

# Calendar of Events 2000

## June 12-13

Fourth annual Integrated Pest Management Conference, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA. Contact Dr. Bob Rice: (805) 756-2830, fax (805) 756-2869, rrice@calpoly.edu.

## July 12

Sixth annual Ohio Lawn Care Association Diagnostic Seminar, Ohio Turfgrass Research and Education Facility, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. Contact Kareena Gibson: (800) 510-5296, ext. 3180, or kgibson@offinger.com.

## July 19-21

Turfgrass Producers International's (TPI) 33rd annual Summer Convention and Field Day, Spokane, WA. Contact TPI: (800) 405-8873/(847) 705-9898 or Turf-Grass@msn.com.

## July 22-24

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute's 17th annual International Lawn, Garden & Power Equipment Expo (EXPO 2000), Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Contact Sellers Expositions: (800) 558-8767 or (502) 562-1962.

## August 15

Cornell Field Day, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. Contact Joann Gruttadaurio: (607) 255-1792.

## August 23

Michigan Turfgrass Field Day, Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. Contact Kay Patrick: (517) 321-1660.

## STMA MESSAGE

Sports  
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## STMA Is Networking at Its Best

I just saw it again. On April 1, at Kauffman Stadium, home of the Kansas City Royals, STMA once more demonstrated networking at its best at the first meeting of the newly forming MO-KAN STMA Chapter.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to Royals Head Groundskeeper Trevor Vance, his staff and the entire Kansas City Royals operation for not only opening their facilities, but also for their welcoming attitude and warm hospitality during this day of information sharing and the camaraderie of networking.

With less than a week to go until the season's opening game, the field was in top-notch condition. Nearly 100 attendees came from Kansas City and the surrounding areas to take part in this event. That's in addition to the Royals personnel, the supplier volunteers handling the registration table and all those crew members and other volunteers involved in the nine different demonstration stations spread around the warning track, in the dugouts and on the field. Among the presenters were vendor personnel, Trevor, Assistant Groundskeeper Jon Reed, Royals crew members, Head Groundskeeper for the Kansas City Chiefs Andre Bruce and Jody Gill of the Kansas Blue Valley School District.

Name tags were numbered and attendees were asked to start at the station that matched their badge number and then rotate through all the stations by moving to the next consecutive numbered station every 20 minutes.

Talk about information sharing! During each session, with each group, networking was part of the demonstration as the groups interacted with questions and answers, with problems experienced and suggestions to resolve them, with ideas to improve efficiency, effectiveness, field quality and usability and with ideas to improve communications within organizations and with field users. Participants exchanged contact information with such comments as, "Catch me by phone first thing in the morning," and "Does e-mail work best for you?" and with specific procedures that were discussed, "Give me a call when you're ready to tackle it and we can walk through it on the phone," or "I'll call you a couple days before we're scheduled to start so you can bring some of your crew along to see how it works for us." And conversations continued to buzz as all joined together for a great lunch, the raffle drawing, an information session and an invitation to sign up for membership.

Thanks go to all those individuals, facilities and vendors who provide support for these activities at the chapter level and to our national chapter sponsors: Gold Level—John Deere, Pro's Choice and Novartis; and Silver Level—Alpine Services and Hunter Industries.

Having just gained some up close and personal experience in chapter formation with the Gateway Chapter, I've seen the dedication, commitment and perseverance it takes from a core group of organizers to bring a chapter to life. The MO-KAN group is a prime example of this. And is it ever worth it!

Taking part in a meeting with all that background, all those years of experience, openly shared, is an education in itself.

**Rich Moffitt**  
STMA President  
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