

1995 RUTGERS Turfgrass Proceedings



THE NEW JERSEY TURFGRASS ASSOCIATION

In Cooperation With

RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY
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1995 RUTGERS TURFGRASS PROCEEDINGS

of the

**New Jersey Turfgrass Expo
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The Rutgers Turfgrass Proceedings is published yearly by the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Cook College, Rutgers University in cooperation with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association. The purpose of this document is to provide a forum for the dissemination of information and the exchange of ideas and knowledge. The proceedings provide turfgrass managers, research scientists, extension specialists, and industry personnel with opportunities to communicate with co-workers. It also allows these professionals to reach a more general audience, which includes the public. Articles appearing in these proceedings are divided into two sections.

The first section includes lecture notes of papers presented at the 1995 New Jersey Turfgrass Expo. Publication of the New Jersey Turfgrass Expo Notes provides a readily available source of information covering a wide range of topics. The Expo Notes include technical and popular presentations of importance to the turfgrass industry.

The second section includes technical research papers containing original research findings and reviews covering selected subjects in turfgrass science. The primary objective of these papers is to facilitate the timely dissemination of original turfgrass research for use by the turfgrass industry.

Special thanks are given to those who have submitted papers for this proceedings, to the New Jersey Turfgrass Association for financial assistance, and to those individuals who have provided support to the Rutgers Turf Research Program at Cook College - Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Dr. Ann B. Gould, Editor
Dr. Bruce B. Clarke, Coordinator

THE RUTGERS TURFGRASS PROGRAM EXPANDS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE TURFGRASS INDUSTRY

Dr. Bruce B. Clarke¹

The 90's have been an extremely exciting time for the Rutgers Turfgrass Program. In 1991, the Center for Turfgrass Science was formed to foster nationally recognized research, undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional education, and service in support of the turfgrass industry. Since that time, the Center has gained access to a new state-of-the-art greenhouse and growth chamber facility, has moved into a new office and laboratory building called Foran Hall, and is now in the midst of a major hiring campaign. Due to the tremendous support of Cook College and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES), the Center has just hired five outstanding faculty. To meet the growing needs of the turfgrass industry, these scientists will work closely with the 21 faculty that are currently in the Center.

New Faculty

Dr. James White, a renowned authority on turfgrass endophytes, joined the Center and the Department of Plant Pathology on September 1, 1995. For the past seven years, he has worked at Auburn University where he published more than 60 research articles on the biology of turfgrass endophytes and related grass-infecting fungi. Dr. White's research program at Rutgers will focus on the pathogenic fungi that affect turfgrasses in the Northeastern United States and on the development of beneficial endophytes for turfgrass improvement.

Dr. Michael Richardson, an expert in turfgrass physiology and ecology, joined the Turfgrass Center and the Plant Science Department on January 1, 1996. Before coming to Rutgers, he specialized in stress physiology, grass-endophyte interactions, and natural product chemistry. Dr. Richardson has expressed an interest in initiating several collaborative research projects with members of the Center to develop turfgrasses with improved performance and stress tolerance. His expertise in natural products chemistry will enhance our ability to identify useful chemicals from naturally occurring microorganisms.

Dr. William Meyer, the world's leading authority on the development of disease resistant cool-season turfgrasses, joined our research team on April 17, 1996 as a turfgrass breeder. Dr. Meyer will assume the position of Associate Director of the Turfgrass Center and will have a research, teaching, and extension appointment in the Plant Science Department. Dr. Meyer has patented more than 60 turf and forage grasses that are produced and marketed worldwide. His improved cultivars have had a major impact on the turfgrass industries in the United States, Canada, the British Isles, Western Europe, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. At Rutgers, Dr. Meyer will also serve as faculty advisor to the Continuing Professional Education Turfgrass Teaching (CPETT) Program at Cook College and will be responsible for maintaining the instructional quality of the CPETT Program with the assistance of an instructional coordinator. Dr. Meyer will focus on developing bentgrasses and bluegrasses with improved pest and stress resistance. What an excellent team Dr. Meyer and Dr. Funk will make at Rutgers University.

¹ Director, Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Cook College, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

Dr. Jeff Derr, a weed scientist, joined the Rutgers faculty as a visiting scientist on May 6, 1996. He comes to Rutgers with eight years of experience in weed science at Virginia Polytech. Dr. Derr received a B.S. degree in horticulture from Penn State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. degree in weed science from North Carolina University. Dr. Derr will have both extension and research responsibilities in turf and ornamental weed control.

Dr. Paula Shrewsbury, an entomologist, is the latest addition to our faculty. She joined the faculty of the Center for Turfgrass Science and the Department of Entomology at Cook College - Rutgers University on July 1, 1996 as an Extension Specialist in turfgrass and ornamental entomology. Dr. Shrewsbury received a B.S. degree in plant science from the University of Rhode Island, an M.S. degree in entomology from the University of California-Riverside, and a Ph.D. degree in entomology from the University of Maryland. Her research has focused on the ecology and management of insect pests in the landscape environment. Dr. Shrewsbury will establish a research and extension program in turfgrass and ornamental entomology.

These positions represent a major commitment to the Turfgrass Industry and will dramatically enhance the Center's ability to conduct research, teaching, and extension programs in turfgrass science. This complement of new faculty will allow us to greatly expand our efforts in support of turfgrass managers throughout the tri-state area and will help to ensure our position as one of the best turf programs in the world.