

new jersey turfgrass association

Green
& World

clippings



Winter 2007 | VOL 65

Expo 2006...it's a celebration!

Growing Together...



Inside this issue:

❖ **Expo 2006 Pictorial Review**

❖ **2006 NJTA Award Recipients**

❖ **Rutgers Golf Classic Registration**



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President's Message

By Chris Carson, NJTA President



Chris Carson
NJTA President

CHANGES...WE'VE MADE CHANGES!

Recently, I've been telling you about some of the initiatives we've taken to improve NJTA. I'd like to tell you about some of the important changes we've made at Expo 2006, and to report on our success.

In response to multiple requests from our loyal trade show partners, we compressed the tradeshow hours from three days to two. We felt our vendors' costs would be reduced – as well as their time away from home and family - if we made the show Wednesday night and Thursday morning only, and

I am delighted to report that we have received almost universal support and acclaim for this change. Expo has been tightened, and the result has made for a better show with happier tradeshow partners. In addition to a ten percent increase in our tradeshow, attendance at our always popular education sessions was up as well!

This year, we welcomed our new presenting partner, the NJ Landscape Contractors Association to Expo. Though we experienced some growing pains, both organizations are pleased with our first effort. In fact, we are in the middle of planning for next December's event. I know this new partnership will result in continuing improvement, and also in a more diverse tradeshow floor.

Executive Director Michelle Rickard announced her resignation at Expo; she's moved back to Colorado for family reasons. I'm happy to report that she has agreed to stay on during our transition period, and will continue to do her duties remotely until our new Executive Director is hired. She continues to work tirelessly on her many duties, and I'd like to let all members know that her hard work and strategic guidance has made NJTA a better organization. We accepted her resignation with deep regret. Thanks, Michelle, for all you've done for NJTA. You will be sorely missed.

A number of our vendor partners have continued to support our association and our mission. I thank **Ken Kubik of Grass Roots** for hosting a great 'meet and greet' cocktail party on Tuesday night at Expo; **Rob Finnesey from Tree Tech**, **Chris Walick from Course Contractors Inc.** and **Jim Pelrine from Wilfred MacDonald** for sponsoring education sessions; **Mary Lou DesChamps and Storr Tractor** for providing Wednesday's lunch for all attendees; and **Lee Kozsey from Syngenta** for supporting the grand opening of the tradeshow. Without the loyal support of these folks, and from all other contributors as well, the show would not be the success it is. I thank you all most sincerely.

Your NJTA Board is working hard to shape our future, and to that end we just completed our third annual strategic planning meeting. From these meetings has come a focused vision of our mission and our methods for

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Green World

The Prospects of Using Mating
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Oriental Beetle 21

Cover Photo Courtesy of Jerry Schoonmaker.



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Clippings | Winter 2007

Signing Off...

By Michelle Rickard, NJTA Executive Director

There comes a time in every person's life when they are faced with a difficult decision. Last year, due to family medical reasons, I decided to return home to Colorado. It was difficult, because I have truly enjoyed my time here at NJTA. I have enjoyed working with the members, vendors, Rutgers faculty and staff, and especially my Board of Directors.

I have written in past issues of Clippings how NJTA is like a family, and indeed it is to me. Together, we have experienced the growing pains of bringing this association into a new era. Your Board of Directors, both old and new, has worked tirelessly to get our finances in order, to increase membership and awareness of the association, to improve our communications through our newsletter and website, and to enhance our annual events like Expo, Field Day and the Golf Classic. Together we have accomplished many of our goals. The bottom line is we have worked to make this a better association for you, our valued member.

Making NJTA a better association is truly a labor of love for those involved. Over the last two years, NJTA has experienced tremendous growth. We have increased our membership by 20%, we have improved our communications and we continue to find ways to partner with other industry groups to help strengthen the Turfgrass

Industry in New Jersey. Each Director and volunteer gives countless hours to make the growth and improvement of NJTA possible.

I have made many friends here, and some will remain lifelong friends. When you consider ways to get involved in your industry, I hope you will give consideration to volunteering for NJTA. There are many opportunities available from serving as a Director to working on a committee. Each position within NJTA is critical to our success. By volunteering, you will meet new people within your industry and make a few friends along the way. We welcome the opportunity to work with you as we continue to grow.

Although my successor has not been chosen at this time, I am confident the search committee will find the perfect person to continue to usher NJTA to new heights. This is a tremendous association with quality people behind the wheel. I wish NJTA and its new Executive Director the best of luck on this new journey.

I want to thank my NJTA family for your friendship and support along the way. I will miss you!



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Award SPOTLIGHT!

NJTA Hall of Fame Winner - John P. Morrissey

By Mary Beth Ruh, F.M. Browns' Sons, NJTA Member



John P. Morrissey

John Morrissey worked for one company - Lofts Seed then in Bound Brook, NJ for his entire career. He started as a young man in sales and is a walking encyclopedia on the roots of the seed industry. Always a hard working and dedicated professional, he worked his way into being the Vice President of the company.

