



# The Sand Blaster



VOL. XXII, ISSUE IV

JULY/AUGUST 2010

*DEDICATED TO MANAGING GOLF COURSES ... from the ground up*

## **NOW AVAILABLE: UMASS EXTENSION'S 2010-2011 PROFESSIONAL GUIDE FOR IPM IN TURF FOR MASSACHUSETTS**

The *2010-2011 Professional Guide for IPM in Turf for Massachusetts* is intended for use by professionals as a tool in the management of all types of turf: from lawns, to fine playing surfaces, to utility areas. The principles presented are adaptable to a wide range of management schemes: from organic, to low-maintenance, to high-intensity maintenance for premier turf sites.

The freshly revised and re-designed 2010-2011 edition features the latest techniques critical to environmentally sensitive, integrated turf management with an emphasis on natural resource protection. The guide contains research-based recommendations for turfgrass selection, as well as comprehensive pest management guidelines and pesticide regulation compliance information. Alternative and cultural pest control options are highlighted, and pesticide selection advice is based on least environmental impact.

Initially developed in 1991, this revision for 2010-2011 marks the 9th edition of this popular publication. Although some aspects of discussions such as turfgrass selection, timing of management practices and pesticide regulations are specific to Massachusetts, much of the material is pertinent to the management of cool-season grasses throughout the Northeast and beyond. Here are just some of the updated, distinctive pieces of information you will find in UMass Extension's *2010-2011 Professional Guide*:

- latest recommended turfgrass cultivars for MA, based on NTEP data
- updated water management & conservation guidelines
- cultural management approaches for turf diseases
- revised fungicide listing w/ new resistance management tools
- turf pest damage & cultural practice timing charts
- biological management of turf damaging insects
- efficiency, residual, and environmental hazards of turf insecticides
- monitoring and management of turf weeds
- new detailed herbicide profile listings
- updated MA pesticide regulation compliance information



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For complete information and online ordering, visit [http://www.umassturf.org/whats\\_new.html](http://www.umassturf.org/whats_new.html). Bulk discounts are available. For ordering questions, contact the UMass Extension Bookstore at 413-545-5537. For content-related questions, call the UMass Extension Turf Program at 413-545-2965 or e-mail [proguide@umassturf.org](mailto:proguide@umassturf.org).

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*EDITOR'S NOTE:* The Sand Blaster is produced bi-monthly as an informational service to its members. Printed material does not suggest the views, attitudes or recommended practices of GCSACC, the board members or its associated committees. Industry-related articles are always welcome to be considered for publication. Articles, as well as address and/or position changes, may be sent to Julie Heston at 401-934-4440 (fax) or jheston@verizon.net.



## President's Message

Today is August 1st, but for many of us today feels more like August 60th. What a season! Last year's August President's Message was all about how cold and wet it had been. What a difference this season. This has been a stressful year for not only the turf grass but for turf grass managers. The excessive humidity, heat, and lack of rain fall have produced such things as bacterial wilt, nematodes, summer patch, wet wilt, and pythium. When was the last time you can remember dealing with all of these in one season. For old time Superintendents like me the summer of 1988 comes to mind. The summer of 1988 was still not as long lived as this season seems to be running. My only advice for everyone is hang in there.... this too will pass.

Thank you to Woods Hole for a very enjoyable and successful 2010 Scholarship and Research tournament. Those of you who were able to play in this year's event, we were treated to outstanding course conditions and excellent hospitality. This year's event was able to raise about \$15,000. The success of these events affords us the opportunity to award scholarships to the children of our membership, and any golf course employees seeking a career as a golf course Superintendent. This year we had a very large response to the scholarship application process. At the Board level, we are noticing a trend. The number of scholarship applications has been on the rise in the past 5 years. Over the next year the board will be reviewing the application process and will be improving the overall qualification requirements.

A weather season like the one we are still experiencing can be quite stressful on turf grass managers, so come join us for our next meeting on September 15th at Highland Links and Chequessett. I hope to see you there!



*Lianne*

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# "INSIDE THE LEATHER"

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

- **Brandon Vostad**, Assistant Superintendent, White Cliffs Country Club
- **Mike Tatro**, Assistant Superintendent, Cummaquid Golf Club
- **John McShane**, Assistant Superintendent, Highland Country Club

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Our condolences are extended to the family of GCSACC Member, **Mark Egan** who passed away unexpectedly on August 1, 2010. Mark was the former Certified Golf Course Superintendent at Hyannisport Golf Club for 20 years. There will be a private memorial service at a later date. Memorial donations can be made in Mark's name to the Jimmy Fund Cancer Society c/o Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place West, 6th floor, Brookline, MA 02445-7226 ATTN: Contribution Services or visit [www.jimmyfund.org](http://www.jimmyfund.org).
- Our condolences are extended to **Ron and Patty Smith** and family on the passing of Patty's mother in June.
- Our condolences are extended to **Jim Fitzroy** and family on the passing of Jim's mother Marion "Vickie" Fitzroy on June 24, 2010.
- Congratulations to **Kevin and Tristin Young** on the birth of their daughter Mollie in July.
- Our condolences are extended to Mike Turner and family on the tragic loss of Mike's 9 year old niece Aine Marie Phillips on August 10, 2010.
- Congratulations to **Tom Colombo**, CGCS GCSAA certified golf course superintendent at Hyannisport Club who has recently completed the renewal process for maintaining his status as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent (CGCS) with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

## DIRECTORY UPDATE:

Please add the following phone numbers for Mike Pajolek, Associate, TurfLinks, Inc. Work: 888-398-8873 Cell: 508-789-1529.

