

# clippings

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# President's Message: Dennis DeSanctis Jr.

*Dennis DeSanctis, Jr.  
NJTA President*



As I enter the last few months of my two-year Presidency and write this final President's Message, I am reflecting about my efforts and the efforts of the team of Board members around me. We have had many accomplishments over the past two years. But first I must extend a special thanks to you - our members. Your continuing and unwavering support is paramount to our Association, our Industry, and The Center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers University.

As an Association we've come a long way in just two years:

- Board member rotation has brought new life to our team of professionals as six new Board members have joined within the past two years. This Board rotation is healthy and I am very thankful for and humbled by their willingness to help and their passion for our association.
- We have improved and modernized our Association branding with a new NJTA logo, a new Field Day logo, and an improved Clippings newsletter design.
- We have become more active on the social media sites Twitter and Facebook.
- We have created more roles and committees for our Board members, such as the Silent Auction committee. Their results have set records two years in a row! There is also a Social Media Chair, Clippings Chair, and new energy and ideas within the Allied Association Committee and the Membership Committee.
- We have updated and renewed our Executive Director's management contract for clarity and accountability to the Association.
- We are in the process of building an Association Share Drive for keeping all of our records organized and easily accessible. This will be completed over the next few months and should prove to be a very valuable tool for our Association Board.
- Our Association and Foundation have continued to use our income to financially support many recent initiatives outside of scholarships and endowments.

[www.njturfgrass.org](http://www.njturfgrass.org)

Some examples of our support include: new technologies in the Geiger Building (live video conferencing), the upcoming NJ Turfgrass Economic Survey, the Steve Hart Pavilion at the Adelphia Research Farm, the International Turf Conference, Rutgers Turf Club to travel to industry conferences, and many more worthy initiatives related to The Center for Turfgrass Science at Rutgers University.

- Our Foundation, led by Matt Sweatlock, worked hard to find a financial management firm for our corpus, which is now being professionally managed to its full potential.

I leave this Presidency in December knowing that it is in the good hands of our Executive Directors and Committee Chairs, who are second to none in their dedication to NJTA and to you, our members. But at the same time I am excited to remain serving on the Board as Past-President and hopeful to be voted in as Foundation President. Giving back to our great industry is something my father instilled in me at a young age, and I hope that I am able to continue to do so.

Can't wait to see you all at the Borgata in Atlantic City this December!

**Dennis DeSanctis, Jr.**  
Dennis DeSanctis, Jr.  
NJTA President



***Thanks for all you do  
to make our industry better.  
Thanks for your membership  
in NJTA. It is truly appreciated.***



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UPDATE YOUR MEMBER  
INFORMATION at  
[www.njturfgrass.org](http://www.njturfgrass.org)

*Sign in with your email and create a password.  
Check out the Member Directory.*

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## How Many Members Do You Know?

by Cece Peabody, MAT, CMP,  
NJTA Executive Director



There are almost 900 members in the New Jersey Turfgrass Association. How many members do you know? If you answered 15, 20, or maybe even 50, you wouldn't be alone.

NJTA has different member categories. Our members are involved as Architects, in the Cemetery industry, Golf Course Superintendents, in the Irrigation industry, Landscape & Lawn Maintenance, Lawn Care Applicators, Manufacturer and Suppliers, Parks and Recreation, Schools and Athletic Fields, Sod Producers, Students, and Professional members who can be from Rutgers University, USGA, the Press, and other University professionals. That is quite a few industries within the whole of the turfgrass industry,

Your membership is either as a Business Partner or a Turfgrass Partner, an Honorary Member, or a Student. What's the difference?

A **Student Member** is currently involved in a turfgrass program at Rutgers, in high school, or in another state.

An **Honorary Member** is anyone who is involved in the education of turfgrass from Rutgers or any university, NJTA award winners, the press, or others deemed to fit this category.

A **Turfgrass Member** is any person who falls into any of the industry categories except Manufacturer/Supplier, Sod Producer, Honorary or Student.

A **Business Member** is any person who provides goods and services to others in the turfgrass industry, or a sod producer.

NJTA members join as an **individual person** (we make this distinction from other associations who have company memberships), but there are also multiples in a category that fit many. If one to three are Turfgrass Members, there is a discount. If one to four are Business Partners, there is a discount.

NJTA has an informative website ([www.njturfgrass.org](http://www.njturfgrass.org)), are on Facebook, and works closely with Rutgers, Center for Turfgrass Science, to host 3 major events a year: Golf Classic in May (raises monies for the NJT Foundation), the Field Days in late July, and the Green Expo in December, the largest regional turfgrass industry show.

So....if you haven't met at least ten new members in your participation in 2017, make it a goal in 2018. Members help members, and we're all here in the same great turfgrass industry.



# Fantastic Rutgers Field Days!

*by Pedro Perdomo*

Around the week before the 2017 Rutgers Turfgrass Field Days, I started to get anxious and wondered why. What was so special about Field Days that keeps us coming back for more? Was it because it was one more chance to get up extra early, travel to Rutgers to stand in the sun to look at plots, listen to speakers, or is this an annual employment obligation?

Actually, Field Days are so much more than that and when the day was here, I travelled to the research farms, smelled the fresh cut grass, looked at the perfectly manicured plots, and quickly remembered why this event was so special. It is usually extremely warm on these days and the day can seem to drag as time goes on, but this year was a breath of fresh air. The Golf and Fine turf day on Tuesday, July 25th was cloudy and extremely cool, so much so that I wore a jacket all day. The Lawn, Landscape and Sports Fields day on Wednesday, July 26th was nothing short of extraordinary -- thin clouds, a light breeze, and just the right temperature. So the need for water was low for the year and no one was complaining.

But the weather was not the only thing that made the day special. With hundreds of attendees, it made for a great place to network with old colleagues and new ones alike. I, myself, exchanged half a dozen business cards with new friends and some old friends in new positions throughout the industry. There were plenty of people catching up with people they had not seen since last year.

The silent auction was different this year. More people actually stopped by and bid on items at the silent auction. The auction made \$13,510 for the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation. With newer NJTA Board members Matt Lindner and Jeff Weld running the silent auction, it has taken shape into something great.

The overall research days were organized by the Rutgers Faculty and Staff and the Field Day Committee, spearheaded by Tracy Wadhams. Tracy has been able to improve on the logistics of the field day, bringing in new sponsors. So what flavor ice cream did you settle on? Mine was strawberry shortcake. Brad Park serves as the man in charge of the trial stops that are visited during the day, and Dr. Bruce Clarke is in charge of the educational content.

You know it's a good day when Bruce has a big grin on his face.

The stops were excellent as always, with all the key researchers speaking on their projects. Some stops talked about how to deal with real world issues that we deal with right now, such as diseases, insects, weeds, and cultural problems, such as *Pythium* on golf turf. Some give us a glimpse of problems on the horizon, or future solutions for problems that are showing up now, such as for false green *kyllinga*. Every year that I come to the field days, I learn something new. So which stop did you get something out of that you could share?

The final count for the two days were 401 for the Fine Turf Field Day and 331 for the Lawn, Landscape and Sports Field Day. With the possible rain that was expected, the numbers were a little lower than normal, but still impressive.

The Lawn, Landscape and Sports Field Day was also the site of the ribbon cutting for the dedication of the new Steve Hart gazebo. During the dedication, Steve's brother, Dave shared his thanks and photos were taken. It was a very warm moment and reminded us what Steve Hart meant to everyone as a Researcher and colleague, but most importantly as a friend.

