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Volume 9 Issue 5

September/October 2016

Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)
 California Environmental Protection Agency

Environmental Health Study of Synthetic Turf

August 2016 Update

The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has provided an update on their study of the potential health effects associated with the chemicals released from synthetic turf and playground mats containing recycled waste tires. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which regulates the use of waste tires in California, has contracted with OEHHA to perform the study. The following is a condensed summary of the OEHHA update that was recently released.



The study is assessing the potential health consequences associated with playing on synthetic turf fields and playground mats. It is examining athletic fields and playground mats made from crumb rubber derived from recycled waste tires.

Parts of the study include:

- Identifying and measuring chemicals released from crumb rubber and artificial grass blades in indoor/outdoor fields and playground mats throughout CA.
- How weather affects synthetic turf.
- Monitor particulate matter and specific chemicals that can be inhaled.
- Determine the size distribution of the collected particulate matter.
- Evaluate exposures to chemicals released from crumb rubber and synthetic grass blades through inhalation, swallowing, and skin contact.

This includes consideration of:

- The extent to which individuals (for example athletes and bystanders) are

exposed, based on their activity and how often and long they stay on the field.

- How exposure to the chemicals varies by age groups of athletes and bystanders.
- Movement of chemicals from turf into body fluids.
- Evaluating the hazards and toxicological activities of chemicals released from turf. This includes examining the ways that sensitive populations, such as children, may be more vulnerable to chemicals released from synthetic turf fields.
- Developing a study protocol for measuring chemicals from synthetic turf in urine or other bodily fluids of athletes, or using personal monitors worn by athletes. These studies could take place after completion of the current study.

OEHHA has extended the project completion date to mid-2019. For more information go to: [Environmental Health Study of Synthetic Turf - August 2016 Update](#)

<http://oehha.ca.gov/media/downloads/faqs/turfstudyfactsheet082016.pdf>

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE IT TOUGH WHEN IT COMES TO HARVESTING TURFGRASS... THINK AGAIN!

By Jim Novak

Back in the 1940's, 50's and even the early 60's, the harvesting of turfgrass was far more labor intensive than it is today. Thanks to innovative technology, sod harvesting mechanization and many other advancements, the industry has changed dramatically, increasing productivity while reducing labor costs considerably.

While no one is suggesting that turfgrass farming is an easy business, it's far better than it was a generation or two ago.

If by chance you need any convincing just consider Bouasavanh Landscape Design in Phonesavath Neua Village, Vientiane, Laos. They provide turfgrass sod to residential homeowners, and they have a reputation that suggests they do a pretty good job but the way they harvest their turfgrass isn't for the weak hearted ... they cut their turfgrass by hand.

<https://www.facebook.com/btgrass/videos/769949276377994/>



NEWSMAKERS



TPI board member **Hank Kerfoot**, founder and president of Modern Turf, Inc. in Rembert, South Carolina received a nice 10-page spread in the Fall 2016 issue of *TURF TRENDS* magazine.

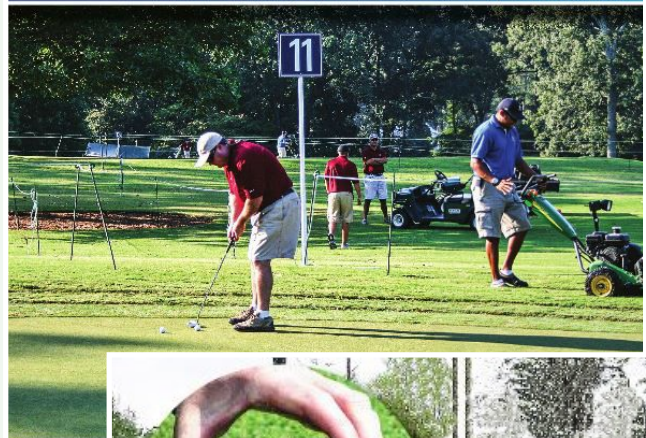


THE TURF EXPERTS

By Allen Thayer FORMER GOLF SUPERINTENDENT HANK KERFOOT FINDS HIS CALLING, SELLING SOD



MODERN TURF INC.
The company was founded with the expertise of several former golf course superintendents. The original founder and president of Modern Turf is Hank Kerfoot, a graduate of Lake City (Fla.) Community College. The vice president is B.J. Haunert, a graduate of Ohio State University. Buddy Smith covers the Carolinas as sales manager and has a wealth of information and experience in the golf and landscape industries. Individually they have been involved in all phases of course management and construction and boast more than 50 combined years of turfgrass management experience in the U.S., Bermuda, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas. Visit www.modernturf.com



Also featured, TPI member and past president, **David Doguet** of Bladerunner Farms in Poteet, Texas.

