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Name	Title		
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Address			
City	State	Zip	
Home phone	Work phone	Cell phone	
Fax	Email		
Signature			
Direct Supervisor Name			

Membership Category:

- | | |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Turf Manager | \$110 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Turf Manager Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) | \$75 |

Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:

- | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Professional Sports | <input type="radio"/> Higher Education | <input type="radio"/> Schools K-12 | <input type="radio"/> Parks and Recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic | \$95 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student (verification of enrollment) | \$25 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial | \$295 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company) | \$75 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) | \$50 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount) | \$ | | |
| Chapter name) | \$ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contribution To SAFE Foundation (research, education and scholarship): | \$ | | |
| Total Amount Enclosed: | \$ | | |

Payment Method:

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- Name on Card _____

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*There must already be a national sports turf manager from your facility or commercial member from your company before you may sign up in the Associate category.

"I know I am a better sports turf manager because of this association. As sports turf managers, we take the challenge seriously to make our fields the best possible for the next game. The resources I have access to through STMA helps me do it."

— Bob Campbell, CSFM
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www.STMA.org

Access to MSU's Turfgrass Information File is major member benefit

NEXT TIME YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION ON MANAGING TURFGRASS,

try using your membership benefit, Michigan State University's Turfgrass Information File (TGIF). TGIF provides access to all published materials reporting on aspects of turfgrass and its maintenance. As of April 2012, there were more than 200,000 records in TGIF, with a gradually increasing percentage of content linked to full-text sources. About 12,000 new records are added every year, with more than 49% including full-text or linking to full-text.

The ultimate goals of TGIF are to: 1) identify all available print or online materials reporting on turfgrass and its maintenance; 2) to provide access to records representing each item; and 3) to provide a direct link to the full-text or actual content of each item, when possible. Materials indexed in the TGIF database include articles from peer reviewed publications, technical reports and conference proceedings, trade and professional publications, local professional newsletters, and popular magazines as well as monographs, theses and dissertations, fact sheets and brochures, software, and web documents. TGIF indexes materials from government, college/university, professional organization, and private publishers. Coverage emphasizes English-language materials but does include coverage of non-English languages.

Literature in TGIF is broken into categories or LEVELS. The LEVELS allow users to search for information based on the type of publication. For example, if a researcher is looking for information on dollar spot, he/she may limit the search to Refereed journals. If a practitioner is searching for information on mole crickets, but only those published in trade or professional magazines, the search can be limited to trade and professional resources. If doing a basic search, the level will appear on the results page of the search. In the Guided Search or Power Search, the LEVEL can be chosen to narrow the search.

Refereed materials are clearly the most important from a research perspective. They have passed through the process of peer review and revision, with traditional academic rigor.

Report materials are not refereed, but

are research, often qualified as "preliminary" or "incomplete."

Professional sources are those generally produced by Not-For-Profit corporations as communicative media for membership.

Proceedings are usually from a specific conference, and can include individual articles which might show up in any of the other categories, except refereed. The Proceedings literature is very unpredictable, uneven, and sometimes frustrating, but it is an important category in the whole of the literature, particularly from 1950-1990.

Trade sources are generally commercial magazines, and are distributed widely within the industry.

Newsletters are just that, mostly GCSAA affiliate productions. The "newsletters" vary tremendously in their availability, size, and "usefulness" from the perspective of TGIF.

Popular publications are those intended for a general public readership, outside the professional arena (if you think these are not important to your job, we think you are mistaken!). In addition, there are

Miscellaneous sources which complete the literature.

Steps to use the database successfully: Log in as an STMA member, click on the TGIF tab, and then follow the instructions on how to access it. After accepting the Conditions and Terms of Use, you are redirected to the Basic Search page.

BASIC SEARCH

Enter keywords for your topic into the search field. Instead of using a question or common language, type the most important words such as white grub control. Type phrases, such as "brown patch," without quotation marks. Typing only part of the search word may produce better results as truncation happens automatically. For example, typing "fertili" will automatically find fertilizer, fertilization, fertilisation, fertility, etc.

When searching for two or more topics, put semicolons between them. For example, if "winterkill; cold tolerance" is typed, TGIF will retrieve everything about winterkill OR cold tolerance.

The drop-down list below the search box allows the limiting of a search to an industry sector. The sectors are: Breeding

and Genetics, Golf Courses, Landscape, Lawn Care, Parks and Grounds, Roadsides, Seed, Sod, Sports Turf, and Utility Turf.

To search the underlying full-text of items (not just the TGIF record contents), check the "Dig Deeper" box.

GUIDED SEARCH

To search using Boolean operators (AND, OR, NOT), press the Guided Search button. In the first box, type in a key word or phrase. By leaving the drop box as "Anywhere," the phrase will be searched anywhere in the TGIF record. To limit to the title, author, keyword, language, etc. field, use the drop-down menu.

The Browse Index can be used if unsure of a word. Click on Browse Index. In the box, type in the unsure word and click on Search Index. A list of the words near it will appear. Check the one(s) to use for searching and click on the paste button to the left. The terms will be added to the search and the session will return to the search page.