And as the day came to a close, I smiled and remembered why these are the greatest turfgrass field days out there. We hope you shared your thoughts and ideas on the survey that was sent a couple of days after Field Days to all who provided their emails with us.

As always, I look forward to seeing you again next year.





## SILENT AUCTION AT FIELD DAYS



Each year at the Rutgers Field Days, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association, which hosts these days, sponsors a Silent Auction, with the money raised going directly to the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation. This year's auctions raised the highest amount in the history of Field Days, in excess of \$13,500.00.

We want to thank everyone involved in bidding for the products as well as those companies or individuals who donated products for the auctions. Without everyone's support, these products or funds would not have been a success.

Please remember to support those that made the auctions a success:

**Aquatrols, BASF, Bayer, Double 'D' Turf, Finch Turf Equipment, First Turf Distributors, FMC, Fisher and Sons, Harrell's, ICT Organics, Levitts, PBI Gordon, Plant Food Company, Rutgers Diagnostic Lab, SavATree, Sam's Club, SiteOne Landscape Supply, Solu-Cal, SynaTek Solutions, Syngenta, and Jay Turchi.**

*Special thanks to Jeff Weld, Matt Lindner, and Mike Reed who worked diligently to ensure everything went off without a hitch prior to and during the auction.*

## Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory

*Read article on page 12*





# New Jersey Legislative Updates

by Matt Lindner, NJTA Legislative Chair

Though summer is here and with that everyone dreams of vacations and relaxation. The NJ Legislative people are taking vacations also, but not before working on a few issues we wanted to bring to everyone's attention.

The following bills are either in the Senate (S) or Assembly (A) that you should be aware of:

**A potential Chlorpyrifos ban in New Jersey.** Assembly Bill 4794 - prohibits use of chlorpyrifos insecticide, was recent sponsored by Assemblyman Tim Eustace (D-38), and had a hearing and a vote in the Assembly Environment and Energy Committee. The bill will permanently ban the use of chlorpyrifos. The Senate Bill S-3405 – and has been referred to the Senate Environmental and Energy Committee.

**A revised definition for the sale and use of Organic Fertilizer.** Assembly Bill 1351 – amends the law regarding the application, sale and use of fertilizer to exempt organic fertilizer from certain regulation. This bill passed the Assembly unanimously on 6/8/17 and was moved to the Senate.

**A proposal to prohibit the selling of planting of invasive species of plants is in process.** Senate Bill 3404 Prohibits knowingly selling or planting certain invasive plant species. On 7/04/2017, the bill was Introduced and referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee. "The invasive plants covered by the bill are Canadian Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), Japanese Knotweed (*Polygonum caspdatum*), Japanese Stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), Mile-a-minute (*Polygonum perfoliatum*), Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), and Water Chestnut (*Trapa natans*), and include the plant, and any cutting, flower, seed, root, other plant part, or cultivar therefrom."

It is the duty of the New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) to inform its members of any proposed legislation that may affect your operations. We neither support or oppose any legislation, only inform.

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Taken an interesting  
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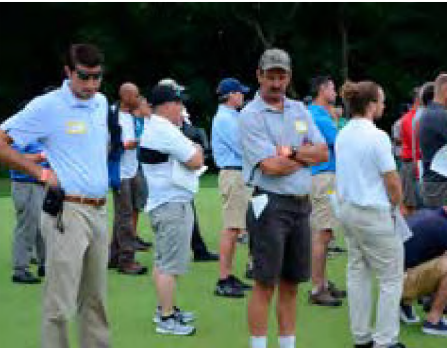
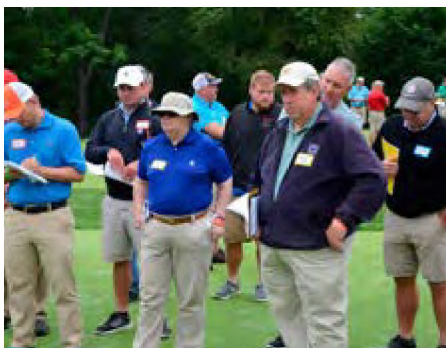
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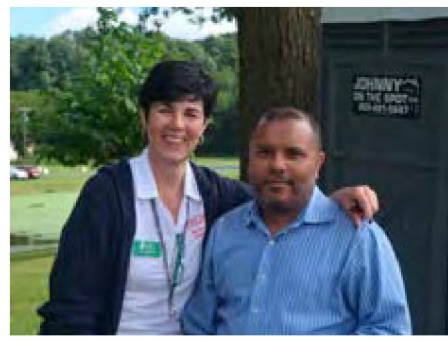
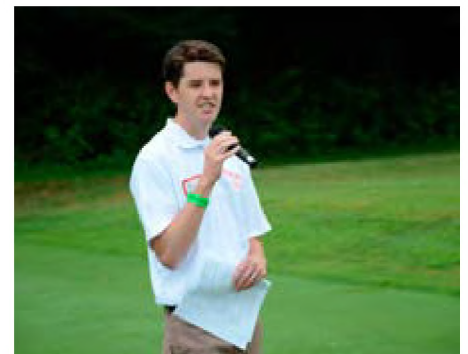




## 2017 RUTGERS TURFGRASS RESEARCH FIELD DAYS









# 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference Attracts Almost 500 Attendees from 24 Countries

by Dr. Bruce Clarke, ITS Immediate Past President  
Director, Center for Turfgrass Science,

*Reprinted from 'The September 2017 edition of International Turfgrass, the Newsletter of the International Turfgrass Society'*

The 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference (ITRC) was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, NJ USA from 16-21 July, 2017; the first time the ITRC had been held in the United States since 1993. Traditionally, International Turfgrass Research Conferences are among the largest and most comprehensive gatherings of turfgrass professionals anywhere in the world; and, this year's conference was no exception, with over 480 registrants from 24 Countries in attendance. Conference delegates enjoyed keynote addresses, scientific sessions and field tours, and commented on how much they appreciated the frequent opportunities to network and see all that the New York City/New Jersey area had to offer. Over 145 papers were published in three journals thanks to the diligent efforts of Dr. Jim Murphy (Editor-in-chief, International Turfgrass Society Research Journal [ITSRJ], Rutgers University, USA), Dr. Trygve Aamlid (Assistant Editor, ITSJRJ; Norwegian Institute for Bioeconomy Research, Norway) and their staff of 55 Associate Editors from throughout the world.

## Outstanding Pre-Conference Tour

Sixteen individuals participated in the Pre-Conference Tour which took in the sites of Washington, DC and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania during a 5-day trip that provided a mix of history, fun and, of course, turfgrass. Dr. Mike Agnew (Syngenta) and his committee put together an incredibly interesting and enjoyable tour of two iconic U.S. cities. Participants stayed at the historic Jefferson Hotel which is in close proximity to the Nation's Capital and saw the Lincoln Memorial and a myriad of museums including the Smithsonian in Washington, DC. There was also plenty of time for sightseeing and visits to turf-related venues including the newly renovated National Mall, the Grass Roots exhibit at the National Arboretum, the National Botanical Gardens, Congressional Country Club, and National Park (home of the Washington Nationals Major League Baseball Team). In Philadelphia, participants visited Lincoln Financial Field (home of the Philadelphia Eagles American Football Team, Talen Energy Stadium (home of the Philadelphia Union Soccer Team), as well the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, Brandywine Museum of Art, and Longwood Gardens (the former summer home of Pierre DuPont and one of the most spectacular private gardens and conservatories in the world).

