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- Affiliate (Person who is indirectly or on a part-time basis, involved in the maintenance/management of sports fields) \$50

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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.

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— Bob Campbell, CSFM
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STMA Conference

Continued from page 35

SAFE Conference sponsors included: Barenbrug USA; Covermaster; Diamond Pro; Hunter Industries; John Deere; Toro; TurfNet Sports; and World Class Athletic Surfaces.

SEMINARS ON WHEELS

This year there were two tours, one full day and one half day; both tours ended up at the famous Daytona International Speedway, where they were treated to a bus ride around the track and a tour through pit row, as well as hearing from Daytona turf manager Sam Newpher on how his use of two different grasses creates the stunning visual in front of the main grandstand, among other topics.

“Our overall reaction was great for both tours. We had more than 210 people and several of those who came into Daytona Beach Tuesday morning expressed how happy they were that we had the half-day option,” said Tour Subcommittee chairman Jeff Salmond, CSFM, director of athletic field management at the University of Oklahoma. “The sites selected were well-received, especially Daytona Speedway. We all were just ‘wowed’ by the work Sam Newpher and his crew does with what they call their ‘football field’. The entire experience was memorable simply by being inside such an historic facility.”

“I’m looking forward to identifying other interesting sites beyond the usual when making our selections for next year’s tours in San Antonio,” Salmond said.

David Pinnonseault, CSFM, CPRP, public grounds superintendent, Town of Lexington (MA) and President-Elect of STMA, led the half-day tour. “Mike Geiger of the Daytona Cubs did a great job explaining how he and his small staff, with a limited budget, produce a quality surface. Lots of people on the tour could directly relate to those circumstances; we especially appreciated learning how Mike works with city officials and local golf supers to borrow equipment.”

STUDENT CHALLENGE

Hunter Industries and the SAFE Foundation once again sponsored the STMA Student Challenge, featuring 34 teams. As the indefatigable Lynda Wightman from Hunter explained to the closing session crowd before announcing the 2013 winners, the Challenge consists of several parts, including an exam with multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank, matching, reading passages, and short answer sections. Some questions require physical or visual identification of plant materials, pests, supplies, tools, equipment, irrigation components, ballfield soils and materials, and more.

Wightman added that the Challenge began in 2005 with 16 teams and that the first winning team, from Penn State, included current STMA education manager Kristen Althouse.

This year’s winners were:

2-Year Division

1st place: Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Myrtle Beach, SC - Team 202

2nd place: Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA - Team 203

Scholarships



NIK WOOLDRIDGE of Colorado State University won the 2012 Gary Vanden Berg Internship Grant as well as a James R. Watson Scholarship. At left is former SAFE Chairman Boyd Montgomery of Toro.



KYLE DICKSON, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, won a graduate student James R. Watson Scholarship. At left is former SAFE chairman Boyd Montgomery of Toro.



ERIC REASOR won a SAFE Foundation graduate scholarship, presented to him here by Toro’s Boyd Montgomery.



GABRIEL MITCHELL, right, from San Diego State University won the The Terry Mellor Continuing Education Grant. Presenter is Boyd Montgomery of Toro.



The 2013 Fred Grau Scholarship winner was **CASEY GURAL** from Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown, NC. At left is presenter Boyd Montgomery of Toro.



TYLOR MEPPELINK, Michigan State, SAFE Scholarship winner on the right with former SAFE chairman Boyd Montgomery of Toro, left.



JACOB LEADBETTER, Penn State, SAFE Scholarship winner, right, with Toro’s Boyd Montgomery.



KEVIN HANSEN, Iowa State, SAFE Scholarship winner, right, with Boyd Montgomery, past chairman of the SAFE Foundation.



ANDREW WILHELM, Purdue University, SAFE Scholarship winner, right, with Boyd Montgomery of Toro presenting.



STMA PRESIDENT DR. MIKE GOATLEY poses with Student Challenge 4-year Division winners from the University of Maryland-Team 412. From left to right: Ryan Higgins, Justin Patenaude, Matt Park, and Scott Hosier. Their coach is Dr. Justin Mathias.



