DPW Superintendent, Twp. of Plainsboro, NJ

3:30 pm Improving drainage on existing athletic fields

Mike Ryan – President, LandTek

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 – 10:00 am

NJ DEP Credits: (1) 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2

8:00 am Surface restoration of running tracks

Don Russo – PE, Recreational Facility Consult. Engineer; Planning, Design and Construction Co.

8:30 am Perspectives on field conditions as a player & as a coach

Paul Caligiuri – Soccer Coach, Cal Poly, Pomona, CA

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SFMANJ Business

Next Board of Directors Meeting –
Nov. 30th, at Storr Tractor at 4:30PM

Calendar of Events

December 7-9th 2004 **New Jersey Turfgrass Expo:** Athletic field education sessions 8th and 9th, see front page. Taj Mahal, Atlantic City. For more info call 856-853-5973 or 732-821-7134

Rutgers University Winter Courses: 10% off to all SFMANJ members mention this newsletter
February 22-24, **3-Day Athletic Field Construction & Maintenance Course**
March 1, 8, 15, 22, **Athletic Field Special Topics: Soils, Turf, Athletic Field Construction and Synthetic Turf Products.** To register call 732-932-9271 ext. 630

Rutgers Corner - October 2004 Sports Turf Workshop Recap

By Brad Park, Rutgers University
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A Sports Turf Workshop was held on October 7, 2004 at Rutgers University Hort. Farm II, in cooperation with Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ), in which sports field managers from locations ranging from Cape May County, to Delaware, to New York City participated in a day filled with educational topics.

The rewards of attending the workshop began at the registration table. All registered attendees received a turfgrass cap compliments of the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science and a packet of handouts that included soon-to-be Rutgers Fact Sheets outlining Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, and perennial ryegrass varieties ideal for sports fields in New Jersey based on Rutgers turfgrass traffic tolerance research.

Following lunch and introductions, the schedule of events moved outside. Given the weather for the day, October 7 may have been the day in 2004. Bright sunny skies, 70-degree temperatures, and low humidity provided optimal conditions for a field plot tour.

Dr. Stacy Bonos and Dr. Bill Meyer began the day discussing Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue and their use on sports fields. Both the Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue trials were National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) tests. Dr. Meyer then described a newly-seeded perennial ryegrass NTEP trial in which numerous varieties had fallen victim to gray leaf spot, a turfgrass disease that affects perennial ryegrass. This talk was extremely pertinent as sports field managers routinely overseed high-traffic fields with perennial ryegrass. Several commercially available varieties showed superior gray leaf spot resistance including Paragon GLR, Palmer IV, Repell GLS, and Protege.

The plot tour moved to the opposite end of Hort. Farm II where Dr. Steve Hart discussed pre and postemergence crabgrass control. Treatment differences were readily apparent in the plots as some materials effectively controlled crabgrass while others did not.

The focus of the field day shifted to Kentucky bluegrass as Dr. Jim Murphy stressed the importance of fertilization and irrigation inputs necessary to establish Kentucky bluegrass on a sand rootzone. Brad Park followed with a discussion of current Rutgers research investigating the effects of wear, compaction, and season-specific wear on various Kentucky bluegrass varieties. One take-home message from this study is the strong ability of Kentucky bluegrass to recover from damage, particularly if use of a field is withheld to allow recuperation.

Rich Buckley, coordinator of the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Lab, ended the educational sessions with a presentation on gray leaf spot and other diseases that affect New Jersey Sports Fields. This presentation was timely given the level of gray leaf spot infection on perennial ryegrass seen previously in the day.

For those registered attendees wishing to receive NJ DEP pesticide credits, three Category 3B credits were given. The day ended with a popular SFMANJ tradition – the awarding of door prizes. Door prizes included Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science golf shirts, a 1-yr membership to SFMANJ, a registration to New Jersey Turfgrass Association's Expo 2004 in Atlantic City, a soil probe (complimentary of Dr. Henry Indyk), and several soil tests kits from the Rutgers Soil Test Lab.

A special thanks goes out to numerous people who helped prepare the test plots, the day's speakers, SFMANJ for co-sponsoring the day, and especially all those who attended. – Brad ♦

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9:00 am Work smarter, not harder

Floyd Perry – President, Grounds Maintenance Services, FL

9:30 am Weed problems and their control

Brad Park, Rutgers Univ./Cook College

10:00 – 12:30 pm

TRADE SHOW – Estes Arena, Free Snacks and Beverages

NJ DEP Credits: (1) Core

12:30 pm Annual Business meeting of SFMANJ, Elections

Eleanora Murfitt Hermann – CRS, President SFMANJ

1:00 pm Reducing potential litigation – improving safety

Floyd Perry - President, Grounds Maintenance Services, FL

1:30 pm Irrigation techniques for water conservation
George McCarthy – Spring Irrigation, Cranbury, NJ

2:00 pm Grooming: Improving playability of infields

James Hermann – CSFM, Vice Pres. SFMANJ, Total Control, Inc.

2:30 pm Update on school IPM program

Dr. George Hamilton, Rutgers Univ. ♦