During his years at Lofts, he was very active in the

whom were family businesses, he connected with (then) young sod growers, landscapers, lawn care professionals and garden center operators. Those folks have also worked their way into key positions in their industries.

Now retired, John keeps in frequent contact with many, many people in the industry, always hungry for news and updates. He cares deeply about the people that he interacted with over the course of his career, and continues to offer support, advice, consolation, encouragement - whatever is needed. Let's hope that there are more like him out there now working with the young people of our industry, but those shoes would be hard to fill as they were apparently custom made! ■

NJ Sod Growers Association and the Atlantic Seed Association (he was a past-president, was honored with Seedsman of the Year and was presented with a life-time membership).

But, John's true impact on the industry was unique and enormous, in his own way. You see, John was a devoted mentor to young ambitious people entering the industry. He did not limit his influence to those at Lofts. He was supportive, instructive, and a voice of confidence and encouragement (and correction, when needed) to so many people, who are now scattered throughout the industry, many of whom are in key positions at numerous companies. His ethics and professional mannerisms made him an inspiration to those learning the trade, and honored him with the respect of his competitors.

John also reached out to young people beyond the seed industry. As he interacted with customers, many of

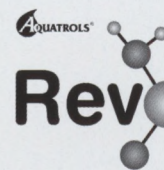


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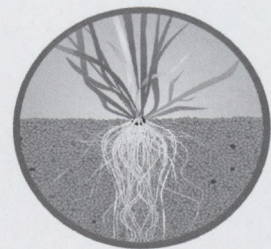
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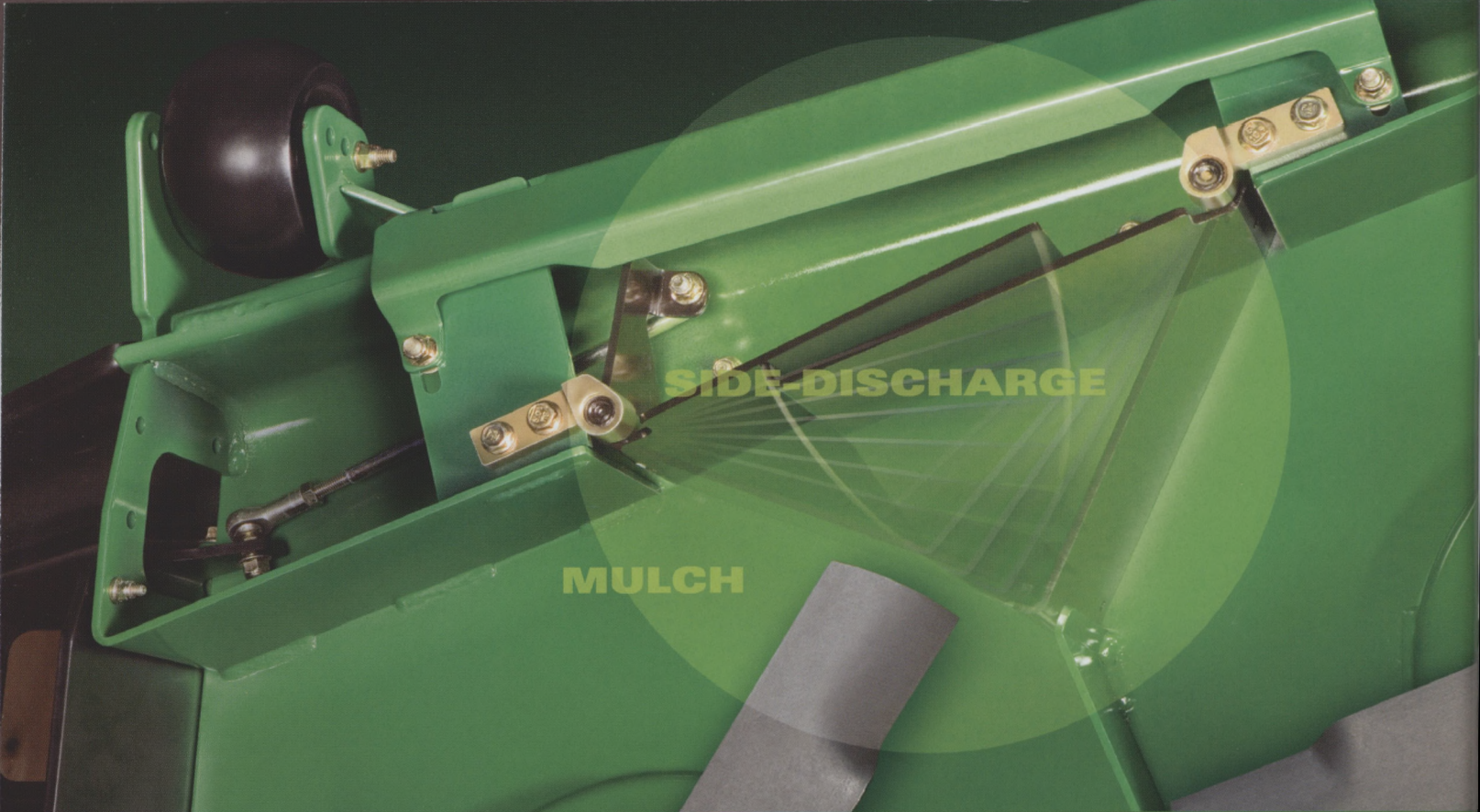


