

Membership Application

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As a new members, you receive a FREE conference registration, value \$375, to be used within 3 years! Just indicate your status on the conference registration form.

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*Not been an STMA national member since 2000. New student and affiliate memberships do not qualify for the free conference registration. However, all members are eligible to receive the \$100 voucher for referring a new qualifying member.

Membership Category:

- Sports Turf Manager \$110
 Sports Turf Manager Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same facility) \$75

Please select the primary facility type where you are employed:

- Professional Sports Higher Education Schools K-12 Parks and Recreation
- Academic \$95
 Student (verification of enrollment) \$25
 Commercial \$295
 Commercial Associate* (Additional member(s) from the same commercial company) \$75
 Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) \$50
 Retired \$50
 Chapter Dues (contact headquarters for amount)
Chapter name) _____ \$ _____
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- Total Amount Enclosed:** \$ _____

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

Phone: 800-323-3875

www.STMA.org

Optional events enrich Conference experience for attendees

CELEBRATE STMA'S 25TH CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION in San Antonio with all the exceptional sessions, seminars, and workshops you've come to expect from the industry's premier sports field association. Explore the rich culture, cuisine and character of a city that has proven to be one of our nation's most endearing travel destinations and benefit from the ultimate learning event of the year!

Besides the numerous educational opportunities available to attendees, the conference features many optional activities that are sure to enrich every attendee's experience.

SAFE GOLF SCRAMBLE TUES., JAN. 21, 9 AM – 4 PM

The SAFE Golf Tournament will be held at The Republic Golf Club, 10 minutes from the STMA host hotel. The course routing follows Salado Creek as it winds through heavily wooded areas, making each hole completely secluded. The terrain is mostly flat and has player-friendly features such as wide fairways with generous landing areas and open approaches. Republic has four sets of tees that allow players to adjust the game to their skill level. Transportation, lunch, hole-in-one and other prizes are included. Rental clubs are available. Pre-registration is required. Fees are donations to The SAFE Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) charity of the Sports Turf Managers Association. Proceeds from the tournament go directly to fund scholarships and educational outreach.

NEW THIS YEAR – THE SAFE FOUNDATION 5K RUN OR WALK! FRI., JAN. 24, 3 PM.

Join your peers in this inaugural event! For your entry fee of \$35, you get a great 5K course, an event managed by professionals and a high quality shirt that will definitely become a keepsake. Start training now to take top honors and to help SAFE achieve its goals. Pre-registration is required.

SEMINAR ON WHEELS TOUR TUES., JAN. 21 FULL DAY TOUR, 7 AM – 5 PM

The tour begins at the STAR soccer complex, a 13-field natural grass complex located in the former Longhorn Quarry. STAR is home to the San Antonio Scorpions, a new professional soccer team playing in the North American Soccer League (NASL). Tour stops also include Texas State's Jim Wacker Football Field in Bobcat Stadium, which recently had a \$20 million renovation, and its softball and baseball fields. The baseball field has a special in-field mix that reduces the need for tarping. Participants will stop next at the Park West Athletics Complex that holds a new International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) track and Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) soccer field at the University of Texas–San Antonio. These facilities opened in August, each seat 1,000 people, and were built through a unique partnership with the university, the City of San Antonio, and Bexar County. The final stop is at Oak Hills Country Club, one of the oldest private country clubs in the country, to tour the renowned tennis centre. It has a rare combination of three court surfaces including grass, clay and hard surface. Transportation and lunch included. Pre-registration and additional fee required.

SEMINAR ON WHEELS TOUR FRI., JAN. 24 HALF DAY TOUR, 1 – 5 PM

Participants will see the baseball, softball, soccer, football and intramural fields at Trinity University. These fields are in an urban setting and are closely located by each other. Trinity has no practice fields. The next stop is The Park at St. Mary's University, a new sports complex that has baseball, softball and soccer. The new 2200-seat baseball stadium, renamed Dickson Stadium for its benefactor, is built on the steel structure of the previous stadium. The final stop is at Nelson Wolff Stadium, the oldest ballpark in the Texas League and home to the Missions, AA minor league baseball team. Many high schools and colleges play at Nelson Wolff including the UTSA Roadrunners. Transportation provided. Pre-registration and additional fee required.