Golf Digest Names Top Innovator & Influencer of 2016

TPI member and past president, David Doguet of Bladerunner Farms is listed among select individuals whose work could change the game of golf beyond recognition and in a good way according to Ron Whitten, a contributing writer for Golf Digest.

Whitten writes, "If the business of breeding better turfgrass is a turf war, no one is more competitive than David Doguet."

"His latest creation, LIF zoysia, is a sensation. It has been chosen by Tiger Woods for the tees and green surrounds at his first American course, Bluejack National in Montgomery, Texas."

"In June, Doguet will roll out M85 zoysia. He calls it the ultimate, a near grain-less strain suitable for fairways yet capable of handling the lowest mowing height any PGA Tour official might prescribe. It keeps its color without fertilization and is salt tolerant, so it'll remain healthy despite poor water quality. Because its blades grow very slowly, Doguet predicts M85 fairways and greens will need mowing just once or twice a week."

www.turfgrassod.org



David Doguet



To read both articles go to: <http://read.uberflip.com/i/721452-fall-2016>.



A THOUSAND THANKS TO A THOUSAND FANS



facebook

MORE THAN A THOUSAND THANKS

TPI's FACEBOOK page is approaching **1100** followers.

To visit the TPI Facebook page click on the graphic to the left or go to <https://www.facebook.com/TurfgrassProducersInternational>.

You don't have to be a Facebook subscriber to visit the page. If you are already a Facebook subscriber, be sure to click **LIKE**.





Turfgrass Producers International Henderson County woman heads industry group Linda P. Bradley of Turf Mountain Sod is association's first female president

By Derek Lacey
Times-News Staff Writer
Published: Sunday, August 21, 2016



Linda Pittillo Bradley, co-owner of Turf Mountain Sod in Hendersonville, is the new president of Turfgrass Producers International, an industry association with more than 600 members in 40 countries across the globe.

Bradley has worked at Turf Mountain Sod for 21 of the company's 29 years, and she and her brother Wayne took over as co-owners a couple years ago, she said. "You need to give back to the organization that has given you so much," she said of her service to TPI.

Bradley's term began July 2, and she is the first female president of TPI, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017.

"The position is all volunteer, and officers pay for their own travel and expenses. But for the organization to stay as strong and viable as it is, people have to donate and give time, no different from being involved in one's community," Bradley said.

The worldwide association is committed to the advancement of the turfgrass sod industry, according to its website. TPI is comprised of sod and seed producers, equipment manufacturers and suppliers as well as those involved with education and turf-related research. Bradley was elected president during the group's annual business meeting in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 23.

Officers work their way through the ranks from secretary-treasurer to vice president and then on to president, in one-year terms. After she completes her term as president, Bradley will serve one year on the board as past president.

Steve Trusty, co-editor of *Turf News*, wrote that Bradley's role as president is one "she is uniquely qualified for and one she approaches with respect and appreciation for those who formed and nurtured the association. She's committed to building on that legacy to ensure TPI's positive impact on the turfgrass industry."

As president, the list of duties is long, she said, and "it's a lot like running your own business," especially since TPI is currently without an executive director.

Turf Mountain has been a member of TPI for its entire 29 years in business. Alongside North Carolina State University, TPI supplies Turf Mountain with the majority of the quality information it needs for growing sod, according to Bradley.

"In order to grow a good product, you need to be educated," she said.

During her one-year term, she'll be traveling to meetings at the group's Chicago headquarters, and she'll be president during the group's 50th anniversary meeting in Tampa next February.

A graduate of Appalachian State University, she was first elected to serve on the TPI Board of Trustees in 2012, and her father, Fred Pittillo, served on the same board 1996-1999.