## Conference Highlights

The major highlights of the conference included a "what's new in industry" session, the conference opening session and keynote presentations, a graduate student oral competition, and breakout sessions focusing on cutting edge topics in breeding and genetics, physiology, microbiomes, establishment and management, and major turfgrass pests. A special recognition in honor of Dr. James Watson, one of the founders of the International Turfgrass Society (ITS) and a pioneer in the turfgrass industry for over 40 years, was held on Monday evening to the delight of more than 100 people.

## Turfgrass Industry Session

For the first time at an ITRC, there was a special Turfgrass Industry Session on Sunday afternoon, 16 July just prior to the conference welcome reception. This event overseen by Dr. Josh Friell (Toro Company, USA) featured a brief mixer followed by a two hour session highlighting recent advancements in the turfgrass industry. Thirteen companies gave presentations, and judging from the attendance (> 150 people) and the number of questions asked during this session, this session is likely to be offered again at next ITRC in Copenhagen.

## Welcome Reception

The Conference itself was kicked off with an opening reception on Sunday night with a Mardi Gras theme. The reception featured a Dixieland band, card tricks and plenty of Mardi Gras beads. This was a great opportunity to socialize and just sit back and enjoy a night of music, conversations and hors d'oeuvres. This was followed by a week packed with educational and social activities (<https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2017trc/webprogram/start.html>) that allowed attendees to re-engage with old friends and network with new acquaintances from all over the world.

## Opening Session

The Scientific Program Planning Committee led by Dr. Bingru Huang (Rutgers University, USA) put together an outstanding educational program based on the conference theme, "Meeting the Challenges of a Changing Environment." This theme was chosen for the 2017 conference because it reflected the tremendous impact that the environment has had and continues to have on our personal and professional lives. From the changing climate, to the changing regulatory environment for pesticides and fertilizers, and the rapid



# 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference...Continued

technological changes in molecular biology and other aspects of turfgrass science, the environment continues to affect the way we live and conduct turfgrass research.

Dr. Bruce Clarke (Rutgers University, USA and ITS President,) officially opened the 13th ITRC at 8 am on Monday morning. Clarke gave an overview of the conference, addressed the importance of the conference theme, and introduced dignitaries at the stage including Dr. Robert Goodman (Dean of the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences and Executive Director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers University, USA) and Dr. Debasish Dutta (Chancellor, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, USA) who both welcomed conference attendees on behalf of Rutgers University. The opening session concluded with a 15 minute video entitled, "Understanding the mechanisms that drive global and regional climate change." Dr. Anthony Broccoli (Co-Director of the Rutgers Climate Institute, Rutgers University, USA), who could not attend the conference, was featured in the video which gave a New Jersey perspective to a global problem. The video was very professionally done and well received by the more than 300 delegates in attendance.

## Keynote Presentations

Four keynote addresses were presented by internationally renowned scientists focusing on cutting-edge topics including plant breeding, microbiomes, climate change, and sustainable water management following the opening session. Dr. William Meyer (Rutgers University, USA) did an excellent job giving an overview of "*Breeding improved cool-season turfgrasses for stress tolerance and sustainability in a changing environment.*" Dr. Jerry Hatfield (USDA-ARS, National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment, Ames, Iowa, USA) talked about "*Climate impacts on crops and turfgrass and building effective adaptation strategies.*" Dr. Timothy Colmer (University of Western Australia) discussed "*Managing water use by warm-season turfgrasses in a drying climate.*" Finally, Dr. Christine Hawkes (University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, USA) discussed how fungi interact in communities with her presentation entitled, "*Microbial tools in agriculture require an ecological context: stress-dependent non-additive symbiont interactions.*"

## James Watson Celebration a Great Success

On Monday evening, a special celebration organized by Dr. Gwen Stahnke, (Walla Walla Community College, USA) was held highlighting the many contributions of Dr. James Watson, one of the original founders of ITS and an early pioneer in the turfgrass industry. [www.njturfgrass.org](http://www.njturfgrass.org)

Dr. James Beard (President and Chief Scientist of the International Sports Turf Institute, Inc. and Professor Emeritus of Turfgrass Science, Texas A & M University, USA) gave the keynote address, and Dr. Richard Schmidt (Professor Emeritus, Virginia Tech, USA), Dr. Paul Rieke (Professor Emeritus, Michigan State University, USA), Dr. Kimberly Erusha (Managing Director of the USGA Green Section, USA), Mr. Dana Lonn (Director of the Center for Advanced Turf Technology, Toro Company, USA) and Dr. Jim Murphy (Rutgers University, USA) reflected on Dr. Watson's accomplishments and the impact he had on students in the field of turfgrass science. Dr. Watson's son Rick Watson said a few words on his father's behalf at the conclusion of the celebration. A reception followed this special event which was enjoyed by all who attended.

## Students Shine at Oral Paper Competition

A student competition was held Tuesday morning to showcase some of the exciting research that graduate students are conducting in turfgrass science. Students from the U.S, Canada, and Japan participated in two subject matter categories: 1) Turfgrass Diseases and Soils and 2) Turfgrass Physiology. A panel of judges evaluated the student presentations and selected three winners in each category. Recipients received small cash prize and a four-year membership in ITS.

## Poster Sessions

Research posters were displayed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (over 70 posters were presented) and, for the first time at an ITRC, one-minute, rapid (oral) summaries were given by poster authors who volunteered prior to each poster session. To entice conference attendees to meet poster authors and discuss their latest findings, hors d'oeuvres and refreshments were provided during the Monday and Tuesday poster sessions. All three poster sessions drew large crowds.

## Technical Tours and BBQ Dinner

A full day of technical tours was offered on Wednesday, highlighting the extraordinary range of turf venues in the New Jersey/New York City region. Special thanks to Dr. Rich Hurley (Emeritus Adjunct Professor, Rutgers University) and his planning committee. They did a superb job organizing the technical tours. There were six tours to choose from:

1) The United States Golf Association Museum / Testing Facility (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/USGA-Center.pdf>) and Baltusrol Golf Club (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Baltusrol-Golf-Club.pdf>); the host location for the 2016 PGA Championship).

*Continued on pg 21*

# 25 Years of the PLANT DIAGNOSTIC Laboratory at Rutgers

*by Richard Buckley & Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers Diagnostic Lab*

The Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory (PDL) opened for business in July 1991. Mr. Ken Krause of Paramus Golf Course was our first turf sample submitter. Ken brought 20 cup-cutter plugs!

Our mission is to provide New Jersey citizens with the diagnosis of plant health problems. These services are to be provided in an accurate and timely manner to meet the increasing agricultural and environmental needs of the State. The laboratory performs a number of pay-for-diagnosis services: disease and insect pest diagnosis, plant and weed identification, insect identification, fungus and mold identification, and nematode assays. There are two full-time diagnosticians and at least one seasonal employee, who is normally an undergraduate student interested in diagnostics.

To date since 1991, the PDL (Plant Diagnostic Lab) has evaluated more than 51,000 samples with revenues that exceed 3.6 million dollars. Turfgrass and ornamental plants comprise 92% of our sample submissions, which reflect New Jersey's status as an urban agriculture state and Rutgers University as a turfgrass research powerhouse. Turfgrass alone accounts for 40% (~20,000) of our totals. Certified arborists are our second largest clientele group. Golf courses from 43 states use the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory.

Sample submission information can be found here: <http://www.njaes.rutgers.edu/services>. Many local turf managers walk samples into the laboratory. Five by five squares of sod, or golf turf cup-cutter sized plugs are preferable for disease and insect pest diagnosis. For best results, select plugs with active symptoms that represent the problem well. The transition zone between dying and live plants is a good target. Each plug needs to be clearly marked. When using the USPS or one of the other delivery services, plugs should be wrapped in newspaper and secured, so they do not fall apart in transit.

