



Conference Season Is Here!

By Ty McClellan, agronomist, Mid-Continent Region

November 22, 2010

Frost has arrived, evoking a collective sigh of relief from turf managers and cool-season turfgrasses alike. For most, cool weather (and even snowfall) has been but a dream since early July when Mother Nature began punishing cool-season turfgrasses throughout the Mid-Continent Region, and much of the country for that matter.

As a grueling year comes to a close, conference season moves into full swing and all indications are that meetings will be well attended. Recently, the Central Illinois GCSA enjoyed an audience larger than in recent years at their Annual Education Seminar. The demands brought forth by Mother Nature this summer didn't allow superintendents much, if any, time away from the golf course. Poor attendance at golf course superintendent chapter meetings resulted, but this should change now with the opportunity to gather for education and camaraderie at a time of year when golf courses are on the mend.

Appropriately, many of the conferences this winter will feature education targeted towards summer survival strategies for cool-season turfgrasses. Given the recent environmental challenges, combined with persisting economic limitations, it would be well worth inviting a course official to attend a conference with you.

To learn more about conferences in your area, contact your local superintendent association or USGA Green Section office. Upcoming conferences for the upper Mid-Continent Region are as follows:

2010

December 7-8

Missouri Green Industry Conference

St. Charles Convention Center, St. Louis, MO

Visit <http://www.motoc.org/>

December 7-9

Kansas Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show

Kansas Expo Center, Topeka, KS

December 14-15

**Heartland Green Industry Expo: “Common Ground” USGA Education Session—
Dec. 15, 1:00-4:30 pm**

Overland Park Convention Center, Overland Park, KS

December 14-15

Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Winter Education Days

Midwest Golf House, Lemont, IL

Visit <http://illinoisturfgrassfoundation.org/>

2011

January 10-12

Nebraska Green Expo

Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, IA

January 18-20

Iowa Turfgrass Conference & Trade Show

Polk County Convention Complex & Marriott Hotel, Des Moines, IA

Visit <http://www.iowaturfgrass.org/>

February 7-11

CCSAA Education Conference & Golf Industry Show

USGA Green Section Education Program: “Lessons Learned Come in All Forms”—Feb. 11, 10:00 am - Noon

Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL

Visit <http://www.golfindustryshow.com/>

February 22-23

Gateway Green Industry Conference & Trade Show

Gateway Convention Center, Collinsville, Illinois

Central Region Agronomists:

Bob Vavrek, regional director – bvavrek@usga.org

John Daniels, agronomist – jdaniels@usga.org

[Information on the USGA's Course Consulting Service](#)

[Contact the Green Section Staff](#)