



Connecticut Clippings

Volume 44, No 2

July/August 2010

UCONN'S NEW TURF PATHOLOGIST

The University of Connecticut announced at the Field Day on July 20th that John Inguagiato has accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Turfgrass Pathology. John has been a Post Doctoral Fellow at UCONN since 2009 running the Turfgrass Disease Diagnostic Center, conducting pathology research at the turf farm as well as teaching. John received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University where he studied the influence of cultural practices on anthracnose severity with Bruce Clarke and Jim Murphy. This

research serves as the foundation for best management practices developed for anthracnose control in putting green turf.

In his new position at UCONN, John will continue to teach Introduction to Plant Science in the Rackliffe Hicks (2 year) Program as well as guest lecture for the 4 year turf program, help with the Turf Bowl team preparation, run the Diagnostic Center, and expand his outreach and research programs. Current research projects include identifying

fungicide alternatives for algae control, optimizing application strategies (i.e., carrier volume and post-application irrigation for take-all patch control, and determining the potential for early-season fungicide application to improve efficacy, or reduce applications required for season long dollar spot control. Additionally, John is seeking to optimize nitrogen fertilization practices for anthracnose management by developing a simple, onsite testing method for foliar nitrate levels with funding provided by the New England Regional Turfgrass Foundation.

John is married to Michelle DaCosta, Ph.D., Plant/Turf Physiologist at UMASS.



Dr. John Inguagiato left is congratulated by Dr. Noel Jackson retired Turf Pathologist from URI

IN THIS ISSUE...	
President's Message.....	2
Heat Wreaking Havoc.....	3
Leadership Change at GCSAA...5	
Grasscatcher.....	6-7
Erica Fearn.....	8
CT Economic Impact.....	10
Mastering Pace of Play.....	11



John Garcia

The President's Message

our golf courses. The good news... Only 35 days to Labor Day!! Let's hope that August brings milder night-time temperatures, and good weather for recovery.

I would like to take this "opportunity" provided by Mother Nature to remind all of you of the tireless work that is ongoing at Universities across the country to assist us in providing better conditions for our members, fewer environmental impacts for future generations, and maybe even a few less sleepless nights for us. Many of the ongoing studies are in heat/drought tolerant grass species, new fungicide chemistry's, and improving cultural practices for the health of our golf courses. Aiding our local Universities in these endeavors is the Tri-State Research Foundation, which has collected, invested, and distributed funding to the regional Universities since 1992. At a recent meeting of the Tri-State Board of Directors, it was reported that there has been a sharp decline in contributions over the last several. This is not very surprising, as the economy has been a big factor in the decline. However, we also feel that the \$200 contribution is a small price to pay for the benefits provided to the industry. We are committed to improving annual contributions over the next several years, and hope that you will all

help us reach those goals. Please see the enclosed donation form, or simply request an invoice to be submitted to your club. Remember, these funds go towards making our jobs easier! Good luck with the rest of the summer, recovery weather is on the way!

The CAGCS Board of Directors and members wish to extend a warm welcome to Dr. John Inguagiato. - John Garcia, CAGCS President



Golf Course Architect Geoff Cornish. Stopped by the UMASS Turf Field Day to thank everyone for attending the Dinner that was held in his honor at the New England Regional Turf Conference in March.



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SUPERINTENDENTS, FACILITIES PULLING OUT ALL STOPS TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE

07/22/2010

Heat wreaking havoc on golf courses nationwide.

Prolonged periods of high temperatures, and in some cases, excessive rainfall, and high humidity have made life uncomfortable for golfers and golf courses alike, with Mother Nature holding all the cards for true relief.

"The simple fact is the cool-season turfgrasses such as bentgrass, fescue, bluegrass, annual bluegrass (Poa annua) and others are stressed when temperatures climb and humidity is high," Clark Throssell, Ph.D., director of research for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, said. "Golf courses in many parts of the country experience this every year, however what makes the situation so dire this year are the high levels of extended heat and humidity, and the sizeable

part of the country affected (Midwest, Mideast, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic)."

According to Throssell, golf facilities and those entrusted with managing the golf course – golf course superintendents – are not alone in this battle with the elements. However, the nature of their product makes their challenge greater.

"We are certainly seeing homeowners, athletic fields and businesses suffer turfgrass damage brought on by the conditions," Throssell said. "What makes it more difficult for golf facilities are the mowing heights are much lower and traffic is much heavier. That just adds to the stress on the turfgrass."

Throssell indicates that golf course superintendents are addressing the issue with a variety of management practices to make sure turfgrass survives. While there may be some short-term impact on playability of the course, the alternative is the loss of grass, the closure of the course and the additional costs of re-establishing playing surfaces (primarily putting greens).