Submission forms can be downloaded from the website and are available in the laboratory. It is essential that the forms are filled out, because seemingly insignificant information regarding your individual situation may be the key to solving the problem at hand. Honest communication via the submission form aids our efforts.

Furthermore, photographs are a welcome addition to your sample submission. One of the limitations associated with a laboratory diagnosis is that the diagnostician can not see the whole plant on site. Photographs place the diagnostician in the field, which allows us to see the symptoms and size up the situation. Photographs can be emailed directly to the lab. Some commentary about the problem in your email is also welcome. We can't stress the importance of this—good communication is just as important as a good sample.

Results are sent via email, and if necessary, followed up with the USPS. The response for 85% of our samples is within 3 days. Most golf turf samples can be processed and diagnosed in 24 hours. Each report consists of the diagnosis and the current science-based solutions for the particular problem.

The mission of the Rutgers Plant Diagnostic Laboratory is to solve plant problems. In 1991 we opened as the first turfgrass disease oriented lab in the country. Since that time, our staff has arguably evaluated more turf samples than every other laboratory in the world! The immediate acceptance of the laboratory by New Jersey's turfgrass professionals was remarkable. Your trust ensures our success.

Thank you for your support! Remember, we are here to serve. Go out and kill something for us!

***See Lab pictures on page 6.***



# Rutgers SOIL TESTING Laboratory *by Dr. Stephanie Murphy, Director*

The Rutgers Soil Testing Laboratory is a service unit of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station that offers agronomic/horticultural soil analyses for a nominal fee. This is considered an outreach program in best management practices (BMP's) for soil management and agricultural/environmental sustainability.

Rutgers/NJAES has been performing soil testing for researchers and farmers since the early years of Rutgers Agricultural College. In recent decades, the sample statistics have shown a large proportion of samples coming from homeowners and landscape/horticulture professionals.

Rutgers turfgrass researchers of Rutgers Center for Turfgrass science are valued clients of the soil testing lab, submitting large numbers of samples in support of their work. Golf courses, sports fields, environmental/ecological restoration projects, engineers/developers, and soil blenders are some of the other categories of users. Most samples come from New Jersey, the metropolitan area of New York City, and eastern Pennsylvania, but occasionally samples are received from distant States as well.

A variety of tests are offered, with most samples having a basic fertility test completed: nutrients, soil pH, recommendations provided. Additional characteristics of soil can also be analyzed, such as soluble salt level, organic matter content, soil texture, and sieve analysis of sand fractions. Compost and irrigation water testing are other services provided at Rutgers Soil Testing Lab.

A complete list of services and fees is available at <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/soiltestinglab/services.asp>.

Sampling instructions and submission forms are available on this webpage: <http://njaes.rutgers.edu/soil-testinglab/howto.asp>.

Soil samples are handled and analyses are performed with modern analytical equipment under the supervision of skilled technicians. Quality assurance/quality control procedures include daily calibrations for all instruments, use of standard reference samples through time, and enrollment in North American Proficiency Testing program of the Soil Science Society of America.

Besides the careful analysis and reporting of soil test data, Rutgers Soil Testing Lab is respected for its ability to communicate the results and recommendations based on the data and other agronomic/horticultural considerations, and the scientific knowledge and experience of Rutgers Cooperative Extension specialists serve as additional resources to Rutgers Soil Testing Lab clients when necessary.

Maintaining soil in optimal condition for desired vegetation – turfgrass or otherwise – should be a continual process of assessment, treatment to adjust any deficiency, and re-assessment. Each essential plant nutrient has different characteristics relating to availability, losses due to plant uptake or leaching or runoff, conversion to unavailable form or possibly gas (nitrogen), etc. Soil pH is another key to assuring that nutrients in the soil are available to the plant. These chemical properties of the soil are an essential component of assuring healthy plants and a sustainable landscape.

There has been much attention to nutrient pollution of water, and the reality of excessive nutrients (specifically nitrogen and phosphorus) in streams, lakes, rivers, and bays has led to regulations that might seem onerous for land managers. Avoiding eutrophication of water resources and avoiding additional restrictions is another reason for careful management of fertilizer applications.

And the bottom line: soil analysis is also important for managing budgets. Soil tests help land managers determine the best investment in product options: which nutrients or other amendments will provide the most benefit to the landscape and reduce other costs?

**Don't guess; test!**

# EXPO 2017 is Around the Corner

by Chris Carson, Expo Chairman

The Expo Planning Committee met in a series of meetings this spring and early summer to develop a program that will inform, excite and invigorate all turf professionals, and we hope that you will join us for the show at the Borgata Hotel in Atlantic City on December 5-7.

When you come, you will have the chance to meet and learn from internationally known and respected scientists and turfgrass specialists, and you will surely learn something new that you can immediately put to use in your business. We've designed our program to appeal to all levels of turf professionals, from entry-level to advanced, and we've also made sure that the valuable pesticide and fertilizer applicator credits you need to maintain your licensing will be available in abundance.

If you are in the lawn and landscape trade, you are sure to benefit from the weeds, fertilizer and insect talks that will be geared explicitly for you. Sports field managers have their own special sessions that will focus on management concerns that are specific to your world. And golf managers will enjoy the talks that have been designed with your problems, concerns and interest in mind.

The profiles of our speakers are truly world class, as in addition to our favorite Rutgers scientists we will enjoy professors and professionals from the far reaches of the world. Golf attendees, for example, will be particularly interested to hear from Leo Barber, Superintendent at Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club, joining us all the way from New Zealand. Sports folks can look forward to a fascinating discussion about the new Rutgers football field renovation, while landscapers will benefit from a review of the symptoms and control measures of turf and ornamental pests that bother us, along with finding help in developing the programs that will best serve your customers.

But Expo is about much more than education and credits... it's about friendships, both old and new, and about the many hallway conversations that can yield priceless tips that you can put to use in your business. And don't forget the food and drink that is included with your registration: the lunches on Tuesday and Wednesday on the show floor and all of the food and beverages during the Trade Show grand opening on Tuesday night are made possible by our many loyal sponsors, and they help provide a value that simply can't be beat.

At the trade show, you will have the chance to meet many of the business partners who make it possible for us to do our jobs. While you are enjoying the party you will have plenty of time to ask questions about their goods and services, and maybe you will find a company that can help you do a better or more profitable job.

The Expo committee has worked hard to make sure that you enjoy our show, and we hope that you will make plans to join the fun and the learning at Green Expo 2017, December 5-7. We look forward to seeing you there!

**SCHEDULE ON NEXT 3 PAGES.**





# GOLF PROGRAM

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

### GOLF SESSIONS 9:00 AM - NOON

- 9:00 - 10:00 **Restoration of a Links Course: The Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club Story**  
*Leo Barber, General Manager, Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club, New Zealand*
- 10:00-10:30 **Capturing Every Drop - Utilizing New Construction to Maximize Water Usage**  
*Matt Castagana, Skyway Golf Course at Lincoln Park*
- 10:30-12:00 **Superintendents Panel: Innovations and Strategies for golf course maintenance shared by Local Superintendents**

9:00 - 11:30 AM **CONCURRENT CORE SESSION - See Pg 2**

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM **All Attendees LUNCH**

Sponsored by STORR TRACTOR COMPANY

**GOLF PREVIEW:** We've worked with the GCSANJ and USGA to put together a stimulating program, packed with speakers from all over. Leo Barber, GM of Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club, joins us from New Zealand, bringing us fascinating insight from halfway around the world, and Delphine Tseng, President and Founder Landseer Communications & Consulting, has a thought-provoking message about communications that will intrigue you. Coupled with solutions to our problems from leaders in turfgrass science from around the country, this year's program has something for everybody!