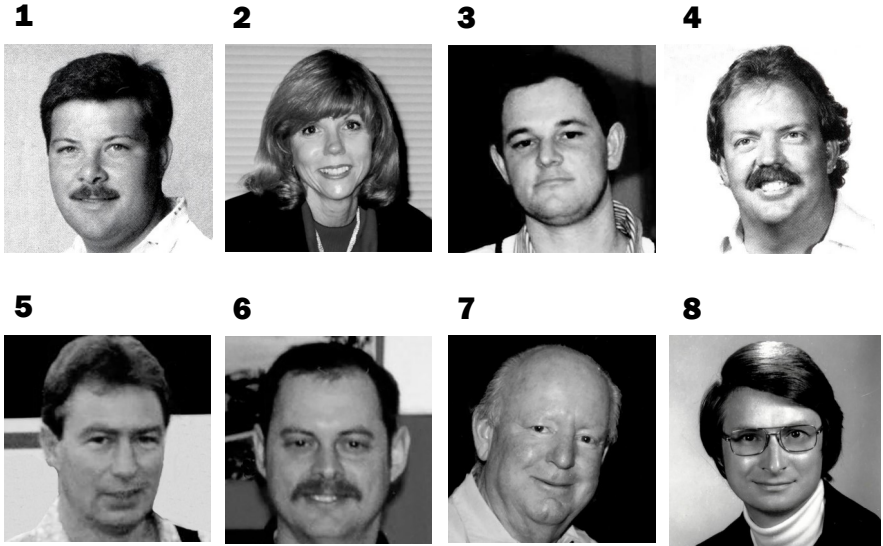
Bradley also is active in the TPI Public Relations Working Group and the North Carolina Sod Producers Association, according to a TPI news release.



DO THESE FACES LOOKS FAMILIAR?

The third in a series of photo quizzes as TPI prepares to celebrate its 50th Anniversary this coming February in Tampa, Florida.

These photos were pulled from the TPI archives. All of these individuals have been associated with TPI for a good number of years and it's likely you have met some or all of them at a TPI event. How many can you identify? Answers appear on the next page.



TurfSide-UP

<p>THE COFFEE CAFE</p> <p>12:02 pm</p> <p>Me, I'm a turfgrass sod producer, and you?</p> <p>Believe it or not, I sell artificial turf. Yep, good old reliable plastic.</p>	<p>THE COFFEE CAFE</p> <p>12:27 pm</p> <p>Yada, yada, yada...</p> <p>You got your plastic forks, plastic spoons, plastic flowers, plastic toys, plastic phones, plastic...</p>
<p>THE COFFEE CAFE</p> <p>12:49 pm</p> <p>Gee whiz, take a break already.</p> <p>Yeah, everything's plastic nowadays. You got your plastic...</p>	<p>THE COFFEE CAFE</p> <p>12:56 pm</p> <p>Say buddy, can you loan me a couple of bucks? They don't accept plastic?</p> <p>Novak 12/05</p>

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ — “DO THESE FACES LOOK FAMILIAR?”

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| (1) Duane Klundt | 0 CORRECT — You are invited to attend the First Time Attendee Orientation Session. |
| (2) Ginger Brooking | 1 CORRECT — You get a two point bonus for knowing someone! |
| (3) Johnny Trandem | 2 CORRECT — Six of these people are very disappointed. |
| (4) Randy Graff | 3 CORRECT — Only three huh? |
| (5) Rob Davey | 4 CORRECT — Give yourself a pat on the back. |
| (6) Jim Kinservik | 5 CORRECT — Very impressive |
| (7) Ken Ensor | 6 CORRECT — Absolutely splendid |
| (8) Steve Cockerham | 7 CORRECT — You did better than the person who designed this quiz. |
| | 8 CORRECT — You must be Steve Cockerham. |



**Showcase Your Vintage Equipment
During TPI'S 50TH Anniversary Field Day
February 22, 2017**



Do you have vintage equipment you would like to feature during TPI's 50th Anniversary Field Day, or do you know someone who would like to showcase one of their prized possessions?

If so, please contact the TPI office at 847-649-5555 and let us know what antique equipment you want to display. If you need assistance in transporting your vintage equipment let us know.

Mike Blair, Farm Manager of Green Velvet Sod Farms, is serving as our Vintage Equipment Coordinator.

THE LAWN INSTITUTE IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE



Scholarship Applications
for the 2017
Dr. Henry W. Indyk Scholarship
Are now being accepted

TPI members, their family, their employees, and their employee's families who will be attending college or graduate school during the 2017-2018 academic year are encouraged to apply.

VALUED UP TO \$10,000



APPLY TODAY!

Visit: TheLawnInstitute.org to download your scholarship application or contact The Lawn Institute +1-847-649-5555

APPLY HERE

<http://www.TheLawnInstitute.org/pages/science/scholarships/>



MEET THE PRESS

Our sincere thanks to **SportsTurf** and **Northwest Landscape Professional** magazine for featuring TPI and TLI related stories with their readers.