He also cautioned golfers from thinking that water, whether from rain or irrigation, is the answer to the ills. There

is a difference between heat stress and drought stress. Adequate irrigation will alleviate drought stress. Adequate irrigation will not alleviate heat stress. It is not only possible, but likely, for a turfgrass plant to be adequately watered and still suffer from heat stress under extended periods of high temperatures.

Among the practices that superintendents are implementing to manage golf courses include:

- Raising the mowing heights of playing areas, most notably putting greens.

- Alternating daily practices of mowing and rolling putting greens, with consideration to skipping a day if the schedule of play allows.

- Forgoing double mowing, topdressing, verticutting or grooming greens.

- Watering to provide adequate soil moisture, but not over watering as saturated soil will cause the turfgrass to decline rapidly.

- Hand watering as much as feasible. If a green has a dry spot or two, superintendents will hand water the *continued on page 4...*



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dry spots only and will not water the entire green. When the entire green shows stress from a lack of water, superintendents use the overhead sprinklers and water the entire green.

- Avoid aerifying using large diameter tines that penetrate deeply into soil and remove a core of soil. If a superintendent feels the putting surface is sealed, venting using small diameter solid tines or other similar technique is employed.

- If fertilizer is required, small amounts of fertilizer are applied via a sprayer and observation of the response occurs before fertilizing again.

- Monitoring and adjusting golf car traffic patterns to minimize stress to turf.

Throssell indicated that during periods such as this, it becomes easy to compare golf course conditions and pressure decision makers into actions that might prove detrimental to the long term health of the playing surface.

"Communication is vital," Throssell said. "Superintendents, golf professionals, owners, managers and others must be in constant contact with golfers to educate

them on what is happening at the facility. But golfers must also understand that golf courses are like snowflakes – no two are alike. Some courses may be able to withstand the challenges of Mother Nature better than others because of better drainage and soil conditions, better air flow due to the placement of trees, less traffic or the presence of greater financial resources.

"We know the weather conditions will become more agreeable. What is important right now is to manage the golf course in a manner so that turf can be kept alive until that point."

GCSAA is a leading golf organization and has as its focus golf course management. Since 1926, GCSAA has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information

and representation to more than 20,000 members in more than 72 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and enhance the enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf. The association's philanthropic organization, The Environmental Institute for Golf, works to strengthen the compatibility of golf with the natural environment through research grants, support for education programs and outreach efforts. Visit GCSAA at www.gcsaa.org.

For more information contact:
Clark Throssell, Ph.D., GCSAA director of research, 800-472-7878

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June 22, 2010

Dear GCSAA members,

The purpose of this communication is to inform you of a leadership change at GCSAA.

Mark Woodward, CGCS, has resigned from his post as GCSAA chief executive officer to pursue other career interests, effective immediately. Mark has done a solid job managing the organization during one of the worst economic climates in our country's history. His leadership also served to position GCSAA prominently for its research, programs and education regarding golf's relationship with the environment. We wish him success in his future endeavors.

As we make this transition, the GCSAA Board of Directors is dedicated to serving you and identifying a highly qualified replacement. Effective immediately, GCSAA will launch a nationwide search to hire Mark's successor. During this interim time, GCSAA Chief Operating Officer Rhett Evans has agreed to lead the organization until a permanent replacement is named.

The GCSAA Board is committed to the continued success of the association. We are focused on identifying a CEO who will continue to uphold our mission, provide excellent service to our members and implement effective strategies advancing the organization in the future.

Please know that the Board of Directors is focused on ensuring your success and that of your facility. Our services will not be interrupted nor diminished at any time thanks in large part to our talented and professional staff. We appreciate your support during this process.

If you have any additional questions later, please feel free to contact me directly at jfitzroy@presidentsgc.com, or via phone at 617-328-1776 or cell at 617-733-4438.

Thank you,

Jim Fitzroy, CGCS
GCSAA President



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Congratulations

To Eric Morrison, CGCS has successfully met all of the requirements in the GCSAA Certification program. Here is a statement from Eric to GCSAA regarding the program. "It has been a personal career goal of mine to become certified; this goal was formulated when the first superintendent I worked for, Ward Weischet, CGCS, went through the process himself. From that point forward, I knew I wanted to challenge myself personally and professionally to earn the CGCS designation."