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017

### GOLF 8:30 - 11:30 AM

8:30 - 11:30 AM: **3 Credits - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2; 1 ProFACT**

- 7:00-8:30 **Rutgers Turfgrass Advisory Board Breakfast - BY INVITE -**
- 8:30 - 9:15 **Pythium Diseases, Including Pythium Patch on Poa Annua**  
*Steve McDonald, Turfgrass Disease Solutions*
- 9:15 - 9:45 **From Superintendent to General Manager, Going from Boots to Loafers**  
*Leo Barber, Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club*
- 9:45 - 10:45 **Using Science and Technology to Conserve Water, Improve Playing Conditions and Save Costs** Adam Moeller & Paul Jacobs, USGA
- 10:45 - 11:00 **2017 Dead Turf Review from the Plant Diagnostic Lab** Rich Buckley, Rutgers University
- 11:00 - 11:30 **New Bents and How to Use Them**  
*Dr. Stacy Bonos, Rutgers University*

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

### RUTGERS SESSIONS 8:00 AM - NOON

8 AM to NOON: **7 Credits: 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2**

- 8:00-12:00 **"Benefits and Concerns of New Products in Turf"**
- 8:00 - 8:15 **Brief History of Fungicide Resistance in Turf**  
*Dr. David McCall, Virginia Tech University*
- 8:15 - 8:35 **SDHI Fungicides: the New In-Vogue Chemistry** Dr. Bruce Clarke, Rutgers University
- 8:35 - 9:15 **Overview of Nematodes and New Nematicides** Dr. Jim Kerns, NC State University
- 9:15 - 9:45 **Rethinking Your Weed Control Program in the Age of Kyllinga** Dr. Matt Elmore, Rutgers
- 9:45 - 10:00 **BREAK**
- 10:00 - 10:30 **History of Controlling ABW: An example of how NOT to control a pest.**  
*Dr. Albrecht Koppenhöfer, Rutgers University*
- 10:30 - 11:00 **The GCSAA National BMP Initiative**  
*Mark Johnson, GCSAA*
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Remote Sensing Technology for Disease Management** Dr. David McCall, Virginia Tech
- 11:30 - 12:00 **Pesticide Resistance Panel Discussion**  
*Dr. Bruce Clarke, Dr. Matt Elmore, Dr. Albrecht Koppenhöfer, Dr. Jim Kerns, Dr. David McCall*

**NOTE: Credits listed are NOT CONFIRMED at print.**

### GOLF SESSIONS 1:00 - 4:00 PM

- 1-4 PM: **1 Credit - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2**
- 1:00 - 1:30 **Creating a Course Management Policy**  
*Leo Barber, GM, Paraparaumu Beach Golf Club*
- 1:30 - 2:15 **Agronomic Observations and Championship Lessons Learned: What it Means for Daily Maintenance** Dave Oatis, USGA & Rob Wagner, Trump National Golf Club, Bedminster NJ
- 2:15 - 3:00 **The 5 year Makeover of Echo Lake Country Club** Rees Jones, Steve Weissner, Chris Carson
- 3:00 - 4:00 **The Best Story Ever Told: YOURS!**  
*Delphine Tseng, Landseer Communications*
- Communicate. Communicate. Communicate! Whether it is with your general manager, your membership or the friendly neighborhood right next to your course, learn how superintendents can use everyday tasks to promote themselves and golf.

### 4:00 - 8:00 PM TRADE SHOW & DINNER - DAY 1 TUES

Grand Opening - Sponsored by SYNGENTA

"Dine Around" the Trade Show - Sponsored by BASF  
Beverages - Sponsored by LABAR GOLF RENOVATIONS

### TRADE SHOW LEARNING SESSIONS

- 5:30 - 6:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 1**  
(1-3A Credit) Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County
- 6:30 - 7:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 1**  
(1-3A Credit) Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University

### 11:30 - 2:30 TRADE SHOW & LUNCH - DAY 2 WEDS

LUNCH Sponsored by TREE TECH

- 12:30 - 1:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 2**  
(1-3A Credit) Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University
- 1:30 - 2:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 2**  
(1-3A Credit) Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County

### GOLF SESSIONS 2:30 - 5:00 PM

2:30-5:00 PM: **3 Credits - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2**

- 2:30 - 2:45 **The Turf World Comes to NJ : Overview of 2017 International Turf Research Conference**  
*Dr. Bruce Clarke, Rutgers University*
- 2:45 - 3:30 **Turfgrass Balancing Act: How to Effectively Manage Turfgrass by Maintaining the Balance of Carbon, Water, Nutrients** Dr. Bingru Huang, Rutgers University
- 3:30 - 4:15 **Plant Growth Regulators for Golf Turf Use**  
*Dr. Bruce Branham, University of Illinois*
- 4:15 - 4:45 **Using FeSO4 to Suppress Dollar Spot and Reduce Fungicide Inputs** Dr. David McCall, Va Tech
- 4:45 - 5:00 **Turfgrass Economic Survey Launch**  
*Dr. Bruce Clarke and Kevin Sullivan, Rutgers University*

### CORE 1:00-3:00 PM • ProFACT Sessions 1:00-4:00 PM

- 1:00 - 3:00 **CORE Session 4 CORE Credits**  
**Environmental Concerns Regarding Pesticides, Fertilizer and Water: Don't Believe Everything You Read!**  
*Mike Reed, Synatek (SESSION Description - Pg 5)*
- 1:00 - 2:30 **OPTIONAL SESSIONS**  
**ProFACT Training (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** Prepare for the ProFACT Fertilizer applicator's test.  
*Presentation in Spanish by Dr. Raul Cabrera.*  
*Presentation in English by Dr. Jim Murphy.*
- 2:30 - 4:00 **ProFACT Exam (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** English or Spanish Written Exam Available  
**(Separate \$75 Exam fee required)**  
*Dr. Jim Murphy, Rutgers University and Dr. Raul Cabrera, Rutgers University*



# LAWN & LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

### CORE SESSION 9:00 - 11:30 AM & LUNCH

5 Credits CORE

- 9:00 - 10:00 **Your Spray Tank, Your Nozzles, and Your Safety** *Dr. Mike Agnew, Syngenta*
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Fracking Your Fungicides**  
*Richard Buckley, Rutgers University*
- 10:30 - 11:30 **NJDEP Update** *Stephen Bross, NJ DEP*
- 11:30 - 1:00 **All Attendees LUNCH**  
*Sponsored by STORR TRACTOR COMPANY*



Storr Tractor

**LAWN & LANDSCAPE PREVIEW:** We've worked to put together a program that addresses the turf problems that concern you most, and this year's program is filled with information and insight from the best researchers and practitioners in the business. You will get more than the critical pesticide applicator recertification credits you need to maintain your license -- you will receive valuable information on how to do your job better and more efficiently, information you can put to use immediately in your business.