TPI's article addressing the health concerns associated with crumb rubber "Crumb Rubber: Seeing is believing but what if no one can see it?" was featured in *SportsTurf* July issue.

<http://read.dmtmag.com/i/693015-july-2016>

The Lawn Institute's article, "Natural Grass Returns to M&T Bank Stadium," was featured in the July issue of the *Northwest Landscape Professional* magazine on pages 20 and 21.

<http://data.axmag.com/data/VIP/201608/U23972/F396827/FLASH/index.html>





THE LAWN INSTITUTE INVITES RESEARCHERS TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS.

The Lawn Institute
2 East Main Street — East Dundee, IL 60118 USA

The Lawn Institute will accept grant proposals until 5:00 pm Central Standard Time on December 1, 2016. Notifications will be sent in May 2017.

For more detailed information

[CLICK HERE](#)

or visit

www.TheLawnInstitute.org and click “Research Grants.”

SUBMIT RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS

RESEARCH GRANTS

Grant funding is available beginning June 2017 for studies that impact turfgrass farmers, distributors and consumers. Of particular interest is research in the following areas:

- **Cultural Impact of Turfgrass**
- **Extending Harvested Turf “Shelf Life”**
- **Environmental Awareness**
- **Production Cost**
- **Compilations and Summaries of Existing Research on:**
 - ◊ Nutrients and Pesticides
 - ◊ The Role of Turfgrass in Protecting the Environment
 - ◊ Benefits of Turfgrass



Send us your PHOTOS!

Do you have some old photos that capture how the turfgrass industry has changed over the last 50 years? Photos of equipment, ASPA/TPI events, farm operations, or you and other members? If so, we would like to include them in the creation of a photo history of how things have changed in half a century.

If you have photos to share please contact Jim Novak at the TPI office 847-649-5555 or send copies to: info@TurfGrassSod.org.

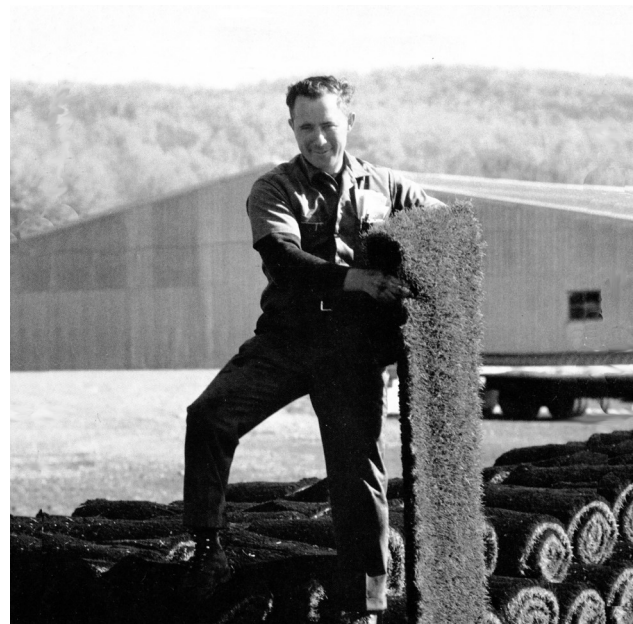


PHOTO: Charles Lain Sr. of Pine Island Turf featured in *Weeds Trees & Turf* magazine in August of 1980.





The TPI Board of Trustees feels it is important that individuals be acknowledged for their contribution to TPI and the turfgrass industry. If you know someone who deserves to be honored please submit their name for consideration.

Submit a separate form for each individual you would like to nominate.

AWARD CATEGORIES

HONORARY MEMBER - Outstanding contribution to the research, planting, growing and marketing of turfgrass sod. (Need not be a current TPI member.)

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE - Outstanding devotion of time, talent and energy to TPI, its programs and objectives for five or more years. (Need not be a TPI member.)

INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD - Unique and significant achievement that advances turfgrass sod production through research, engineering, training, marketing, public relations or environmental improvement, etc. (Must be a current TPI member.)

TURFGRASS EDUCATOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE - Outstanding contribution to the turfgrass industry be it in the area of academics, public outreach, involvement with turfgrass associations, turfgrass producers, suppliers, manufacturers, research, etc. (Need not be a current TPI Member.)