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Award **SPOTLIGHT!**

NJTA Member of the Year - Barbara Vydro

By Michelle Rickard, NJTA Executive Director



Barbara Vydro

It wasn't easy to keep the secret from Barbara Vydro that she had been nominated for the NJTA Member of the Year Award. After all, she is so involved with NJTA that it's hard to get anything past her. When it came time to send the ballot to the Board for this year's nominee selection she was shocked and thrilled to see her name on the list of potential NJTA members who are deserving of this award.

And, this wouldn't be the last

time she would shed a tear over this honor.

On December 6, 2006, NJTA Treasurer Barbara Vydro sat

in the Grand Ballroom of the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City with her family. Her husband Stan, daughter Carolee, son-in-law Dave, and grandson Bren were all in attendance as she graciously, and yes, tearfully accepted the NJTA Member of the Year Award.

The Member of the Year Award is presented annually to a member who has exhibited exemplary behavior and dedication in support of the goals and objectives of the Association. Although this is a new award, it is perhaps one of our most significant. It gives NJTA the ability to spotlight an individual whose efforts have made a tremendous impact to improving our association. Barbara is truly deserving of this award.

Upon accepting her position as NJTA Treasurer, Barbara immediately began to make changes. She is responsible

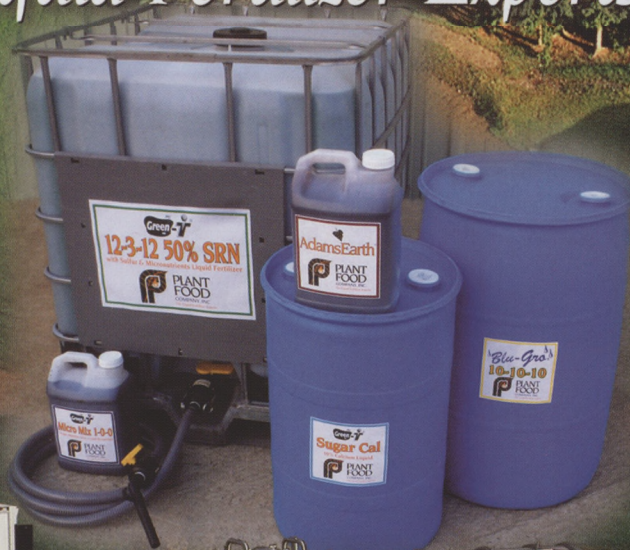
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Getting to Know New Board Member Rick Krok

By Richard Krok, NJTA Board Member



Richard Krok

I have been involved in the Turfgrass business now for about 23 years. My first job was at Fiddler's Elbow G.C. in Bedminster, NJ, working for David McGhee in 1984 as a summer job. Soon after, I transferred to Cook College and received my Plant Science degree while working full-time and eventually moving up to Assistant Superintendent at Fiddler's Elbow G.C. I even attended Turfgrass management with Dr. Karen Plumley in 1990. In 1995, I went to work for Bob Dwyer at Somerset Hills C.C. in Bernardsville, NJ as Assistant Superintendent and met my wife, Denise soon after. She would help at times changing cups on the weekend. In 1997, I was hired as Golf Course Superintendent at Pebble Creek G.C. in Colts Neck, NJ, in which I worked very closely with Dave Pease from

Monmouth County Parks during my tenure at Pebble Creek G.C.

In April of 2000, Ms. Mary Lou Des Champs hired me as Golf Irrigation Salesman for Storr Tractor Company. Presently, I cover Central and Northern NJ, Lower Hudson Valley for Toro, Flowtronex and other Allied Irrigation products. Since working at Storr Tractor Company, my son, Richard was born in 2001 and my twin daughters, Jessica and Jennifer were born in 2002.

It wasn't until last year when Dr. Bruce Clarke called looking to upgrade the irrigation at the research plots at Hort. Farm II that I realized I could do more for Rutgers University. Through the Toro Foundation, I was able to get approximately \$100,000 of irrigation equipment at no charge to help out Bill Dickson, TJ Lawson and Joe Clark at the Turf Farm. While at Field Day this past year a current NJTA board member (Keith Kubik) suggested I get on the Board and help out even more with the NJTA

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In Loving Memory...James C. McCormick

By Gary E. Nokes, *Bey Lea Municipal Golf Course, NJTA Member*

I regret to inform you that a Charter Member of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, James C. McCormick passed away on Tuesday, January 30, 2007 in a nursing home in Key West, Florida. Jim was the first Superintendent of Bey Lea Municipal Golf Course, hired by Dover Township in 1967, overseeing the construction phase and "growing in" of the course. The golf course opened for play on September 19, 1969.