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017

### L & L SESSIONS 8:30 - 11:30 AM

8:30 - 11:30 AM: 5 Credits - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2

- 8:30 - 9:15 **Nitrogen Fate in Turf; Nitrogen Uptake by Turf** *Dr. Bruce Branham, University of Illinois*
- 9:15 - 10:00 **Turfgrass Troubleshooting: A Systematic Approach to Solving Turf Problems**  
*Dr. Jim Kerns, NC State University*
- 10:00 - 11:00 **General Weed ID and Control**  
*Dr. Matt Elmore, Rutgers University*
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Consumers Prefer Wear Tolerance in Lawns**  
*Dr. James Murphy, Rutgers University*

*Sign Up All Your  
Co-Workers  
to Attend Expo with you!*



## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

### BUCKLEY'S BOOT CAMP 8:00 AM - NOON

*Rich Buckley returns for this year's edition of his 'boot camp', where he will provide you important information in a lively and straight-shooting manner. Rich is consistently rated as one of our most popular speakers, and this session is sure to be both useful and entertaining.*

- 8:00 - 9:30 AM **Tree Disease Basics: A NJ Licensed Tree Expert Primer** *Richard Buckley, Rutgers University*  
3 - 3A Credits
- 9:30 - 9:45 AM **Break and Credits**
- 9:45 - NOON **Hold that Spray! Recognizing Abiotic Stress in Turf** *Rich Buckley, Rutgers University*  
4 - 3B Credits
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM **LUNCH on your own**

**NOTE: Credits listed are NOT CONFIRMED at print.**

### L & L SESSIONS 1:00 - 4:00 PM

1-4 PM: 3 Credits - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2; 1 Credits - 3A

- 1:00 - 1:30 **Impact of Deicing Salts on Landscape Management** *Dr. Ann Gould, Rutgers University*
- 1:30 - 2:00 **Managing Brown Patch and Pythium Blight on Landscape Turf**  
*Dr. David McCall, Virginia Tech University*
- 2:00 - 2:30 **Avoiding the Pitfalls from False Marketing for Grass Seed Varieties** *Dr. William Meyer, Rutgers*
- 2:30 - 3:15 **BMPs for Lawns: Using Cultural Practices to Reduce Fungicide Use** *Dr. Bruce Clarke, Rutgers*
- 3:15 - 4:00 **The last Word on Ash Borer in NJ**  
*Rich Buckley, Rutgers University*

### 4:00 - 8:00 PM TRADE SHOW & DINNER - DAY 1 TUES

Grand Opening - Sponsored by SYNGENTA

"Dine Around" the Trade Show - Sponsored by BASF

Beverages - Sponsored by LABAR GOLF RENOVATIONS

#### TRADE SHOW LEARNING SESSIONS

- 5:30 - 6:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 1**  
(1-3A Credit) *Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County*
- 6:30 - 7:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 1**  
(1-3A Credit) *Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University*

### 11:30 - 2:30 TRADE SHOW and LUNCH - DAY 2 WEDS

LUNCH Sponsored by TREE TECH

- 12:30 - 1:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 2**  
(1-3A Credit) *Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University*
- 1:30 - 2:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 2**  
(1-3A Credit) *Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County*

### L & L SESSIONS 2:30-5:00 PM

2:30-5:00 PM: 2 Credits - 3A + 3 Credits - 3B + 1 ProFACT

- 2:30 - 3:00 **New Dogwood and Ornamental Hazelnut Varieties for the Landscape**  
*Dr. Tom Molnar, Rutgers University*
- 3:00 - 3:30 **Managing Brown Patch and Pythium Blight on Landscape** *Dr. David McCall, Virginia Tech*
- 3:30 - 4:00 **Organic vs Reduced Risk Landscape Management** *Dr. Jim Kerns, NC State University*
- 4:00 - 4:30 **Tenacity Use in Cool Season Turfgrasses**  
*Trent Tate, Rutgers University*
- 4:30 - 5:00 **Pest Tolerant Turfgrasses for Lawns and Landscape** *Dr. William Meyer, Rutgers University*

### CORE 1:00-3:00 PM • ProFACT Session 1:00-4:00 PM

- 1:00 - 3:00 **CORE Session** 4 CORE Credits  
**Environmental Concerns Regarding Pesticides, Fertilizer and Water: Don't Believe Everything You Read!**  
*Mike Reed, Synatek (SESSION Description - Pg 5)*
- 1:00 - 2:30 **OPTIONAL SESSIONS**  
**ProFACT Training (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** Prepare for the ProFACT Fertilizer applicator's test.  
*Presentation in Spanish by Dr. Raul Cabrera, Rutgers*  
*Presentation in English by Dr. Jim Murphy, Rutgers*
- 2:30 - 4:00 **ProFACT Exam (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** English or Spanish  
**Written Exam Available**  
**(Separate \$75 Exam fee required)**  
*Dr. Jim Murphy, Rutgers University and*  
*Dr. Raul Cabrera, Rutgers University*



# SPORTS FIELDS PROGRAM

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017

### CORE SESSION 9:00 - 11:30 AM & LUNCH

5 Credits CORE

- 9:00 - 10:00 **Your Spray Tank, Your Nozzles, and Your Safety** *Dr. Mike Agnew, Syngenta*  
 10:00 - 10:30 **Fracking Your Fungicides** *Richard Buckley, Rutgers University*  
 10:30 - 11:30 **NJDEP Update** *Stephen Bross, NJ DEP*

### 11:30 - 1:00 All Attendees LUNCH

Sponsored by  
STORR TRACTOR COMPANY



**SPORTS TURF PREVIEW:** The SFMANJ (Sports Field Managers Association of NJ) education committee has worked with the Expo committee to provide fascinating speakers, interesting stories and the information you need to do your job better. Sports turf professionals get much more than the specific information presented at Expo...they grow their network of friends in the business as well. For many, the hallway conversations and lunch friendships are the highlight of the show, where tricks of the trade are exchanged along with phone numbers and email addresses. Come to Expo to expand your network of professional friends!

NOTE: Credits listed are NOT CONFIRMED at print.

### SPORTS FIELDS SESSION 1:00 - 4:00 PM

1-4 PM: 2 Credits - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2; 4 Credits - 13

- 1:00 - 2:00 **NJDEP School IPM Program Update** *Stephen Bross, NJ DEP*  
 2:00 - 3:00 **Annual Bluegrass Management and Control in Sports Turf** *Dr. Bruce Branham, University of Illinois*  
 3:00 - 4:00 **Update on Synthetic Turf Research** *Tom Serensits, Penn State University*

### 4:00 - 8:00 PM TRADE SHOW & DINNER - DAY 1 TUES

Grand Opening - Sponsored by SYNGENTA  
 "Dine Around" the Trade Show - Sponsored by BASF  
 Beverages - Sponsored by LABAR GOLF RENOVATIONS

### TRADE SHOW LEARNING SESSIONS

- 5:30 - 6:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 1**  
 (1-3A Credit) *Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County*  
 6:30 - 7:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 1**  
 (1-3A Credit) *Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University*

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017

### SPORTS FIELDS SESSION 7:30 - 11:30 AM

- 7:30 - 8:30 **Early Bird Sports Field Managers Networking Roundtable**  
 8:30 - 9:15 **Annual Business Meeting & Awards Presentation**  
 9:15 - 9:45 **The Year in Review** *Brad Park, Rutgers University*  
 9:45 - 10:45 **Soil Physical and Chemical Properties: What Do They Mean for your Sports Field?** *Tom Serensits, Penn State University*  
 10:45 - 11:30 **Management of Sports Fields and Grounds at Middlesex Borough** *Jim Ianetti, Middlesex Borough*