RIVERWALK HORTICULTURAL TOUR FRI., JAN. 24 TWO DEPARTURES: 2 – 3 PM AND 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Board a barge and take a tour of the world-famous Riverwalk. Hear how all of the plant materials are managed in a 100 percent organic program from the horticulturists for the Riverwalk. Pre-registration and additional fee required. Each tour is limited to 25 people, so sign up early.

CSFM TESTING TUES., JAN. 21, 3:30 – 7:30 PM & SAT., JAN. 25, 8 AM – 12 PM

Pre-qualification and pre-registration by Dec. 15 is required for those who wish to take the exam. If you test on Tuesday and do not pass all of the sections, you may be able to retest on those sections on Saturday. To find out if you qualify for the certification program, call STMA at 800-323-3875.

ASBA TESTING SAT., JAN. 25, 8 AM – 1 PM

The American Sports Builders Association (ASBA) offers three certifications for field builders and will be offering these tests during the STMA Conference. To find out if you qualify to test, go to www.sportsbuilders.org. The deadline to apply to test is Dec. 15. Those testing must register for the STMA conference, purchasing a one-day package at a minimum. Questions? Contact ASBA, 866-501-2722.

CHAPTER OFFICERS TRAINING – FOR CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

Tues., Jan. 21, 6 – 9 pm (Dinner provided)

Chapter board members are invited to attend a chapter networking and brainstorming session to address the challenges of strengthening your chapter with a focus on how to fundraise and your role as a volunteer leader. Preregistration is required.

NEW TIME! WOMEN'S FORUM LUNCH WED., JAN. 22, 12 – 2 PM

Celebrating its seventh year, all women at the conference are invited to participate in a facilitated discussion and enjoy lunch. ■

STMA engages public relations firm

AT ITS FALL MEETING, the STMA Board of Directors approved the hiring of Buffalo Communications to help gain recognition for members and the profession. Buffalo is headquartered outside Washington, DC, and has offices in New York, Boston, Miami, Minneapolis, Pinehurst (NC) and Phoenix.

Buffalo presented to the Board a proposal and scope of work to help grow STMA's membership and overall influence through a comprehensive publicity and media relations program. The Board met with Buffalo in early November and, within 2 days, they had lined up a television interview and articles in four print publications, such as the Denver Post and *Stadia* magazine.

A division of Billy Casper Golf, Buffalo Communications has a client base of top golf, sport and lifestyle brands. Some of these include World Golf Foundation, LPGA Tour, Fila and ECCO Sport.

"Buffalo's deep connections in the sports industry played a role in our Board's selec-

tion of them," says STMA President James Michael Goatley, PhD.

One of Buffalo's main charges is to elevate the perception of the work of the individual member with their employers.

"Our members tell us that their employers often don't understand the complexity, technical knowledge and expertise that is needed to manage sports fields," says Goatley. "Buffalo will help educate these employers by getting media attention for sports turf managers at all levels, particularly for our schools and parks members," Goatley says.

Rich Katz, Managing Director of Buffalo is impressed with STMA's membership.

"STMA is a tightly-knit and highly-engaged organization of talented professionals who consistently employ best practices in the art and science of sports field management," says Katz. "We have a unique opportunity to tell countless stories, nationally and locally, about STMA members."

Although Buffalo's role will primarily

focus on proactively reaching out to the media, they will also help STMA when it is necessary to react to a field situation.

"We know that Buffalo will be a great resource to help us to more quickly and efficiently respond on behalf of our membership regarding crises and unforeseen problems that arise on sports fields," says Goatley.

Buffalo will be attending STMA's national conference to interact with members and to gather story ideas. They will present their strategies during the STMA Annual Meeting, Thursday, January 23, at noon. STMA will be regularly reporting on this campaign's progress in *SportsTurf* and *News Online*. For 24/7 access to information, check STMA's Media Tab at STMA.org. ■

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.org

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 Managers Association:
<http://imstma.blogspot.com/>

Indiana - FORMING - Contact Clayton Dame, Claytondame@hotmail.com or Brian Bornino, bornino@purdue.edu or Contact Joey Stevenson, jstevenson@indyindians.com

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 Association: 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 Jersey: 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 okstma@gmail.com

Oregon STMA Chapter:
www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org
oregonstma@gmail.com

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.sc-stma.org

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com

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importance is the D1 protein because it exhibits the highest turnover rate of all the thylakoid proteins, and is highly vulnerable to singlet oxygen, a free radical.

