

## We called him "Henry"

SFMANJ and the entire green industry have lost a great champion.

There is not a person within reach of this newsletter that has not been positively affected by the life of Dr. Henry Indyk. He was known around the world as an agronomist without equal. To some he was a consultant, to others an educator and to still others a friend. To us he was "Henry"; all the above rolled into one.

As an educator Dr. Indyk had a true compassion not only for the industry but for his students. Dr. Indyk opened most if not all his classes with those familiar words. "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day". To me, this showed a true concern for the well being of his students.

Many of us have had the opportunity to witness the one and only Dr. Henry Indyk rendition of the functionality of the jiggler machine (aeravator). Dr. Indyk's subtle sense of humor helped to keep his students awake and interested.

Although not a proponent of the computer or power point presentation, Dr. Indyk's slide shows brought a sense of reality to the classroom. His pictures were worth a thousand words.



As a consultant and diagnostician, Dr. Indyk had the uncanny ability to evaluate any turf or athletic field problem from all sides. His wisdom acquired over 50 years of service to the industry allowed him an unsurpassed ability to identify

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



## SFMANJ Business

Next Board of Directors Meeting –  
Nov. 2, Storr Tractor, Somerset

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the problem and develop an effective plan for its correction.

As a friend, Dr. Indyk always had the time to discuss a problem, or answer a question. I remember my first opportunity for discussion with Dr. Indyk. It was 1980. I worked on a thoroughbred horse farm and we were building a turf racetrack for training purposes. I was instructed to contact Dr. Henry Indyk, a well-known agronomist experienced in turf racetracks, their construction and maintenance.

As my interest turned from horse farming and racetrack management to residential turf management, I wanted to learn more so I registered with Rutgers for a couple winter turf classes. That was when I was able to put the face with the name I had heard so much about. It would seem wherever turf management was being discussed or promoted, Dr. Henry Indyk was right in the middle of it.

After fifteen years or so in the turf maintenance industry and after contracting with a local little league, I became interested in athletic fields. So of course I took a couple classes at Rutgers. You guessed it; there he was again teaching the athletic field maintenance course.

I have Dr. Henry Indyk to thank for my CSFM certification. Not only did Dr. Indyk give me the push I needed to take the exam, he was instrumental in developing the certification at the national level as a means of bringing recognition to the sports field manager.

Although soft spoken and mild mannered, Dr. Indyk's words have resounded throughout the turf grass industry and helped to shape it as it exists today. I know of no other person who has so greatly and positively impacted the turf industry. ♦

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athletic directors, coaches, and user groups. Additionally, Jeff Fowler, a Penn State University Extension Agent will be discussing his sports field experiences as an agent in Pennsylvania and also delivering much-needed pesticide credits to those in attendance.

Keep an eye out for Expo 2005 promotional and registration materials in the mail and the Nov./Dec. issue of SFMANJ Update newsletter. The New Jersey Turfgrass Association (www.njturfgrass.org) can be reached at 215-757-6582 ♦

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