The following year he became one of the original charter members of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association in 1970. Jim was very involved with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, NJ Golf Course Superintendents Association as well as the National Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Jim participated in many New Jersey Turfgrass Association events throughout his years as Superintendent.

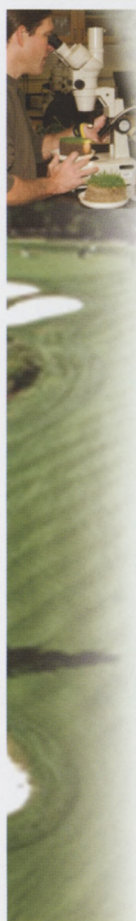
Jim worked closely with Dr. Henry Indyk participating in a turfgrass trial incorporating some of the first available Manhattan perennial ryegrass in the 18th fairway at Bey

Lea. Jim was known as a hard working, dedicated man who applied his years of farming and machinist skills to his passion of fine turfgrass maintenance. Jim was known for his woodcarving skills and the restoration of his many antique motorcycles and high wheeled bicycles.

Jim remained Superintendent at Bey Lea until his retirement in 1979 where he retired to Big Pine Key Florida. Jim (who later became my father-in-law) was a great influence to me in life. I decided to work the summer at Bey Lea, fell in love (not only with his daughter) but fell in love with the golf course and turf industry working under Jim's direction on the maintenance crew.

Jim taught me so much over the years, cultivating my love of the course. Jim encouraged me to become involved, and I began attending the NJTA Expo (in Cherry Hill). I obtained my pesticide licenses and became foreman in 1977 and then Superintendent upon his retirement. Jim introduced me to a friend who worked at Rutgers, Dr. Ralph

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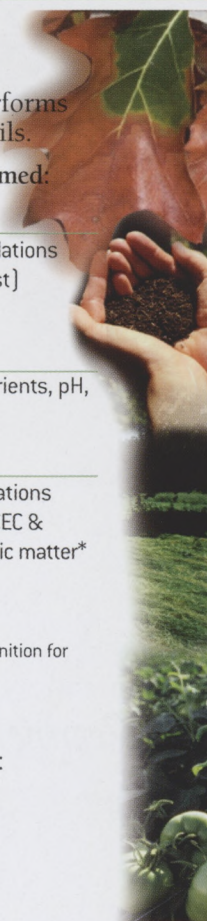
Saturated (Organic) Media Extract Analysis: Nutrients, pH, electrical conductivity, inorganic nitrogen

Sport Turf

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- Level 3** Sand Root Zone Test

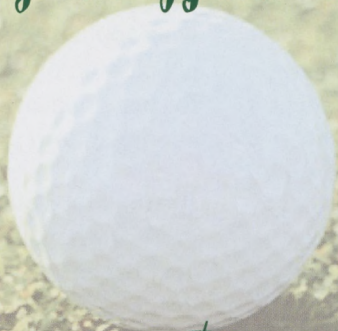
*Organic matter content would be determined by loss-on-ignition for golf course greens, as described by USGA guidelines.

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...The Event...

The Rutgers Turfgrass Research Golf Classic was established in order to provide an annual fundraiser for the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation. The Foundation is a non-profit organization which may accept and manage tax-deductible monetary donations and the proceeds from events such as this golf classic.

The interest generated from the investment of these funds will be used for Research Grants, Scholarships, Equipment, Supplies, and Facilities to support Turfgrass Research and Education at Cook College/Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

The New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation and the University represent a formidable alliance in support of the Turfgrass Industry in the State of New Jersey and across the country.

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Growing Together...



NJLCA President Brian Pheifer and NJTA President Chris Carson cut the ribbon at the Trade Show Grand Opening sponsored by Syngenta. (Photo Courtesy of Shaun Barry.)



Chris Carson congratulates Member of the Year Award winner Barbara Vydro. (Photo Courtesy of Jerry Schoonmaker.)



Expo General Chairman Bob Dickison (left) takes time out of his hectic schedule to say hello to old friends (from left) Steve Chirip, Sam Leon, and Joe Bianco. (Photo Courtesy of Shaun Barry.)



Chris Carson greets long-time NJTA supporters and friends, Rob and Robin Finnesey of Tree Tech, Inc. (Photo Courtesy of Shaun Barry.)



**New Jersey
Turfgrass
Association**

Background Photo Courtesy of Shaun Barry.

Photos on Opposite Page Courtesy of Jerry Schoonmaker.



Dean Robert Goodman welcomes Expo attendees at the General Session.