ANTIOXIDANTS

The antioxidants a-tocopherol (vitamin E), ascorbic acid (vitamin C), carotenoids (B-carotene), vitamin B6 and mannitol in some biostimulants play a vital role in scavenging free radicals and helping protect chloroplasts, thylakoid membranes inside the chloroplasts, photosystem I and photosystem II.

In terms of its antioxidant properties, carotenoids can protect photosystem I and photosystem II in one of four ways: by reacting with lipid peroxidation products to terminate chain reactions; by scavenging singlet oxygen and dissipating the energy as heat; by reacting with triplet or excited chlorophyll molecules to prevent formation of singlet oxygen; or by dissipation of excess excitation energy through the xanthophyll cycle.

Xanthophylls function as accessory pigments for harvesting light at wavelengths that chlorophyll can't and transfer the light energy to chlorophyll. But, they also absorb excess light energy and dissipate it to avoid damage in the xanthophyll cycle.

A-TOCOPHEROL (VITAMIN E)

A-tocopherol (vitamin E) is considered a major antioxidant in chloroplasts in at least two different but related roles. It protects photosystem II from photoinhibition and thylakoid membranes from photooxidative damage. The antioxidant properties of vitamin E are the result of its ability to quench singlet oxygen and peroxides.

ASCORBIC ACID (VITAMIN C)

It's generally believed maintaining a high ratio of ascorbic acid is essential for the scavenging of free radicals and is needed in high concentrations in the chloroplasts to be effective in defending the turfgrass against oxidative stress. Although ascorbic acid can directly scavenge the free radicals superoxide and singlet oxygen, the main benefit ascorbic acid plays in the prevention of free radicals is that it's an excellent scavenger of the hydroxyl radical. The hydroxyl radical is dangerous to turfgrass because it can inhibit carbon dioxide assimilation by inhibiting several Calvin cycle enzymes.

VITAMIN B6

Apart from its function as a cofactor, vitamin B6 is also thought to act as a protective agent against reactive oxygen species,

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- 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
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such as singlet oxygen. Vitamin B6 is also the master vitamin in processing amino acids and plays an important role in developing proteins specifically designed to help chloroplasts, thylakoid membranes, photosystem I, and photosystem II to function properly.

MANNITOL

The antioxidant mannitol has the ability to protect and quench two damaging free radicals: singlet oxygen and hydroxyl. Singlet oxygen is damaging because it can react with proteins, pigments and lipids and is thought to be the most important species for light-induced loss of photosystem II activity, as well as the degradation of the D1 protein. It has been demonstrated that when mannitol is present in the chloroplasts, it can protect plants against oxidative damage by the hydroxyl radicals.

MANGANESE AND MAGNESIUM

Both of these nutrients are attached to the chlorophyll molecule that's located inside the chloroplasts. These two nutrients play a part in making turfgrass greener by helping develop chlorophyll. They also transport other vital nutrients and are responsible for many enzymatic functions and help prevent chlorophyll degradation in the cells.

CARBON

There's new evidence carbon plays a role in the development of the turfgrass plant leaf, and that a reduction in carbon reduces photosynthetic activity, which reduces carbohydrate availability to the turfgrass plant. There's also new evidence to suggest proper development of the turfgrass plant can't occur without proper amounts of carbon in the chloroplast. There's more evidence to

suggest that, if there's an abundant source of carbon in the thylakoid membranes inside the chloroplasts, it can be mobilized for use as an energy source during senescence.

HUMIC ACIDS

Humic acids are another compound that contain antioxidant properties that promote the scavenging of free radicals. The added benefits of humic acid are that they increase the availability of micronutrients, phosphate and potassium to the plant and enhance the chlorophyll content of turfgrass.

