

Grab Bag

Horticultural and Turfgrass Study Tour

RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), PLCAA (Professional Lawn Care Association of America) and TruGreen-Chemlawn sponsored the second Horticultural and Turfgrass Study Tour, hosted by the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA). The tour agenda was developed and led by turfgrass and horticultural experts from industry, academia and extension services.

Twenty nationally selected urban and suburban county extension agents spent six days visiting research centers, greenhouse operations and botanical gardens, including on-site demonstrations and exhibits. Workshops focused on environmental practices that improve and maintain plant growth, as well as promote stewardship of urban and suburban areas.

Nice lawn boosts home value 15%

A recent Gallup survey shows that a well-kept lawn and landscape can add up to 15% to the value of a home.

"If Americans want to take advantage of the booming economy and hot real estate market by selling or adding value to their homes, they don't necessarily have to soak thousands of dollars into extensive home renovations," says Sonny Pennington of Pennington Seed.



A black-tie affair? When the Arizona Diamondbacks opened the 1998 season, their first season in Bank One Ballpark, a domed stadium with a zoysiagrass playing field, the grounds crew showed up in tuxedos. Hey fellas, what about those sneakers?

That's my home sweet home!

The last thing Jim and Lois Syth expected to hear at their son's basketball game was, "Hey Jim, your home is on the cover of a magazine!" The Syths, of Bozeman, MT, were surprised to say the least.

Their acquaintance was Tom Greason of the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Department, who brought them a copy of the February *Landscape Management* and sure enough, it was their home of 10 years. Mrs. Syth, who landscaped the property, vaguely remembered a photographer taking shots of the home.

Each month, *Landscape Management* searches for examples of beautiful commercial and residential landscapes from a variety of sources — landscape contractors themselves and independent photo houses are used most often.

This got us thinking: How many of you have homes with outstanding landscapes? We'd love to see them and may even highlight the most striking. If you have original slides, you can send them to us with contact information, and we'll get them back to you promptly.



Grab Bag features brief observations and prognostications throughout the green industry. If you have an unusual photo or comment you'd like to share with us, please send it in...