



February 3-5

Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) Midwinter Conference & Exposition, Hyatt Regency, Tampa, FL. Contact TPI: (800) 405-8873.

February 15-28

Long Island Turfgrass Management Short Course, Long Island, NY. Contact Cornell University: (607) 255-1792.

February 17

Penn State Cooperative Extension's Winter Grounds Seminar, Penn State University. Contact Judith Schwank: (610) 378-1327.

February 20-24

Western Canada Turfgrass Association's (WCTA) 36th annual Conference & Show, Penticton Trade & Convention Centre, Penticton, BC Canada. Contact WCTA: (604) 467-2564.

February 22-23

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Southeast Regional Conference, Holiday Inn, Suffern, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873.

February 22-26

Midwest Regional Turf Foundation's Indiana-Illinois Turfgrass Short Course, Willowbrook, IL. Contact Bev Bratton: (765) 494-8039.

February 23-25

Western Pennsylvania Turf Conference & Trade Show, Monroeville, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: (814) 863-3475.

2000

January 12-16

STMA 11th annual Conference & Exhibition, St. Louis. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

STMA MESSAGE



A Clear and Sunny Forecast

"The forecast is clear and sunny." These words cheer every sports turf manager, whether they're announced prior to a critical game or before scheduled field maintenance procedures.

As we move closer to the new millennium, clear and sunny is the forecast for the STMA. The 1998 Awards and Scholarship Program is one good indicator of this.

Scholarship applicants were impressive in all three categories: two-year undergraduate, four-year undergraduate, and graduate level.

With six scholarships awarded this year (twice the number awarded last year), the judges again reported that there were additional worthy, well-qualified individuals that were deserving of scholarships, but funding was not available.

It's great that the STMA is receiving such high-caliber applicants. And it's even greater that these individuals are targeting a career in sports turf management.

It would be even better if STMA had funds available to award more scholarships. We could provide even more encouragement to these intelligent, highly motivated students.

The two-year program scholarship continues to be funded by the contribution made in honor of Fred Grau. The Toro Company provided two additional scholarships to honor Dr. Jim Watson, a supporter and friend.

The rest of the scholarship funding for 1998 and previous years has been provided by STMA Conference attendees. Proceeds from our live and silent auctions and raffles go directly to our scholarship fund. Thanks to all those who have participated in these events, and thanks to those who have contributed the items that keep these traditions successful. STMA, the students receiving the scholarships, and the entire green industry benefit from your support.

The Field of the Year entries were also excellent again this past year. Entries represent the commitment and dedication of every member of each crew.

Only one entry in each category can come out on top. Judging them can be like sifting through precious jewels, ranking each one on the individual attributes that combine to make it so special.

Earning the Field of the Year designation is not an easy process. Many fields enter several times. Maintenance programs may be fine-tuned and entry packages refined here and there along the way until the top ranking is achieved.

Each great field lifts the standard one notch higher, and the ultimate winners are the athletes who get to play on them.

Another sunny topic is *sportsTURF's* selection for Man of the Year: Dr. Henry Indyk. Having worked with Henry on the STMA Board for seven years and on the Certification Committee since its formation, I know this honor is well deserved — and I add my personal CONGRATULATIONS!

Stephen Guise, STMA President
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