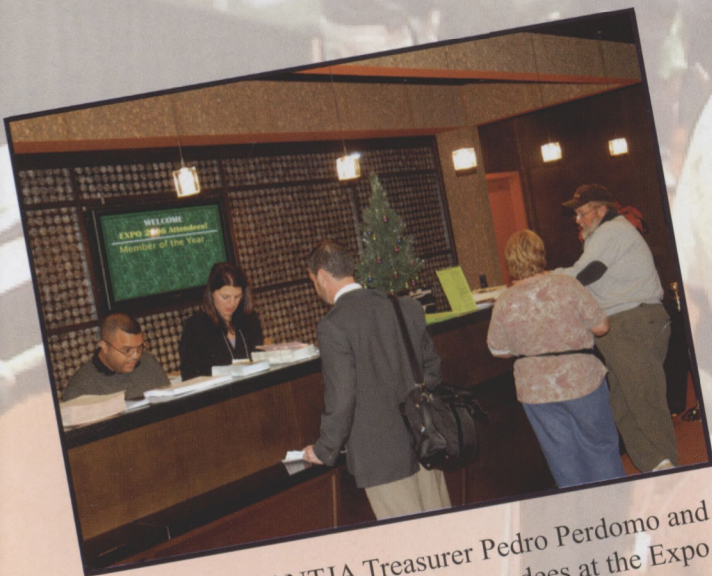
Dr. Bruce Clarke presents the New Jersey Turfgrass Economic Impact Study during the General Session.



Attendees participate in the General Session.



Expo attendees enjoy the lunch sponsored by Storr Tractor Company.



Newly elected NTJA Treasurer Pedro Perdomo and volunteer Joann Chirip greet attendees at the Expo registration desk.



NJTA Board Member Brian Feldman assists with certification credits after the General Session.

Expo 2006!

Highest Honors...



NJTA Hall of Fame Winner John P. Morrissey graciously accepts his award.



NJTA President Chris Carson presents Darrell Marcinek of the Somerset County Park Commission with the NJTA Recognition Award.



Chris Carson accepts the Environmental Stewardship Award on behalf of the Tri-State Research Foundation.



NJTA Member of the Year Award winner Barbara Vydro (second from right) sits with her family during the General Session.

A Special Thank You to Our 2006 Expo Sponsors

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Wilfred MacDonald

NJTA Environmental Stewardship Award

By Chris Carson, NJTA President

At Expo 2006, the Tri-State Turf Research Foundation was honored with one of NJTA's highest honors: The Environmental Stewardship Award. Presented to a person or organization that best exemplifies high environmental awareness while promoting the turfgrass industry, this honor has previously been given to a number of nationally known recipients.

Tri-State began as a joint effort of area golf course superintendent organizations in 1988. Rallying around the need for answers on a then unknown disease called summer patch, the group funded the groundbreaking research at Rutgers that quickly (within two years) identified the causal agent and methods of control. This rapid response to a serious local problem enabled golf course superintendents to apply appropriate control measures at proper rates, resulting in control and a dramatic decline in pesticide usage: by understanding the pathogen, superintendents were able to stop 'shotgun' spraying with everything in their arsenal, and utilize only effective materials. This one piece of research saved many jobs, a great deal of money, and –in the context of this award- greatly reduced the amount of pesticide inputs into our environment.

Organized under the auspices of the Metropolitan Golf Association's Green Committee, Tri-State has gone on to identify and fund research on many other local problems. Anthracnose, earthworms, grubs, nematodes, green soil structure, moss, and a wide variety of other important problems have been looked at, and a wealth of information on these concerns has been developed. And this information has not given us just the most effective spray protocols; it has focused on cultural methods to prevent pest onset as well.

The Tri-State is funded by area clubs, by local superintendent associations, and by committed commercial companies. More than \$400,000 has been directed to local universities since its inception, and it has also grown an endowment to more than \$250,000. This endowment will, in due course, serve to further finance issues of local concern.

The Tri-State Turf Research Foundation has helped golf course superintendents do their job efficiently and with better environmental understanding, and is a most deserving recipient of NJTA's Environmental Stewardship Award. ■

NJTA Congratulates Our Award Winners!

~Hall of Fame~

John P. Morrissey

~Member of the Year~

Barbara Vydro

~Environmental Stewardship~

Tri-State Turf Research Foundation

~Recognition Award~

Somerset County Park Commission

NJTA Recognition Award

By Shaun Barry, NJTA Board Member

The NJTA Recognition Award is given to the candidate who demonstrates an "outstanding effort and accomplishment in pursuit of better turf thereby contributing to the beautification of facilities, a greener world and a more attractive environment." This can go to an individual, a club, an association, a business or an organization. In 2006, Somerset County Park Commission received the award. Their vision is a commitment to excellence in promoting stewardship of land and resources providing outstanding recreation opportunities and leisure services while fostering an environment which is service oriented and responsive to public needs.