STMA PRESIDENT DR. MIKE GOATLEY poses with Student Challenge 2-year Division winners from Horry-Georgetown Technical College-Team 202. From left to right: Kyle Hamilton, Kevin Nason, Bradley Stokes, and Jay Richardson. Their coach is Ashley Wilkinson. The students also received coaching from adjunct faculty member Corey Russell, who is the sports turf manager for the Myrtle Beach Pelicans.

3rd place: Penn State University - Team 204

4-Year Division

1st place: University of Maryland - Team 412

2nd place: Penn State University - Team 407

3rd place: Virginia Tech University - Team 421

INNOVATION AWARD

The 2013 STMA Award for Commercial Innovation was presented by STMA Commercial Vice President Rene Asprion of Diamond Pro to Paul Carlson, president of Green Source, Inc., Plainfield, IL. Carlson said the winning product, called Sidekick, was designed as an attachment to sod installation machines so as not to require an additional machine on the job site. “We needed it to be powerful and compact, mobile, and easy to operate and not require an additional operator. We also needed it to not damage to the existing grade and more importantly, to the sod being installed,” Carlson said. “That meant it could not touch the grass. This was accomplished instead by using the ground force to keep the pushing edge completely square with the edge of the sod.”

Products entered are judged by the STMA Awards Committee to substantially enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of sports turf managers, and to make playing surfaces safer and more playable. ■

Award Winners



AMY FOUTY, CSFM, athletic turf manager, Michigan State, receives the Dick Ericson Award from last year’s winner, Darian Daily.



MICHAEL BOETTCHER, right, grounds manager for the Milwaukee Brewers, receives the George Toma “Golden Rake” Award from banquet emcee Tim Moore, CSFM.



ELIZABETH GUERTAL, PHD, right, Auburn University professor of turfgrass and nutrient management, receives the Dr. William H. Daniel Award from last year’s winner, Leah Brilman, PhD.



RICHARD MOFFITT, right, Moffitt & Associates, LLC, receives the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award from last year’s winner, Mike Andresen, CSFM.



RECENTLY RETIRED DAVE RULLI, shown here at an earlier awards banquet, was named one of two recipients of the President’s Award for Leadership.



STEVE WIGHTMAN, right, former turf manager for the San Diego Chargers, was honored with a President’s Award for Leadership by STMA President Dr. Mike Goatley.



PAUL CARLSON, left, president of Green Source, Inc., Plainfield, IL won the 2013 STMA Award for Commercial Innovation. The winning product is Sidekick, an attachment to sod installation machines that uses ground force to keep the pushing edge square with the edge of the sod.



CATHY BRADLEY, Executive Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund, has assumed leadership of the SAFE Foundation as its Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



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STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:
arizonastma@gmail.com

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: www.imstma.org.

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

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

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1 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
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pletely recovered by fall. Applying a single Celsius plus Revolver treatment in spring followed by a single Celsius plus Revolver treatment in the fall also did not provide acceptable long-term control of this weed. Two applications of Celsius plus Revolver in fall, two applications of Celsius plus Revolver in spring followed by two applications of Monument in the fall, or two spring applications of Monument in spring followed by two applications of Celsius plus Revolver in fall are all providing 80% or greater dallisgrass control going into winter, comparable to that seen with multiple applications of MSMA. Multiple fall applications of Tribute Total have injured dallisgrass, but have not provided acceptable long-term control. Injury to the

bermudagrass was noticeable but not unacceptable, especially at higher doses, for certain of the herbicides tested, and longer lasting in the fall.

We will be following these trials in the spring to determine if dallisgrass can outgrow the effects of these treatments. With the products available for dallisgrass suppression in bermudagrass, it appears that multiple spring and fall applications will be needed for acceptable dallisgrass control. Applications may need to be timed to spring when dallisgrass greens up and resumes growth in spring, as well as treatments in the fall to weaken the plant going into winter. Adjunct addition, including ammonium sulfate and methylated seed oil, may also be beneficial in these spray programs.

Those reports come from a few of my VT Turf Team colleagues. I encourage you to also get to know your state or regional college and university turf teams and familiarize yourself with the work that they are doing. You never know when a turf emergency might arise where you could use another set of eyes and ears to help you solve a problem. Your support of these programs makes you a part of the team and teamwork is always a key to success.