To the following members who have been recertified so far in 2010 with GCSAA:
Peter Bacon, CGCS
Erick Holm, CGCS
Les Kennedy, Jr., CGCS

Mike & Becky Lorch, GC Avon on the birth of their first child, Madison Meghan, 7 lbs 9 oz and 21 1/2" long on born January 20th

Dan & Samantha Rogers, New London CC on the birth of their son George Mason. "Big George was born on May 5th and weighed in a very healthy 9 lbs 14 oz

Bill & Amanda Goewey, Sharon CC, on the birth of their second daughter Ava Grace, 7 lbs 15 oz and 19 1/2" long born on May 6th

Jason & Jocelyn Booth, New Haven CC, on the birth of their baby girl, Addison O'Brien Booth, on May 14th weighing in at 7 lbs 12 oz

Condolences

To Peter Bly, on the passing of his mother Alicia Frances Bly on April 1, 2010

Edward Anderson, 84, a member of CAGCS since 1952 passed away on May 7th in Port Charlotte, FL. Donations in memory of Ed Anderson's name can be made to: Tidewell Hospice, Funds Dept., 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238

To Gary DePaola on the passing of his father Ted DePaola, Sr. on May 25, 2010

To Paul Bednarczyk on the passing of his father Henry Bednarczyk on June 7, 2010.

Well Wishes!

To Pat Chalifour on her recovery from knee replacement surgery.

What could your chapter do with \$3,000?

Entries are being accepted for Lebanon Turf's 2011 Dog Days of Golf Calendar and Dog of the Year contest. Enter a picture of your golf course canine companion today.

If selected for the calendar your dog will also have a chance to be crowned 2011 Dog of the Year, garnering a \$3,000 prize for your affiliated chapter and \$500 prize for you. Lebanon Turf's 2011 Dog Days of Golf Calendar will be delivered to your doorstep with the November issue of Golf Course Management magazine. Submit your entry at www.gcsaa.org/dogcalendar, or email a high resolution photo to lebturfdogcalendar@gcsaa.org. Don't delay - entries will be accepted through August 2, 2010.

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CAGCS Awards Annual Scholarships

The following are recipients of the 2010 CAGCS scholarships.

Dr. Richard Skogley Scholarship recipient: Randi Schock, she is the daughter of Richard Schock, Jr. She is attending Southern CT State University.

CAGCS Scholarships were awarded to: Austin Adaskaveg, son of Alexander Adaskaveg, he is attending Western New England College; Maggie Ball, daughter of Ed Ball, she is attending Penn State; John Bresnahan, he is the son of John J. Bresnahan he is attending Plymouth State University; Tyler DeVaux, son of Gary DeVaux, he is attending Lyndon State College; Neal Donahue, son of Michael Donahue, he is attending University of New Haven; Edward Dukette, son of Michael Dukette, he is attending University of Hartford; Patrick Gallagher, son of John Gallagher, III, he is attending Central CT State University; Meghan Gennings, daughter of Scott Gennings, CGCS, she is attending University of Massachusetts; Elizabeth Malay, daughter of Joseph Malay, she is attending Liberty University; Emily Malay, daughter of Joseph Malay, she is attending Trinity International University; Alexandra Mish, daughter of Terrance Mish, she is attending Springfield College; Justin O'Neill, son of Timothy O'Neill, he is attending Brown University; Kristen O'Neill, daughter of Timothy O'Neill, CGCS, she is attending Connecticut College; Jonathan Pope, son of Brian Pope, he will be attending University of Tampa; Emma Santoro, daughter of James Santoro, she will be attending Colgate University; Brittany Staszowski, daughter of James Staszowski, she is attending Simmons College; Kathryn Wallace, daughter of Dave & Vicki Wallace, she will be attending University of Connecticut; Kara Wojick, daughter of Greg Wojick, she will be attending University of Connecticut.

A Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Anthony Minniti, who is employed at Orange Hills Country Club, Jud Smith, Golf Course Superintendent he attending University of Connecticut Turf Program.

The Board of Directors and members of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents want to congratulate all recipients, and wish them the best in their scholastic endeavors.

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ERICA FEARN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CTEC

Over the years, the watchdog association in the pesticide industry has gone through changes. What was PPUC (Professional Pesticide Users of CT) became the EIC (Environmental Industry Council) and now is CTEC, CT Environmental Council. The issues in their sights have expanded to water as well as pesticide use and last year issued a change in leadership too. Long time Executive Director, Dick Tice, retired and is traveling the country with his wife in their RV. The Executive Director position has been filled by Erica Fearn, Accrete Group, LLC. Accrete Group, LLC is an association management company based in Marlborough, CT.

Erica has always had an interest in nature growing up in South Windsor and spending lots of time on her Grandfather's potato farm. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Connecticut and began her career as a retail store manager for Agway. After six years with Agway, Erica changed her career path from

retail to non-profit management. She has worked with the Connecticut Farm Bureau as Director of Organization, five years as Executive Director and with American Farm Bureau Federation as Area Director of Programs & Policy Development in the Northeast Region. In 2002, Erica received her Certified Association Executive designation from the American Society of Association Executives.