The Park System has over 10,000 acres of open space with a goal of a 20,500 acre network of parks and open spaces. In addition to their beautiful parks, they maintain 5 golf courses. These facilities are superbly kept and are a challenge to every level of golfer. Neshanic Valley Golf Course is their newest facility. This 27-hole course is a destination for private and public golfers, because of its design and especially because of its condition. It continues a 50-year tradition and is one of the many reasons they were awarded the 2006 Recognition Award. ■

College Students Career Opportunity at “Landscape Olympics”

Released by Professional Landcare Network
HERNDON, VA, January 31, 2007

They climb trees in record time, build patios brick-by-brick, dig ditches, identify dozens of horticulture specimens and safely maneuver dangerous machinery through a course while facing fierce competition. All of this to prove they are the best and brightest in their field and to gain scholarships and recognition from some of the country's top landscape, lawn care, interiorscape, and tree care firms and related companies.

This is the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET) Student Career Days held each year at a different college or university across the country. Now, in its 31st year, the event is steadily growing and expects nearly 900 college students from more than 53 schools to participate at Michigan State University, from March 29–April 1, 2007.

The excitement gets underway rain or shine and includes 24 individual and team competitive events. Events range from personnel management, sales presentation, and exterior/interior design to irrigation troubleshooting, wood construction, equipment operation, patio installation, tree climbing, and more.

The competitions not only provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their skills, they also validate what the students have learned in school. Fellow students crowd the events to cheer on their classmates.

PLANET Student Career Days also draws the largest national gathering of landscape, lawn care, and interiorscape employment recruiters. Students are serious about this competition and many give up their spring break to participate. This is the best resource for qualified employees in the green industry. A career fair that takes place during the event offers students the opportunity to interview with green industry companies for full-time positions and internships.

For additional information on PLANET's Student Career Days, visit the Web site at www.StudentCareerDays.org. ■

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Member of the Year - continued from page 7

for cleaning up the association's record keeping and straightening out the NJTA books. This was no easy feat, but Barbara trudged forward and created a system which allows NJTA to keep accurate records, to provide a history of our financial transactions, and to monitor the solvency of our association. Without her hard work and dedication, NJTA would not be the solid association we are today.

Barbara began her career as Executive Secretary to the 1st Vice President of Lehn & Fink in New York who ran Lysol and two additional cosmetic companies. After her work with Lehn & Fink, she became a stay at home mom raising her daughter. In 1972, she was, in her words, "pushed into" being the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for Bloomfield Cemetery Company. In 1980, she again was "pushed into" Superintendent (as well as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer) of Bloomfield Cemetery on a temporary basis. This temporary position lasted 24 years.

Barbara was elected a Director of the New Jersey Cemetery Association in 1988 and was Secretary from 1991 - 2001. She joined the New Jersey Turfgrass Association in the mid-1980's. Later, she was asked to fill the six-month unexpired term of the late Bruce Nagy in 1997. Then in December of '97, she was elected to the Board of Directors for the next 9 years. In 2001, Barbara accepted the role of Treasurer. Without knowing, that's when Barbara began her journey toward becoming only the second Member of the Year in NJTA history. Congratulations and thank you, Barbara! ■

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Welcome New Members!

Do You Find the new New Jersey Sales Tax Laws Confusing?

By Thom Ritchie, NJTA Board Member

Well, you are not alone if you do. The New Jersey Division of Taxation cannot agree on how to interpret all of the details of the new sales tax laws. Do not count on your accountant knowing all the correct answers if the Division of Taxation is not sure.

A publication, 'Informational Guide on Landscaping Services and New Jersey Sales Tax' by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture with assistance from the New Jersey Nursery and Landscape Association, is getting a technical review by New Jersey Division of Taxation. This has been distributed at some recent seminars and presented by Robert Bruch from the NJ Department of Agriculture. He can be reached at (609) 984-2503 or e-mail at Robert.Brch@ag.state.nj.us.

NJTA will do our best to keep our members informed as the water clears and there is a better understanding of the gray areas in this new law.

For more information on landscapers and New Jersey sales tax, contact the Division's Consumer Service Center at (609) 292-6400, e-mail at: nj.taxation@treas.state.nj.us. There are many state tax forms and publications available by fax or on their web site. Call NJ TaxFax at (609) 826-4500 from your fax machine's phone, or access the Division's home page at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation.

When we get updated information we will put it on our web site, so keep checking www.njturfgrass.org. ■

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Green World

► The Prospects of Using Mating Disruption for Management of the Oriental Beetle

Applied Turfgrass Research from Rutgers, the State University, and the New Jersey Turfgrass Association

Editor's Note:

Each year, NJTA and the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation work to raise funds for Rutgers University. These funds are used to provide scholarships for students interested in pursuing careers within the green industry and to help fund the many research projects that are conducted at Rutgers.

Significance and Biology of the Oriental Beetle



Fig. 1. Male oriental beetle screening the air for sex pheromone.