### 11:30 - 2:30 TRADE SHOW and LUNCH - DAY 2 WEDS

LUNCH Sponsored by TREE TECH

- 12:30 - 1:00 PM • **Under the Radar Invasives in NJ - Part 2**  
 (1-3A Credit) *Sabrina Tirpak, Rutgers University*  
 1:30 - 2:00 PM • **Diagnostic Tips for Landscape IPM Assessments - Part 2**  
 (1-3A Credit) *Nick Polanin, RCE of Somerset County*

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

### LUNCH & CORE SESSION 1:00 - 3:00 PM

#### 12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

- 1:00 - 3:00 **CORE SESSION 4 CORE Credits**  
**Environmental Concerns Regarding Pesticides, Fertilizer and Water: Don't Believe Everything You Read!** *Mike Reed, Synatek*

*Water is a part of everyday life, yet it is not an unlimited resource. About 0.2 percent of earth's fresh water is available for our use. This presentation will focus on the practices and products used in the Green Industry and its positive and potential negative effects on the earth's water. We will look back at the actions you can take to improve your ecological footprint or the mark you leave on your natural environment and its resources.*

### SPORTS FIELDS SESSION 2:30 - 5:00 PM

2:30-5:00 PM: 1 Credit - 3B, 6B, 8C, PP2; 1 Credit - 13

- 2:30 - 3:30 **Rutgers Football Practice Field Renovation** *Dr. James Murphy, Rutgers University and Matthew Colagiovanni, Rutgers Asst Athletic Director*  
 3:30 - 4:30 **Managing Key Turfgrass Diseases on School and Municipal Sports Fields** *Dr. Bruce Clarke, Rutgers University*  
 4:30 - 5:00 **Natural and Synthetic Turf Management in the City of Long Branch** *Frank Ravaschiere, City of Long Branch*



### ProFACT SESSIONS 1:00 - 4:00 PM

- 1:00 - 2:30 **OPTIONAL SESSIONS**  
**ProFACT Training (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** Prepare for the ProFACT Fertilizer applicator's test.  
 Presentation in Spanish by Dr. Raul Cabrera.  
 Presentation in English by Dr. Jim Murphy.  
 2:30 - 4:00 **ProFACT Exam (2 separate rooms)**  
**SPANISH & ENGLISH:** English or Spanish Written Exam Available  
**(Separate \$75 Exam fee required)**  
 Dr. Jim Murphy, Rutgers University and Dr. Raul Cabrera, Rutgers University





## Dedication of the Stephen Hart Pavilion

*Wednesday,  
July 26, 2017  
at Adelpia Farm  
in Freehold*

Stephen Hart joined the faculty at Rutgers University in 1999. At Rutgers he was an Extension Specialist in turf grass and ornamental weed science. Stephen mentored many graduate students, taught undergraduate courses and had extension responsibility in turf ornamentals in New Jersey as well as field crops in Delaware. He passed away on February 18, 2014.

Donations from the Cultivated Sod Growers, NJTA, NJ Landscape Contractors Association, Golf Course Superintendents Association of NJ, and the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, as well as other friends and the Hart Family, erected the pavilion in Steve's memory.



## Meet Board Member: MICHAEL BRUNELLE, CGCS

As a young teen Michael was full of energy and his mother had her challenges trying to harness it. This was when she introduced him to manual labor. Growing up in a small town in the western part of Massachusetts his introduction to golf course work came at the ripe age of thirteen, it was a match made in heaven.

A graduate with a BS in Plant and Soil Sciences from the University of Massachusetts, Michael is currently pursuing his Masters in Turfgrass Management through the Penn State World Campus online graduate program.

Michael has spent over 25 years in the turf industry. His professional experiences have led him to five states and ten golf courses. Through all of his work experiences he finally found a home at Upper Montclair Country Club in March of 2009. Now in his ninth season as Director of Grounds at UMCC, he has developed a maintenance program where he and his team continuously strive to exceed the expectations of the UMCC members and their guests.

For almost 11 years, Michael has been a golf course superintendent, and he has often asked himself what he would be doing if he had not fallen into this great industry. The same industry his wife (Jenni) refers to as his “mistress” has helped mold him into the husband, father and professional that he is today.

Michael, his wife Jenni, their daughter Gracie (4 years old) and son Tedy (2 years old) presently reside in Oakland, NJ. Michael and Jenni are also expecting the arrival of twin girls early this fall. These two beautiful additions will only stress the importance of time management.

Michael is no stranger to volunteer work. He presently sits on the Board of Directors for the Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association and seeks opportunities to be involved in a variety of ways within the industry.



This is exactly why the opportunity to be involved with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association sparked his interest. The understanding of all the moving parts and the cooperation and collaboration of the individuals behind the scenes are vital aspects in progressing as an industry. Michael feels as if it is his responsibility to give back and fully understand how we can continue to grow the turfgrass industry.

The next generation of our industry professionals is very different than the generations before. With technological advances, social media and the focus of making the turfgrass industry more sustainable we have a lot to understand and no better way to keep preparing ourselves than through being involved in the process.

*Welcome Mike! The NJTA Board is happy to have you join us in serving our members.*

*You can email Mike at:*

*[mbrunelle@uppermontclaircc.com](mailto:mbrunelle@uppermontclaircc.com)*



# FIELD DAYS SURVEY SAYS...



Taking surveys is important to the planners as well as the attendees. We'd like to share many of the comments about the 2017 Field Days. *We thank those of you who took the time to give us feedback.*

- "Keep up the great work!"
- "Have the restrooms set up closer to the research plots at Adelphia."
- "Provides useful education. Generally good topics. Incredibly great effort put forth by the sponsors and volunteers and the Rutgers staff and students."
- "Don't like the turfgrass breeding tracks; do more of turf problems."
- "Excellent presentations and venues."
- "Some of the researchers spent way too much time discussing the methods of the trial rather than the results."
- "The food was great; the entire day was very well organized and scheduled."
- "Seriously, this is always a great Field Day. Keep up the good work!"
- "Have weather just like this year!"
- "More access time to researchers."
- "Food set up was great; really moved people through."
- "More interested in the practical applications of materials/pesticides than the turf trials. Maybe two tracks -- one that can showcase what the turf trials show and another that can show applications made for controls of weeds and insects for the practical applicator."
- "The tomato cucumber salad is special."
- "Think about adding a social component at the end of the day. Maryland does beer and crab cakes."
- "Rutgers is the best. World class research, exceptional facility. Field Day is a definite highlight of my summer as a golf course superintendent."

[www.njturfgrass.org](http://www.njturfgrass.org)



**VISIT the NJ Green Industry  
Council Silent Auction at Expo!**  
*Great Gifts! Wild Action!*  
*Go home with spectacular gifts!*



## 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference...*Continued from page 11*

Dr. Kimberly Erusha and her colleagues did a wonderful job showcasing the USGA research programs and testing facility at Golf House, and Mr. Mark Kuhns did a fantastic job highlighting the management programs that have made Baltusrol one of the top golf courses in the United States.

2) The Red Bull Arena (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/RedBull-Soccer-Arena.pdf>; home of the New York Red Bulls Major League Soccer Team) and Bayonne Golf Course (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Bayonne-Golf-Club.pdf>), called “the most audacious golf course in the world” by Sports Illustrated Magazine. Mr. Dan Shemesh, Director of Grounds at the New York Red Bulls, provided a comprehensive tour of the facility that everyone enjoyed, and Dr. Rich Hurley gave an excellent overview of Bayonne Golf Club, as well as an enjoyable ride for all attendees to the Statue of Liberty on the club’s private boat.