In her job with Accrete Group, LLC, Erica serves as Executive Director for two Connecticut Associations; the Irrigation Contractors, the Grounds Keepers and the Environmental Council. Her duties include coordinating association functions/meetings, taking minutes of meetings, correspondence, their newsletter and support/coordinating with the Lobbyist. Erica also serves as a board member of Land Good a 501c3 organization chartered in New Hampshire and serves the New England states.

Some of the challenges Erica foresees is getting members of the associations involved when there isn't a hot topic before the legislature and knowing what to keep an eye on for potential issues in our industry. She would like the input of CAGCS members so she and the lobbyist know what is important to us and what

we would like to be kept informed about at the Capital. Contact information is Connecticut Environmental Council, 17 Rivendell Road, Marlborough, CT 06447, www.ctenvironmentalfacts.org, 203-758-7297, FAX: 860-228-1337.

Erica and family live in West Suffield where she is fulfilling her life long dream of living on a farm. They have a variety of pets, nut trees and raise meat goats.



Erica Fearn, Executive Director, CTEC



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CONNECTICUT GOLF INDUSTRY DELIVERS ECONOMIC IMPACT OF \$1.1 BILLION, EMPLOYS 11,570 WITH TOTAL WAGE INCOME OF \$336 MILLION

June 22, 2010 – The Connecticut Golf Alliance announced the golf industry in the state comprised of 185 small businesses and the Travelers Championship delivers an annual economic impact of \$1.1 Billion.

The study completed by SRI International identified the following elements:

	Direct Impact (\$ M)	Indirect & Induced	Total Impact (\$ M)	Total Jobs	Total Wage Income (\$ M)
Golf Facility Operations	\$425.6	-----	\$783.7	8,830	\$250.5
Golf Course Capital Improvements	\$59.8		\$8.1	61	\$2.6
Golfer Supplies	\$70.5		\$134.3	933	\$37.1
Tournaments & Associations	\$14.0		\$28.0	399	\$10.3
Real Estate	\$20.9		\$24.4	182	\$7.7
Hospitality / Tourism	\$46.9		\$89.7	1,165	\$28.4
Total	\$637.7		\$1068.2	11,570	\$336.6

The study further reveals the Golf Industry is comparable to revenues generated by other key industries in the state, such as accounting and tax preparation (\$1.5 billion), limited menu (fast food) restaurants (\$1.3 billion), and nurseries/greenhouses (\$273.8 million).

Additionally the golf industry employs 11,570 earning \$336 million and generated \$32 million for charity.

Golf is important to Connecticut for the diverse group of businesses the game supports, the people it employs, the tax revenue it creates, the tourism it spawns, the charity it generates, and the environmental leadership it provides.

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NEW BOOK MASTERING PACE OF PLAY HELPS GOLF COURSES IMPROVE

Certified Golf Course Superintendent, Steve Southard, of Loveland, Colorado has spent the past 20 years working to improve the pace of play at the golf courses he has managed. His new book, *Mastering Pace of Play*, clearly explains the management that is required to offer golfers an enjoyable pace of play. Long playing times are not always caused by slow golfers. Far too often, long playing times are the result of management decisions that inevitably result in what is commonly referred to as "slow play". *Mastering Pace of Play* is a 92 page full color 10-step golf management tool that explores the real causes of long playing times.


When every golf professional, golf course superintendent, golf course owner, golf course employee and golfer fully understands their role and influence on pace of play, most long playing times will be eliminated. The chapters include a complete discussion of:

- Winning Pace of Play Policy Implementation

- Understanding Beverage Cart Operations
- Why Customizing Tee Sheets Will Provide an Improved Pace of Play
- Understanding Why Leagues and Outings Often Have Long Playing Times
- Developing Natural Area Management Plans and Tree Programs to Improve the Pace
- Recognizing the "Things" That Create Back-ups on a Golf Course.
- Understanding Design Aspects That Contribute to Long Playing Times
- How a Golf Course Can Develop A+ Training for Their Rangers
- Developing Multiple Defenses Against Slow Play – Not All Forms of Golf Are the Same
- The Real Key to Improving Pace of Play

All slow play is not caused by slow golfers. Superintendents and maintenance staff members can assist their golf course in developing the skills and strategies that will result in improved playing times. If you work at a golf course, this dialogue is a must. You really can help your course improve the pace of play and you may even become an expert!

Visit www.paceandproduction.com/masteringpaceofplay.html to order the book *Mastering Pace of Play*. After reading, you may be compelled to become the pace of play leader at your golf course.



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2010 UCONN Field Day - July 22, 2010





Spring Tiphia parasite feeding on Japanese Beetle grub

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