A complex of white grubs species are the most widespread and destructive pest of cool-season turfgrasses in the Northeast. In New Jersey, southeastern New York, Connecticut, and Rhode Island the oriental beetle (OB) has become the most important white grub species in turfgrass. In surveys conducted in 2001 and 2002, 61% of the white grubs found were OB followed by 15% Asiatic garden beetle and 12%

Japanese beetle. The OB has been erroneously considered a relatively minor pest until recently, because adults are cryptic and largely go unnoticed and the larvae of the Japanese beetle and OB are indistinguishable without magnification. The OB is also the major white grub species in ornamental nurseries and blueberries. An increase in OB significance can be expected in other areas where it is already established, i.e., all of coastal New England and Middle Atlantic states as well as Ohio, Virginia, the Carolinas, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

The OB has a 1-year life cycle similar to that of other white grub species. At the latitude of New Jersey, OB flight occurs from early June through early August with

peak flight activity typically in late June/early July. The adult beetles only live for about 2 wk and do not cause significant damage. After mating, the females lay eggs among the roots of host plants, and the eggs hatch in 2-3 wk. The first and second larval stage each last around 3 wk so that by mid-September the majority of the larvae are in the third stage. After overwintering below the frost line, the grubs resume feeding until pupation in late spring. OB larvae cause damage similar to that caused by other white grub species.

OB Mating behavior and principles of mating disruption As in all scarab beetle and most insects, female OB release a sex pheromone to attract males for mating. The pheromone is distributed downwind in a plume and picked up by males sitting around in the vegetation (Fig. 1). The males respond with a combination of flying upwind and walking short distances into the plume. Sex pheromone-mediated mate finding and copulation of OB occur at or near the soil surface. Both sexes are most active between 6 and 10 pm, but males are responsive to the pheromone at any time. The OB sex pheromone consists of a 9:1 blend of the (Z) and (E) isomers of 7-tetradecen-2-one.

Mating disruption with sex pheromones is widely used as an environmentally safe, non-toxic alternative to broad-spectrum insecticides for several moth species, mostly in orchard systems (Cardé and Minks 1995). In mating disruption the environment in which the sexes normally mate is saturated with synthetic sex pheromone with the result that female location by males is drastically reduced. Mechanisms involved in mating disruption can be (1) imbalance of sensory inputs in the males, (2) sensory habituation in the males, (3) camouflage of the females against the pheromone-saturated background, and (4) false-plume following (i.e., waste of time and energy) by the males. Which mechanism exactly may work in the OB still needs to be determined.

Sex pheromones of scarab beetles have been used for monitoring purposes, but only recently has mating

► by Albrecht M. Koppenhöfer, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Turfgrass Entomology

Green World



Applied Turfgrass Research from Rutgers, the State University, and the New Jersey Turfgrass Association

disruption technology been considered as a possibility for management of white grubs. Studies at Rutgers University have shown the feasibility of mating disruption in OB in large-scale field experiments in blueberries and ornamental nurseries with a microencapsulated sprayable formulation of its sex pheromone, and more recently also with point-source dispensers.

Microencapsulated Sprayable Formulations for OB Mating Disruption in Turfgrass

We conducted field trials with sprayable microencapsulated formulations of the OB sex pheromone from 2002 to 2004. Two methods were used to determine the effect of treatments on the mating success of OB. The first method measured the ability of OB males to locate a pheromone source similar to a female by determining the number of OB males captured in traps lured with the pheromone (Fig. 2). Trapping was also used to monitor OB male flight and optimize the application timing. Traps were first placed in early June of each year and emptied every 3 – 4 days until beetle flight was very low. The second method estimated OB larval densities during September following the applications by taking soil/sod cores (4.25" diam × 4" depth) in a grid pattern at least 50 feet inside from the plot's border.

Field plots were situated in large lawn areas and in golf course rough areas (typically between tee and fairway) in Monmouth County, NJ. The plots measured between 0.8 and 1.4 acre in size and were separated from other plots by a minimum of 300 feet. The treatment plots were broadcast sprayed once or twice with microencapsulated OB sex pheromone. The first spray was applied about 10 days after the first OB males were captured in traps. Where applicable, a second spray was applied about 14 days after the first spray. The control plots were not sprayed. All plots received ¼" overhead irrigation after treatment. Treatments consisted of different rates of sex pheromone (0.2 to 1 oz ai per acre).

OB larval densities in spring and OB male trap captures before treatment did not differ significantly between

plots designated for the controls and treatments in any experiment. Larval populations at the time of evaluation in September consisted of 65 – 95% OB, the remainder typically being larvae of Japanese beetle, Asiatic garden beetle, and/or northern masked chafer. The experiments showed that there was no significant effect of pheromone rate and that the sprayable formulation only provided about 2 weeks protection, thus making two applications necessary. With two seasonal applications, male OB trap captures were reduced by 87 – 88% and OB larval densities in September were reduced by 68 – 74%.



Fig. 2. Sex pheromone-lured trap used for monitoring oriental beetle flight.

In additional experiments, we showed that about ¼" post-treatment irrigation (as done in the above experiments) was necessary to optimize pheromone persistence. Other experiments and personal observations showed that shoes walked through the pheromone treated areas within a few days of treatment became contaminated with the pheromone. Such contaminated shoes attracted significant numbers of OB males outside treated areas.