(Check only one) **Honorary Member** **Distinguished Service**
 Innovator of the Year Award **Turfgrass Educator Award of Excellence**

Nominee (Nominee's name and contact information)

Name _____ Company _____
 Address _____ City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip _____
 Country _____ Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Submitted By (Fill in your name and contact information)

Name _____ Company _____
 Address _____ City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip _____
 Country _____ Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Reason (List the most compelling reasons this nominee should be considered for this award)

(Attach additional page if necessary.)

Please submit your Nomination Form on or before October 31, 2016 to:
Turfgrass Producers International Honors & Awards Program
 2 East Main Street, East Dundee, IL 60118 U.S.A.
 Phone 847/649-5555 Fax 847/649-5678
 email info@TurfGrassSod.org





How would you like to see everyone wearing your t-shirt design at TPI's 50th Anniversary Celebration in Tampa, FL, this February? All TPI members, their families and their employees are invited to submit their design ideas to TPI by October 14, 2016.

Submit your ideas to TPI at info@TurfGrassSod.org or mail them to T-Shirt Contest, Turfgrass Producers International, 2 East Main Street, East Dundee, IL 60018.

Design a T-Shirt. Make it a fun activity for the entire family.

Designs can be on the front, the back, or on both sides of the t-shirt.

You don't have to be a great artist to submit an idea. A professional artist will render your suggestion if necessary; so be creative and let your imagination flow.



Intended as an example

NOTE: Shirts feature the location of every ASPA/TPI conference or convention over 50 years.



"We've reduced wetting agents by 50%,
and saving 50,000-100,000 gallons
of water per night."



CHEMICAL-FREE WATER SOFTENING TREATMENT
RainlikeWater.com





TLI FUNDRAISERS ARE SURE TO STIR UP PLENTY OF EXCITEMENT DURING TPI'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

All proceeds support turfgrass research, education and TLI's scholarship program.



ATV Raffle Tickets:
1 for \$25.00
5 for \$100.00

Imagine winning a John Deere Gator™ RSX860i. It has the power to treat tight off-road turns around the farm as if they are nothing at all.

This edition of the RSX is faster than ever before, with a powerful, agile, smooth, and comfortable ride, as well as everything a John Deere Gator™ Utility Vehicle is traditionally known for — quality, safety, durability, and the strongest work ethic in the category.

More information will be forthcoming.

THANK YOU

A sincere thank you to the following TPI Canadian members and John Deere for making this ATV Raffle possible.

- Advanced Equipment Sales**
- Brouwer Kesmac**
- Gerry Brouwer**
- Greenhorizons Group**
- Load Lifter Manufacturing**
- Manderley Turf Products**
- Progressive Turf Equipment**
- Zander Sod Co. Limited**





**TLI FUNDRAISERS AT
TPI's 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

All proceeds support turfgrass research, education and
TLI's scholarship program.



LIVE AUCTION

The Lawn Institute's LIVE AUCTION will provide everyone with a great opportunity to bid on a wide variety of outstanding items. Call-in bidding will be accepted too! TLI wishes to thank all the sponsors for their generous support. Plan now to bid on any of the wonderful prizes featured here and on the next page.



Covered Wagon

All Options—Philip Poyntz, Poyntz Inc.

TPI 2018 TUCSON
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE & FIELD DAYS
WESTIN LA PALOMA RESORT
TUCSON, ARIZONA, FEBRUARY 12-15, 2018 Host Farm | Evergreen Turf, Inc.

Dinner for Eight
STEAKHOUSE

**The Westin La Paloma
Resort & Spa
Tucson, Arizona**

Full Conference & Hotel Package
Sponsored by TPI
PLUS Steakhouse Dinner for Eight
Bob Weerts, Blue Valley Sod, Inc.

WINE OF THE MONTH

**GIFT
BOXED
STEAKS**

STEAK COMPANY
TASTE. IT MATTERS.

Steak & Wine Club (MONTHLY)
Box of Steaks & Bottle of Wine
Steven Dover, Bucyrus Equipment





TLI FUNDRAISERS AT TPI'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

All proceeds support turfgrass research, education and TLI's scholarship program.