3) The Quest Diagnostic Training Center (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/MetLife-Stadium.pdf>; New York Giants American Football Team) and Yankee Stadium (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Yankee-Stadium.pdf>; home of the world famous New York Yankees and the New York City Football Club of Major League Soccer). Attendees were treated to two outstanding tours. Mr. Rob Davis, Head Groundskeeper at the Quest Diagnostic Training Center spoke about how he maintains one of the top facilities in the National Football League, and Mr. Dan Cunningham, Head Groundskeeper for the NY Yankees gave an outstanding tour of the field and how he keeps the turf and skin-surface looking great at this legendary, multi-use stadium.

4) Tuckahoe Sod Farm (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Tuckahoe-Turf.pdf>; one of the largest and most successful sod farms in the United States) and Monmouth Park Racetrack (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Monmouth-Park-Race-Track.pdf>; the site of the 2007 Breeders Cup, one of the premier horse racing events in the world). Allen Carter Jr, General Manager at Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc. and the Betts family gave an excellent tour of this amazing sod farm explaining how sod is produced and marketed on a national scale. Bill Anderson, General Manager at Monmouth Park Racetrack provided a behind the scenes look at one of the oldest and most well know horse racing facilities in the United States.

5) Central Park (the iconic green space on Manhattan Island) and the American Museum of Natural History /

/Hayden Planetarium (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Central-Park.pdf>; one of the world’s pre-eminent scientific and cultural institutions renowned for its exhibitions and scientific collections). Mr. Gary Gentilucci, Turf Care Manager at the Central Park Conservancy, gave a fantastic walking tour of one of the oldest and most well-known parks in the country. The day concluded with two hours in the Museum of Natural History before returning back to the Hyatt to get ready for the BBQ at the Rutgers Hort Farm 2 later that evening.

6) The New York Botanical Garden (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Bronx-Botanical-Gardens.pdf>; a National Historic Landmark and one of the top botanical gardens in the world with an extensive collection of plants and gardens). Mr. Brian Sullivan (Vice-President for Gardens, Landscapes and Outdoor Collections) and his staff at the Botanic Garden lead a detailed and hands-on tour of this New York Landmark. Participants had time after the tour for lunch and a leisurely self-guided tour of the facility before returning to the Hyatt Hotel.

The day concluded with a cocktail reception, an American-style BBQ, and an opportunity to informally view research plots at the Rutgers Turf Research Facility at Hort Farm 2 (brief You Tube videos of the research trials were accessible via free wireless internet). Wednesday night’s BBQ featured a ‘Beach Party’ theme, live music provided by the Casey and Bill Show, and a mini golf course arranged on a natural turf research putting green. More than 400 attended this event and stayed well into the night.

### **Extensive Offerings for Accompanying People**

Accompanying persons had a full range of activities to choose from during the conference (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/pdf/Accompanying-Persons-Tours.pdf>) including: a trip to Longwood Gardens (one of the world’s great gardens and former summer estate of Pierre du Pont), the Bronx Zoo (one of the largest zoos in the United States), the Liberty Science Center (a state of the art science center with IMAX theater), the Camden Adventure Aquarium (home to the largest collection of sharks on the East Coast, hippos, blue penguins and the longest Shark Bridge in the world), the American Museum of Natural History /Hayden Planetarium, and even a day trip to the beautiful white sand beaches of Point Pleasant, NJ. Thanks to Ellen Clarke and Nancy Hurley for overseeing the accompanying persons tours.

*Continued on page 22*



# 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference

## Pictures from the Conference:

- Cornucopia Boat Cruise
- Capital in Washington DC
- Statue of Liberty
- BBQ at Hort Farm
- Botanical Gardens.

### Twilight Dinner Cruise of the NY/NJ Harbor and Statue of Liberty

Immediately following the ITS Quadrennial Business Meeting and the Graduate Student Awards Presentations on Thursday afternoon, more than 420 attendees boarded buses for a night on the town featuring a Twilight Dinner Cruise of the NY/NJ Harbor and Statue of Liberty on the “Cornucopia Majesty.” Attendees were treated to awesome views of the New York City Skyline, as well as a cocktail reception, great food, and a night of dancing to the beat of an incredible band. This was truly a memorable experience and the capstone social event of the conference. Everyone had a great time.

### Zoysiagrass Symposium Well Received

The last day of the conference featured a special Zoysiagrass Symposium on Friday (8:00 am - 12:30 pm) showcasing invited speakers who provided a world-wide perspective on this important and underutilized turfgrass species. Dr. Jack Fry (Kansas State University, USA) and his committee put together a very interesting and informative program that was very well attended. Speakers included Drs. Don Loch (the University of Queensland, Australia), Masumi Ebina (Forage Crop Genome Unit, Institute of Livestock and Grassland Science, Tochigi, Japan), Simone Magni, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy), Peter McMaugh (Turfgrass Scientific Services, Carlingford, New South Wales Australia), Aaron Patton (Purdue University, USA), and Ambika Chandra (Texas A&M University, USA). The Symposium conclude with a panel discussion.

An optional afternoon tour of the world-famous Rutgers Breeding Program’s Adelphia Research Farm was offered at the conclusion of the conference (12:30 pm) on Friday. Over 100 people attended this tour which was focused on the Rutgers Turfgrass Breeding Programs of Drs. Bill Meyer and Stacy Bonos, and well as current research in turf physiology (Dr. Bingru Huang), entomology (Dr. Albrecht Koppenhöfer), and weed science (Dr. Matt Elmore). Even though it was a very hot day (>35 C; 95 F), everyone enjoyed the tour and returned to the Hyatt by 6 pm to relax before their return home on Saturday, 22 July.



### Record Number of Sponsorships for 13th ITRC

The fundraising committee chaired by Dr. Bill Meyer (Rutgers University, USA) did a wonderful job attracting sponsorships for the 13th ITRC. As a result of their efforts, more than 40 companies and organizations including Syngenta, Bayer Crop Science, Aquatrols, the USGA, BASF, the New Jersey Turfgrass Association / Foundation, TORO, Intelligro, DLF, PGG Wrightson Seeds, and Ocean Organics supported the 2017 ITRC (<http://www.turfso-ciety.com/itrc2017/?p=reg%20-%20sponsors#sponsors>). More than \$300,000 was raised to support the 13th ITRC. This helped keep the cost of registration down, provided over \$20,000 in travel support for students in the U.S, Europe, and Asia, and greatly enhanced the quality of the overall program. We are very appreciative for the support of our colleagues in the turfgrass industry.

### Special Thanks

Thanks to Dr. Josh Hoenig, Dr. Stacy Bonos, and their AV committee for doing an excellent job organizing all of the power point presentations during the conference.

Overseeing the planning and implementation of the 13th ITRC was a somewhat stressful, but incredibly gratifying and exhilarating experience. While the conference was hosted by Rutgers University, more than 80 people from 10 countries assisted with the planning of the 13th ITRC. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who helped. Their hard work and support over the past four years is very much appreciated.



# 2017 C A L E N D A R

**Tuesday - Thursday  
December 5 - 7, 2017  
GREEN EXPO  
Borgata Hotel, Atlantic City NJ**

**- SAVE THE DATES -  
2018!**

**Rutgers Turfgrass Research  
GOLF CLASSIC  
Monday, May 7, 2018  
Fiddler's Elbow Country Club**

**Rutgers Turfgrass Research  
FIELD DAYS  
TUESDAY, JULY 31, 2018  
Hort Farm 2, New Brunswick  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018  
Adelphia Farm, Freehold**

**Tuesday - Thursday  
December 4 - 6, 2018  
GREEN EXPO  
Borgata Hotel, Atlantic City NJ**

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