Overall the experiments with the sprayable pheromone formulations showed the feasibility of OB mating disruption in turfgrass. It is likely that a third seasonal application would have further reduced OB larval populations, maybe to levels comparable to that by insecticides such

Continued on page 22

Presidents Message - continued from page 3

success. I'm sure you've noticed the changes: improved website and newsletter, new strategic partnerships, an upgraded vision of our future, and many more large and small improvements have been accomplished or are in the works.

For all of the Board, I wish for you a great and prosperous season, and keep an eye out for more positive changes at NJTA. ■

Oriental Beetle - continued from page 21

as imidacloprid (Merit). However, the need for multiple applications per flight period and the potential liability due to pheromone contamination of shoes suggested that formulations needed to be developed that overcome these limitations before mating disruption can compete with chemical insecticides on the turf market.

Dispersible Formulations for OB Mating Disruption in Turfgrass

During 2005 on small scale plots and 2006 on large scale plots (~1 acre) we have tested different types of dispersible formulations of the OB sex pheromone produced by two companies and collaborators from USDA-ARS. Formulation consisted of small pellets that were uniformly applied like a granular fertilizer or of larger pellets that were applied in a grid pattern (~10 feet x 10 feet). No post-treatment irrigation was necessary. Our experiments suggest that both formulation types are sufficiently persistent for OB management with a single seasonal application of 0.35 oz or less pheromone per acre. Pheromone contamination of shoes also does not seem to be an issue with these formulations.

Prospects of Mating Disruption in Turfgrass

Before we can draw strong conclusion on the future of OB mating disruption using dispersible formulations, at least one more season of trials will be necessary to optimize this technology. Since white grub species other than OB are often present in NJ turfgrass areas, the efficacy of the mating disruption should be above 90%. Since food resources are unlikely to be a limiting factor for white grubs in turfgrass areas, selective suppression of the OB will not increase the densities of other white grub species. The cost of mating disruption, once the pheromone would be produced in large quantities should be considerably lower than that of Merit and similar insecticides. Mating disruption can be an effective, safe, environmentally and economically sound, easily implementable, durable, and highly IPM compatible option for OB management in turfgrass, and could also be developed for other white grubs species. ■

Richard Krok - continued from page 8

and Rutgers University. After speaking to Chris Carson and Bob Dickison, it was great to know that I had an opportunity to give back to Rutgers University where I began my Turfgrass career.

It was an honor to be asked by my colleagues to serve on the NJTA Board. I will do my best to further the goals of NJTA and Rutgers University in the future. ■

James C. McCormick - continued from page 9

Engle (who later became not only a mentor but also a great friend). I attended the Fine Turfgrass Management course at Rutgers in 1983 & 1984 working at the golf course for almost 35 years where I still remain Superintendent.

Whether it was the restoration of a 1914 Evans motorcycle, maintenance of an 18-hole golf course, or a bill fishing trip in the Keys, Jim always gave 150%. Jim died peacefully after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. He touched and impacted so many lives during his 85 years and is deeply missed by his family and friends. ■

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Visit www.njlca.org for more information

March 5-8 **NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE & SHOW**

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May 7 **12TH ANNUAL RUTGERS TURFGRASS RESEARCH GOLF CLASSIC**

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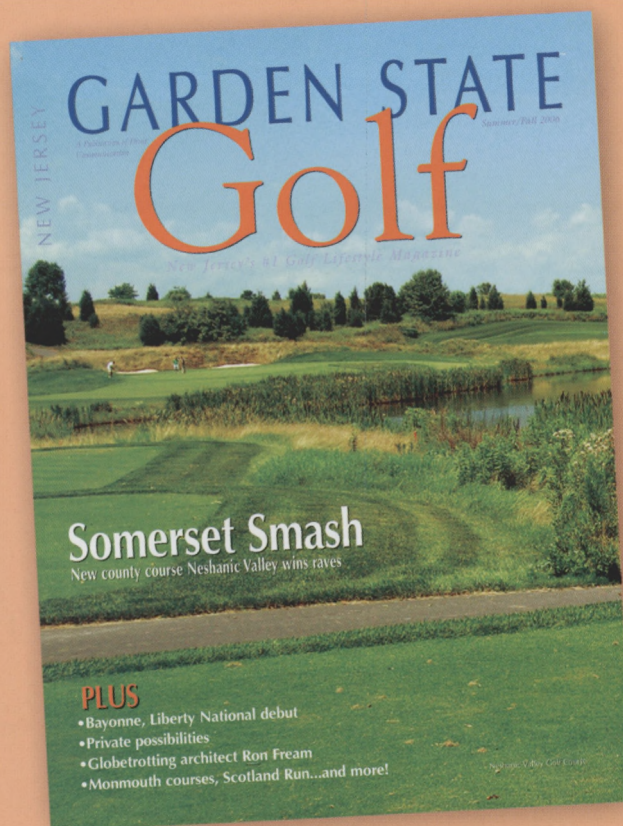
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