LIVE AUCTION – MORE GREAT ITEMS



Duck Hunting Trip
Eddie Keeven, Emerald View Turf



**4 Day Snowmobiling Trip
West Yellowstone**
Gregg Tvetene, Trebro Manufacturing



Handmade Quilt
Kim Nugent, Bethel Farms



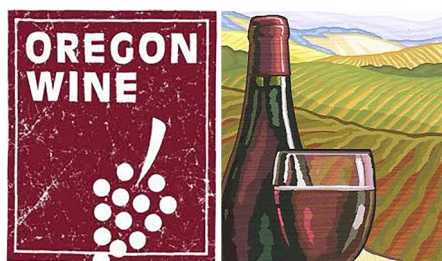
**Dinner for 8 anywhere in
North America**
Personally prepared at your location by
Hank and Mary Kerfoot, Modern Turf



Brouwer Turf Roller Model #BTR30
Free delivery in North America
Gerry Brouwer, Brouwer Kesmac



2 - 50 Quart Bison Coolers
Ed Lee, Summit Seed



Case of Oregon Wine
John Rector, Barenbrug



**Jewelry Settings
Green Amethyst**
Settings: Hilda Jasperson,
Jasperson Sod Farm
Stones: Bob Weerts, Blue Valley Sod

To learn more about the Live Auction and information on the TPI 2017 International Education Conference & Field Day please visit www.TurfGrassSod.org



50th Anniversary FARM CHALLENGE!



As TPI looks forward to celebrating 50 fabulous years, there's no better way to support this milestone than by contributing to the Farm Challenge.

The Brookings of Brookmeade Sod Farm have pledged to donate \$100 for every year of their 45 year membership and they challenge other farms to do the same. Match their pledge and donate \$100 for each year you have been a member. Donations of any size are welcome!

Farm Challenge donations will fund 50th Anniversary Celebration activities and TLI research, education and scholarship initiatives.



Questions may be directed to the TPI Headquarters office!

[Click here to donate](#)



Or visit:

<http://www.TheLawnInstitute.org/pages/tpis-50th-anniversary/>

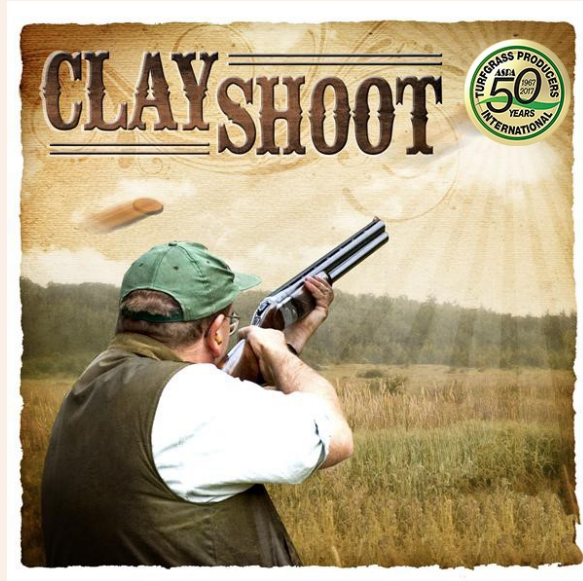
Accepting the challenge!

The following TPI members have generously contributed to the 50th Anniversary FARM CHALLENGE. Won't you join them?

Donations of any size are welcome.

- Louis & Ginger Brooking — *Brookmeade Sod Farm*
- Ben & LaVonne Copeland — *Patten Seed/Super Sod*
- John & Betty Addink — *A-G Sod Farms*
- Randy & Hilda Jaspersen — *Jaspersen Sod Farm*
- Warren & Tammy Bell — *BioGrass Sod Farms*
- Fred & Merle Pittillo — *Turf Mountain Sod*
- Will & Kim Nugent — *Bethel Farms*
- Hank & Mary Kerfoot — *Modern Turf*
- Steve & Laurie Griffen — *Saratoga Sod Farm*

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND



The Lawn Institute's Clay Shooting Tournament was so popular at last year's conference they'll be doing it again in Tampa.

The Rootin' Tootin' Clay Shootin' event will take place on Monday, February 20. More details will be forthcoming.





TPI HISTORY DO YOU KNOW?