It is possible to search on multiple topics/words by using the three "Search for" boxes using AND, OR, or NOT by selecting from the drop box.

Additionally, limits by publication type, industry sector, years, or kinds of items can be selected using the drop down boxes. Not limiting allows for all formats, years, sectors, and item types to be searched. It is also possible to limit the search to: USGA® publications; full-text materials; or to exclude abstract only records.

POWER SEARCH

This interface is intended for more experienced searchers. In this search window, full Boolean and proximity operators, wildcards, nesting (the use of parentheses), field limiters, etc. are able to be used. A complete reference guide to using Power Search is at <http://tic.msu.edu/power.html>.

TGIF is free for STMA non-commercial members and is designed to be flexible for all users, from those accessing for the first-time to the more sophisticated researchers/users. TGIF provides quick access to published and electronic resources for users throughout the world. Be sure to take advantage of the extensive and valuable collection of resources pertaining to successful turfgrass management that TGIF has to offer. ■

STMA Commercial members: plan now to enter your innovation

TWO YEARS AGO, STMA introduced a new awards program for commercial members: the STMA Award for Commercial Innovation. Three exhibitors were presented with the award in its first year and earlier this year, G2 TurfTools, Inc., received the Innovative Award in Long Beach.

You should start thinking about what products, services, and/or equipment your company can enter. Although the entry form just takes minutes to fill out electronically, the judging panel seeks links to videos, photos, marketing brochures, or other promotional material to help them understand the innovation.

The purpose of the award is to recognize those exhibiting commercial companies that are introducing products, equipment or services that improve the profession—either by enhancing the effectiveness of the sports turf manager or making playing surfaces safer and more playable for athletes.

In addition to being innovative, as described above, and an exhibitor at the 2013 STMA conference, the product, serv-

ice or equipment being submitted must be introduced for sale between the close of the STMA show in January of this year through the close of the upcoming Daytona Beach show. The winners also must agree to display the product submitted during the 2013 trade show.

When creating the program, the original task group asked, “What is innovative?” and then came up with a list of words describing a winning product, piece of equipment or service. Since then, these terms have been refined through judging the past 2 years’ worth of entries. What has been found is that winning products, services or pieces of equipment:

- Are creative.
- Are cutting edge.
- Have never been seen.
- Make the task easier or more productive.
- Improve quality.
- Improve efficiency.
- Protect the environment.
- Save time and resources.

According to the Chair, Dale Getz, CSFM,

CSE, “These qualities are descriptive, but this list is by no means comprehensive.” Getz credits the original with developing a program that has dual benefits. “Those companies that are presented with the Innovative Award receive excellent recognition and bragging rights, and STMA also benefits by being the award presenter and by being the venue where the innovation was introduced.”

The STMA Awards Committee judges the entries and will announce the 2013 winners at the annual trade show with an all-hall announcement and booth signage. Winners of the award may use the special STMA logo when promoting the winning innovation for as long as they wish. In addition, STMA will promote the winners through press releases, magazine coverage, and during the STMA Awards Banquet.

The application is due October 1 and is available on the STMA website. For more information or to enter your companies’ innovation, log on to www.STMA.org. ■

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Featured Chapter: Georgia STMA -

www.gstma.org gastma07@gmail.com
The Georgia Chapter announces its Fall Field Day on Tues., Oct. 9, 2012 at Georgia Tech University. For information, contact David Presnell at david.presnell@gcscsk12.net.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:

Chris Walsh cwalsh@scottsdaleaz.gov

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.cstma.org.

Florida #1 Chapter (South): 305-235-5101

(Bruce Bates) or Tom Curran CTomSell@aol.com

Florida #2 Chapter (North): 850-580-4026,

John Mascaro, john@turf-tec.com

Florida #3 Chapter (Central): 407-518-2347,

Scott Grace, scott@sundome.org

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers

Association: www.gatewaystma.org.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.gstma.org.

Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf

Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com.

Illinois Chapter STMA: www.ILSTMA.org.

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Man-

agers Association: www.imstma.org.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.iowaturfgrass.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.kystma.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org.

(KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association

(MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers As-

sociation: www.mpstma.org

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.mokanstma.com.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:

sphillips4@unlnotes.unl.edu

New England STMA (NESTMA):

www.nestma.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jer-

sey: www.sfmanj.org.

Sports Turf Managers of New York:

www.stmony.org.

North Carolina Chapter of STMA:

www.ncsportsturf.org.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association

(OSTMA): www.ostma.org.

Oklahoma Chapter STMA:

405-744-5729; Contact: Dr. Justin Moss

Oregon STMA Chapter:

www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org
oregonstma@gmail.com

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Asso-

ciation: www.pnwstma.org.

Southern California Chapter:

www.socalstma.com.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA:

www.scstma.org.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Associ-

ation (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.txstma.org

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.vstma.org.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:

www.wstma.org.