Humic acids also stimulates root initiation because of the auxin-like activity they contain, which is most likely because of their ability to inhibit indoleacetic acid oxidase breakdown. ■

Jeff Haag is sports turf specialist at John Carroll University, University Heights, OH.

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Bermudagrass dance



BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions?

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Or, send your
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grady_miller@ncsu.edu.

I was watching a Philadelphia Eagles home game and I was shocked to hear the announcer say they had bermudagrass on the field, especially since it looked so good. I thought it was a southern grass. Can I use it at my high school field here in Ft. Wayne, IN?

The Philadelphia Eagles do in fact have “Patriot” bermudagrass growing on their stadium field and head sports turf manager Tony Leonard is one of those creative agronomists that started pushing the use of bermudagrass beyond the upper limit of the transition zone that runs just to the north of Interstate 70. It’s important to remember that Tony along with some of the other professional and college teams have many resources, like a subsurface heating system, at their disposal to successfully grow bermudagrass beyond its normal limit. They also have the backing to replace the field with sod if the bermudagrass does not perform as expected.

There are also a few examples of bermudagrass used in the north on native soils without any modified heating system. In Ames, IA at latitude 42° N we first started seeding bermudagrass in 1998 on difficult practice fields in the summer to produce at least some vegetation for the start of the playing season in August and September. Bare soil, irrigation, nitrogen feeding, and a hot sunny summer were critical for successful and rapid growth. Back then we were using varieties like “Yukon” and “Princess” while “Riviera” is a more popular type now. We did not expect the varieties to overwinter and mostly they disappeared from winter kill.

In the past 5 years however we have been seeing patches of bermudagrass, which must have come from these seeded types, popping up all over our turfgrass research farm in Ames. In fact, we are

starting to get samples of bermudagrass coming to us from lawn care companies throughout Iowa.

If you are considering bermudagrass I suggest sprigging or sodding a vegetative type to insure better coverage and improved turf quality. Seeded bermudagrass will only establish where the soil is completely bare; it will not establish when seeded into an existing stand of cool season grass.

At the STMA Field Day in 2009 Steve Bush sprigged 5000 sq. ft. of Tim VanLoo’s Iowa State University practice football field with “Patriot” bermudagrass and it has survived at 42° N with no winter kill and no

If you are considering bermudagrass I suggest sprigging or sodding a vegetative type to insure better coverage and improved turf quality. Seeded bermudagrass will only establish where the soil is completely bare; it will not establish when seeded into an existing stand of cool season grass.

covering or supplemental heating. At the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, (42° N) John Donehoe has successfully grown bermudagrass for several years without supplemental heating. Based on this it would seem possible that you could grow bermudagrass successfully in Ft. Wayne, IN at 41° N. In fact, I would like to find the most northern location where bermudagrass has been successfully grown and even where it has been attempted and not been successful.

These few examples lead me to give you a big “maybe” recommendation and certainly I would not use bermudagrass on my main competition field until I had successfully grown it on a practice or demonstration area. Here are a few other considerations when contemplating bermudagrass use in northern climates: Start with a test plot at your facility of at least 1000 sq. ft.; better yet try it on two or three locations around your facility. If it fails you don’t want it to be on your main competition field.

Turfgrass breeders and growers in the heart of the transition zone are constantly aware of winter kill and they select and manage for improved winter hardiness. Winter kill can occur directly from lethal low temperatures after the bermudagrass has gone dormant or it can occur from brief cold snaps before the grass hardens off or just as it is waking up in the spring. The chance for this to occur in northern climates is much greater than in the transition zone. As you go north the growing season for bermudagrass shortens and it is more difficult to have it recover from traffic. Fall nitrogen fertilizer is commonly practiced on cool-season grasses but it will greatly increase the chance of winter kill on bermudagrass. I would not recommend it if you plan on playing fall football and spring soccer. That is just too much pressure on the grass surface when it is dormant and not growing. It has been most successfully used on college and pro practice fields during late summer and early fall from August through September. The team can then move to another cool-season field once the bermuda goes dormant. So my recommendation with bermudagrass in the north is, she can be a real sweetheart but take her to your high school prom and learn to dance before you say I do. ■



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