As featured on TPI's Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/TurfgrassProducersInternational>

1. What famous country music entertainer performed at TPI's 1996 Conference in Austin, Texas?

a. Randy Travis b. Conway Twitty c. Eddie Rabbit d. Larry Gatlin e. Kenny Rogers

2. What former National Football League quarterback spoke at ASPA's 1981 Midwinter Conference in Lake Tahoe, Nevada?

a. Terry Bradshaw b. Roman Gabriel c. Ken Stabler d. Joe Namath e. Roger Staubach

3. When was the first issue of TURF NEWS magazine published?

a. 1967 b. 1970 c. 1974 d. 1977 e. 1979

4. Gerry Brouwer of Brouwer Kesmac was the first non-U.S. member elected to the ASPA/TPI Board of Trustees. What year was he elected?

a. 1970 b. 1972 c. 1978 d. 1981 e. 1985

5. In 1998, Ike Thomas of Thomas Bros. Turf Farms showed his appreciation to his employees by bringing them to TPI's Midwinter Conference in Maui, Hawaii. How many employees did he bring to the Conference?

a. 21 b. 33 c. 57 d. 78 e. 97

6. UP FROM DOWN UNDER

A record number of Australian turfgrass producers and their families were in attendance at TPI's 2014 International Education Conference & Field Day in Orlando, Florida. How many Aussies were in attendance?

a. 25 b. 32 c. 41 d. 55 e. 62

7. What year was Michelle Williams elected to serve as the first woman on the ASPA/TPI Board?

a. 1969 b. 1972 c. 1978 d. 1980 e. 1988

ANSWERS: 1-d, 2-b, 3-d, 4-b, 5-d, 6-e and 7-d.

**TOGETHER
WE GROW
STRONGER**

**Grow your business—
become a member of TPI.**

TPI's Membership Campaign encourages all members to promote our great organization to potential members.

Go to www.TurfGrassSod.org and click on the *Become a Member* tab or wherever you see the **Together We Grow Stronger** logo for more information on how you can help TPI GROW STRONGER.



TPI members turn Rio venues GREEN!

TPI members provided turfgrass for soccer fields, equestrian, rugby, assorted training venues and the Olympic Golf Course.



TPI member **Sod Solutions** provided the grass for many of the field activities for the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. The company's flagship bermudagrass, Celebration, covered the surface of a number of stadium venues, including Maracanã Stadium home of the opening and closing ceremonies. Celebration was also featured on five Olympic soccer fields, equestrian, rugby and assorted training venues.



Rio's Maracana Stadium hosted the games Opening and Closing Ceremonies. The stadium represents just one of the venues that featured Sod Solutions' Celebration bermudagrass.

"Celebration has been our toughest turfgrass variety," said Tobey Wagner, president of Sod Solutions. "Its recovery and its color make it stand out in the industry. It performed exceptionally well during the World Cup in Rio in 2014 and will replicate that for the Olympic Games."

Celebration Bermudagrass can be found throughout South Carolina in home lawns, sports venues, golf courses and public parks like Mount Pleasant's Memorial Waterfront Park.



Olympic Golf competition proves to be a win for everyone!

The players, the viewers, the television networks and turfgrass producers.

Golf returned as an Olympic sport at the 2016 Rio Games after a 112-year absence and judging by the TV ratings it was well received.

The Olympic Golf Course in Brazil featured Zeon Zoysia**, produced by **Bladerunner Farms** and grown in Brazil by TPI member Marcelo Matte of **Green Grass Brasil**. The grass requires less water and less fertilizer. It has a highly-playable, lush surface and tends to choke out weeds—a major factor considering herbicides could not be used on the golf course.

The course received high praise from players and environmentalists alike. As for the event itself, perhaps golfer Bubba Watson summed it up best when he stated, "This is the greatest sporting event I've ever been part of."

* Final round coverage of the Olympic men's golf tournament earned a 6.3 overnight rating during the 90-minute window in which coverage was simulcast on NBC and Golf Channel, the second-highest figure for any 90-minute period of golf this year. When adding NBC and Golf Channel's coverage the average viewership was reported at 6.6 million.

* SOURCE: Sports Media Watch.com

** Zeon is licensed by The Turfgrass Group and Doguet Ventures



David and Sheri Doguet had an opportunity to see more than the Olympic Golf Course during the games in Rio. They also had an opportunity to see several events, tour the Olympic Village and mingle with the locals.





The 2017 International Turfgrass Research Conference New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA—July 16-21, 2017

The 13th International Turfgrass Research Conference (ITRC) is one of the most anticipated events in 2017!

The ITRC will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel located in New Brunswick, NJ, USA. It is first time the conference has been held in the U.S. since 1993.