*Martin Kaufman, CSFM was to be the new STMA President but when he took a new position last year he was forced to resign per association bylaws so Dr. Goatley agreed to stay on the job through 2013. ■

Q&A



BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions?

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

Or, send your
question to
Grady Miller at
North Carolina State University,
Box 7620, Raleigh, NC
27695-7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu.

I've got questions, too

I ATTENDED THE STMA CONFERENCE THIS YEAR with a list of specific questions I wanted answered. But as usual I came away with a whole lot more from networking with speakers, sports turf managers, and exhibitors.

I've been having problems with summer patch on baseball fields that we have made over with a process of killing the existing grass, coring, topdressing, and planting the top varieties of low mow bluegrasses. We push the fields with 4-6 lbs N/1000 sq ft during the first year of grow in and mow at 0.5 to 0.75 inches. The fields make an amazing playing surface; pro quality at the high school level and everyone is really pleased.

The problem is that we are being inundated with summer patch even in the first summer season after fall planting. Dr. Mike Fidanza's disease management workshop provided answers to managing this disease along with a host of tips for battling other common sports turf diseases. The high 8.0 pH sand we use combined with a low mowing height favors the disease, but most sands in Iowa have a high pH and the low mowing height is needed for the playing quality and ball roll we wanted to achieve. Based on his recommendation we will switch to acidulating fertilizers like ammonium sulfate to help lower the pH in the surface layers where this soil-borne fungus attacks crowns, surface roots, and rhizomes.

The frog-eye patches are most noticeable June thru September but the fungus actually grows undetected in May before it begins to show in hand-sized wilted patches of sunken turf. Fungicides applied after the frog-eye patches have formed are less effective so fungicide applications need to go out

before you see severe symptoms. Since we are seeing patches in late May/early June Dr. Fidanza recommends making preventative fungicide applications April 15 and again on May 15 when the undetected fungus is first starting to become infective. A third application may be applied in mid-June if needed.

The Clean Water Act of 1972 is finding its way into P restrictions for turf and landscape applications in some states and it is likely that this will eventually impact all states.

Since these high profile fields are starting to host district play-offs in late July we will likely make the third fungicide application. He also strongly recommended to solid tine/needle tine/core the area before applying fungicide. Apply the product in 2 gallons of water-carrier per 1,000 sq ft and then immediately water in the fungicide with several turns of the irrigation heads to get the material off the turf canopy and into the upper rootzone, where the fungus is most active; get that upper soil rootzone wet.

Dr. Fidanza also presented research showing the benefits of selecting the right nozzle types for improved disease control. To further get the fungicide dispersed into the surface he suggested a wetting agent like Revolution applied at 6 fl oz per 1000 sq ft. The DMI fungicides like Banner and Bayleton are good choices and they also have a plant growth regulator effect

that reduces mowing. For one of my fields where equipment limitations require only granular application I use a QoI type fungicide such as Heritage G or Pillar G with the same emphasis on punching holes in the surface and watering in the product.

Another question I wanted answered involves phosphorus fertilizer applications. Most of you are aware that farmers and landscapers are trying to do their part to keep P out of water. The Clean Water Act of 1972 is finding its way into P restrictions for turf and landscape applications in some states and it is likely that this will eventually impact all states.

Most states that completely restrict P usually give an exception when soil tests show a need for P or without a soil test when areas are newly seeded because of the past research that shows benefit from P application during seedling establishment. Dr. Beth Guertal gave an excellent presentation on the proper use of phosphorus in turf but there remains a question about what is the soil test level where no more P application is needed for enhance seedling growth. Sports turf managers are constantly overseeding worn areas; should P be applied to these areas even if a soil test of 20 ppm is already in the very high category? Perhaps Dr. Guertal will have that sorted out by the time we meet next year.

If you didn't make it to the conference this year you can check out some of the online presentations at STMA.org. The ability to quickly assess information today is remarkable, but for me there is nothing like being able to have your specific questions answered and discussed with the leading experts in our field today. See you January 20-24, 2014 in San Antonio, TX for next year's conference. ■



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