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July 2012 - Expires January 2013 - RS1207

01 What is your company's primary business? (check **ONLY ONE**)

F ☐ Sports Complex G ☐ Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
T ☐ School, College or University P ☐ Park
H ☐ Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check **ONLY ONE**)

A ☐ EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
B ☐ MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
C ☐ GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
D ☐ SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
F ☐ COACH E ☐ Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?

Y ☐ Yes N ☐ No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)

F ☐ Over \$1 million C ☐ \$50,001 - \$100,000
E ☐ \$500,001 - \$1 million B ☐ \$25,001 - \$50,000
D ☐ \$100,001 - \$500,000 A ☐ \$25,000 and under

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Profile Products	31	www.turfpace.com
Sod Solutions	13	www.sodsolutions.com
SourceOne	44	www.SourceOneOPE.com
Southern Athletic Fields	29	www.mulemix.com
SportsTurf Managers Association	41	www.stma.org
Stabilizer Solutions	33	www.stabilizersolutions.com
TifSport Growers Association	15	www.tifsport.com
TurfTime Equipment, LLC	44	www.TurfTimeEq.com
Underhill	39	www.underhill.us
Whitlam Paint	44	www.whitlampa.com
World Class Athletic Surfaces	27	www.worldclasspaints.com



BY DR. GRADY MILLER

Professor, North Carolina
State University

Questions?

Send them to
Grady Miller at

North Carolina State University,
Box 7620, Raleigh, NC 27695-
7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu

Or, send your
question to

David Minner at
Iowa State University, 106 Horti-
culture Hall, Ames, IA 50011
or email
dminner@iastate.edu.

Help, I Need Somebody

I GET A LOT OF PHONE CALLS and e-mails that start off with, “I need help and I did not know who to call. Can you help me?” The questions that follow range from the most basic (“What do the three numbers on the fertilizer bag mean?”) to more complex (“We are about to design/build our first sports field and need help with specifications”). So, this Q&A is devoted to all those that need help and do not know where to start.

If you have not listened to the Beatles’ song “Help!” in a while, I suggest you go to YouTube and listen to the song before reading this article. I find it is very applicable to this discussion. Because like in the song, no matter what your current level of confidence, you will eventually find yourself in a situation that requires you to find help.

I hope this column will encourage even the experienced among us that need help to speak up and get advice. You know who you are—you have procrastinated for weeks on an issue and just a little information would ease your mind and get you started on the task. But you do not want to ask because you are afraid asking for help is a sign that you are not a good manager. Pride takes over and you think that you will just figure it out or you do not know where to go for help. So you wing it or you do nothing. Either can result in a poor outcome.

First, there is no shame in asking for help. I find it ironic that we do not hesitate to ask for help on issues that are well outside our expertise. For instance, asking an accountant for tax help each year or an auto mechanic when your

truck’s transmission will not go into reverse. But when it is related to an issue that is within our work domain we think, “I can handle this. I’ll just put a little fertilizer on that brown patch of grass and it will be fine next week.” But what if that brown patch was caused by a disease organism, nematodes, or a chemical spill? You may make the situation worse. So, why not get a proper diagnosis and treat the

My charge to you is that when attending programs speak up and ask questions. Every question that gets answered provides information that helps you as well as everyone else in the room that may have had the same curiosity.

problem rather than the symptom?

I often get phone calls from high school coaches. These guys are good coaches that are often out of their element when it comes to managing their fields. These guys will ask a string of questions a mile long. Since their problems are not associated with coaching, they often do not hold back. They have problems and they want to find answers. On the other hand, often when I get a group of turf managers together they will not ask any questions. And I know it is not because I am such a good teacher that I taught them everything in a seminar.

My charge to you is that when attending programs speak up and ask questions. Every question that

gets answered provides information that helps you as well as everyone else in the room that may have had the same curiosity. If the presenter does not know the answer, then maybe someone else in the audience has an answer. You guys solve many more of your own problems than I can solve for you.

So, one take home message is to get to know the other sports turf managers at the meeting. Meetings are also a good time to get to know your company representatives, suppliers, and certified field builders. While you may not have questions for them at that moment, you may want to call on them one day in the future. At a minimum ask them for a card and then later put their contact information in your phone. Always work on building your network.

And I would not be a University employee if I did not put in a plug for the extension service. All of you should get to know your local county extension agent as well as your state turf extension specialist. We can be resourceful people that can answer questions or help you find a resource that can help you when we do not know the answer.

Lastly, for a non-person resource check out the “technical resources” that have been put in the “Members Only” section of the Sports Turf Managers Association website (www.stma.org). The STMA has done a great job of assimilating pertinent information for sports field managers and putting it on the association’s website. And if still not convinced someone can help you, go back and listen to that Beatles song again. If I cannot convince you perhaps John, Paul, George, and Ringo can. ■

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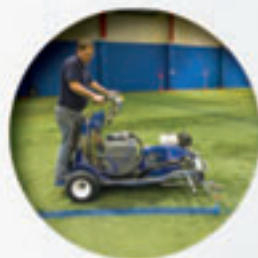
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