ITRC 2017 Highlights

Highlights include keynote addresses from internationally renowned scientists; an evening reception to recognize Dr. Jim Watson - one of the pioneers in the turfgrass industry; a full day of technical tours that will highlight the extraordinary range of turf venues in the NJ/NY city region; an American-style BBQ at the Rutgers Turf Research Farm at the Hort Farm; A full day of technical tours is planned including a stop at the USGA; a Twilight Dinner Cruise of the NY/NJ Harbor, the Statue of Liberty with great views of the NY City skyline, and a Zoysiagrass Symposium showcasing invited speakers who will give a world-wide perspective on this important and underutilized turfgrass species; plus much more.

The Conference will conclude with an optional afternoon tour of the world-famous Rutgers Breeding Programs at the Adelphia Research Farm.

Plan to attend the largest and most comprehensive gathering of turfgrass professionals anywhere in the world. Learn about the latest discoveries in turfgrass science and get inspired by the scientific sessions, field tours, and stimulating discussions. Mark your calendars now to join the more than 500 participants from 26 countries who are anticipated to attend the 13th ITRC in New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA from 16 to 21, July 2017.

Online Conference and Hotel Registration Opens October 1, 2016. Conference and Hotel Registration (<http://www.turfsociety.com/itrc2017/?p=reg>)



ITRC will coincide with **TPI's 2017 Summer Program** in New Brunswick, NJ. More details will be forthcoming in future issues of *Turf News* and the *TPI E-Newsletter*.

K FILE #173

AVOID CHLORIDE-INDUCED TURF BURN

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Rose Bowl Selects Mountain View Seeds as Official Seed Supplier

After more than a year of on-field trials and testing, Will Schnell, Head Groundskeeper for the Rose Bowl, has selected TPI member Mountain View Seeds to be the official seed supplier to the Rose Bowl. The company will provide the seed used on the Rose Bowl for the NCAA championship game.

Schnell made the decision to convert the Rose Bowl from a bermudagrass base overseeded with perennial ryegrass to a 100% Kentucky bluegrass sod for the Rose Bowl game for its superior density, tensile strength and ability to recover quickly after use. Schnell explained that the bluegrass sod is ideal for use during their 6-month cooler season from November through May. At this time UCLA plays and the annual Rose Bowl game takes place along with other major events. "During those months, in this part of California, it's great bluegrass growing weather," said Schnell. The 3-way bluegrass brand called, 365 SS (consisting of Bolt, Legend, and Blue Note) was also selected for its dark green color and excellent leaf texture. "It looks beautiful from the stands and on TV," said Schnell. The 2016 Rose Bowl game and 2016 spring and early summer months showed Schnell that the bluegrass sod would hold up to the rigorous demands made on the field. "This field is used more than any other in the country and it has to be able to stand up to those extreme demands. It also has to look great doing it," said Schnell, "That's why picking the right blend is so important - it has to do everything extremely well!" The Rose Bowl is used roughly 300 days each year. In addition to the football season, the field is used for filming television ads, movies, and numerous events including soccer tournaments (2016 America's Cup), concerts and even a motocross event.

When Schnell began researching new species and varieties for the Rose Bowl he relied heavily on the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP). The NTEP reports provided him with University data to make unbiased comparisons between cultivars.

He noticed that Mountain View Seeds' Kentucky bluegrass varieties consistently ranked at the top of the NTEP lists. After discussions with his partners (another TPI member) West Coast Turf, Schnell made the decision to plant a trial of 365 SS that would eventually be chosen for the Rose Bowl.



Rose Bowl
AMERICA'S STADIUM

After evaluating the test plots growth pattern and testing its strength, the decision was made to grow a field for use.

Mountain View Seeds worked with West Coast Turf and Schnell to grow the sod that would eventually become the Rose Bowl game field. Constant attention was paid to every aspect of growing the sod to ensure the highest quality product was delivered to Pasadena. 24 truckloads of sod were used and the field was laid in 24 hours. The management practices used at the West Coast Turf sod farm in central California were identical to the management practice Schnell would use at The Rose Bowl. This ensured a smooth transition when the sod was installed in Pasadena. Every detail was managed for optimum success, including matching the soil profiles at both locations.

"Being part of Will's winning team really means a lot to our group," said Troy Kuenzi, President and CEO of Mountain View Seeds. "We pride ourselves on providing the best quality products to all of our customers and that's something we have in common with Will and The Rose Bowl. We look forward to many years of success as partners." said Kuenzi.

Mountain View Seeds is a global grass seed research, production, packaging, and marketing company. Based out of Salem, Oregon, in the heart of the Willamette Valley and the grass seed capital of the world, Mountain View Seeds provides top-quality varieties to customers around the world that demand the best cultivars.

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