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Including Sports Field Managers Assocition of New Jersey-Sponsored Trade Show Equipment Demos

at Rutgers Adelphia Research Farm

SAVE THE DATE! Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Sports Field

By Brad Park, Rutgers University

In what has become an annual tradition, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA), Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey (SFMANJ), and Rutgers University will once again collaborate to hold the Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Turf Field Day at the Rutgers Adelphia Turfgrass Research Farm in Adelphia, NJ on **Wednesday**, *August 1*, 2012.



Large crowds are always on hand to take-in turfgrass education, network, and observe SFMANJ-sponsored equipment demonstrations at the annual Rutgers Lawn, Landscape, and Sports Turf Field Day at Rutgers Adelphia Research Farm, Adelphia, NJ.



Early morning fog covers a National Turfgrass Evaluation Program trial at the Rutgers Adelphia Research Farm prior to the Summer Field Day. The schedule of events and format for integrating educational talks and commercial equipment demonstrations has evolved into a win-win half-day program for both attendees and Green Industry vendors. Field day participant totals at Adelphia have ranged from 317 to 408 during the past five years.

The trade show is sponsored and administered by SFMANJ and is open to all vendors who sell products and services to the Green Industry. Coffee, bagels, Danish pastries, etc. will be served during the trade show. The trade show provides a great opportunity for attendees to network with other Green Industry professionals and examine the latest product offerings from Industry-supporting vendors.

After opening remarks from Rutgers University representatives, the education and equipment demonstration portion of the program will begin at 9:00 am. Attendees will be divided into three groups – the Red group, White group, and Blue group. Attendees will be asked to follow a group leader carrying either a Red, White, or Blue flag for the remainder of the morning program. Groups will rotate between three 17-minute tour stops per hour. Two stops will consist of turfgrass education and one stop will consist of equipment demonstrations. There will be four 3-stop rotations between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.

The Adelphia Research Farm is home to the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science Turf Breeding Program. The primary focus of work performed at the farm is the development of new varieties of Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, perennial ryegrass and fine fescues. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear Rutgers Turf Center faculty describe large field trials consisting of commercially-available varieties and new experimental selections of the major coolseason turfgrass species.

Turfgrass fungicide and herbicide trials are annually conducted by Rutgers Faculty at the Adelphia Farm and are typically included as educational tour stops. Stark contrasts between effective and ineffective treatments are often visually apparent in these trials providing attendees with useful information on product selection, application timings, and application rates.

Green Industry vendors who market turfgrass and landscape equipment or who provide equipment-based contract services are invited to demonstrate their equipment and/or services during a demonstration Continued on bage 8