## OTHER NEWS:

- GCSACC will no longer be invoicing members for meetings. This will be in effect starting with the April 2010 meeting. We will accept cash, check or credit cards. You can also pay online at [www.gcsacc.org](http://www.gcsacc.org). We also ask that you give 24 hours notice if you need to cancel a meeting reservation. If we do not receive a cancellation then we will have to invoice for any "no-shows" at meetings.
- If anyone is interested in having the Sand Blaster emailed to them instead of mailed, please contact Julie Heston at 1-866-442-6222 or [jheston@verizon.net](mailto:jheston@verizon.net).

- Attention all members, would you like a chance to win a free meeting? Enter The Sandblaster newsletter article contest for a chance to a free meeting (excluding the Scholarship & Research Tournament). Just submit your article to Julie Heston [jheston@verizon.net](mailto:jheston@verizon.net) or Stuart Eyman [seyman51@peoplepc.com](mailto:seyman51@peoplepc.com). Your entry must be received by the first week of the Month, ex: for the May/June issue your entry would have to be submitted in the first week of May.
- We have added a member only area which will include directory information and photos. Please give us your feedback once the site and what we can do to make it better.
- Please contact Julie Heston at 1-866-442-6222 or [jheston@verizon.net](mailto:jheston@verizon.net) if you would prefer having the meeting postcards just emailed to you.
- If any members are interested in receiving GCSACC Board meeting minutes, please contact Julie Heston.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO FOLLOWING GCSACC 2010 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

### Legacy Scholarships:

Sarah Bramhall	Jack Bresnahan
Ryan Colombo	Kimberly Conant
Kristin Farina	Alyssa Iacono
Kelsey Lanman	Megan Mann
Kelly McIntyre	Ashton Nugnes
Sara Passios	David J. Robinson
Emily Robinson	Emma Santoro
Savanna Tufts	Nolan Turner

Kathryn Wallace

## THE 2011 UMASS WINTER SCHOOL FOR TURF MANAGERS - ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The 2011 session of the UMass International Winter School for Turf Managers is just around the corner! This highly acclaimed certificate program runs for seven weeks, beginning Monday, 3 January and concluding on Thursday, 17 February.

The perennial goal of the UMass Winter School for Turf Managers is to furnish turf managers with the concepts essential to the maintenance of high quality turf, while instilling a sense of environmental stewardship and fiscal responsibility.

Winter School is especially suited for those who desire to take their career in turf management to the next level, but are unable to schedule a two or four-year degree program. At the same time, the course is appropriate for folks just getting started, and those who are seeking a career change. Some Winter School students have several years of experience in the turf industry and simply want to sharpen their skills.

Winter School provides 32 hours of instruction each week, covering general turf management, pest management (insects, dis-

*Continued on page 5*



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Continued from page 3

eases, and weeds), turf physiology, personnel management, irrigation, and much more.

Please note: The application deadline for international students is September 16, 2010.

For complete information on the program and application materials, refer to:

[http://www.umassturf.org/education/certificate\\_programs/winter\\_school.html](http://www.umassturf.org/education/certificate_programs/winter_school.html)

### **GCSAA PRESS RELEASE AVAILABLE**

Heat wreaking havoc on golf courses nationwide:

<http://www.gcsaa.org/news/NewsReleases.aspx?id=950d62b6-f501-42d5-afe2-9ad8f5922bf6>

### **FREE VIDEO BY PACE TURF EDUCATES GOLFERS ON HEAT AND TURF STRESS**

As summer heats up, turf fries like an egg, and golfers grumble. In a new video posted by PACE Turf on YouTube, "Why Does Turf Die During the Summer?" Dr. Wendy Gelernter uses a frying egg to explain to golfers and greens committees how high heat can kill golf course turf. The six-minute video offers a clear, concise and unbiased explanation of this "hot" topic from a well-respected turf expert. This video is the scientific backup superintendents need who are scrambling to address golfers' and managements' questions and concerns.

"We hope superintendents find the video is a good tool for educating non-technical audiences that when temperatures get high enough, there is nothing that superintendents can do to stop the turf damage from occurring," said Dr. Gelernter, director of PACE Turf. "Under extreme conditions, cool-season turfgrass is just not sturdy enough to withstand the challenges that Mother Nature throws at it."

The PACE Turf video is suitable for viewing at greens committee meetings, in club houses or other areas frequented by golf patrons. It can be viewed on [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com) at [this link](#) or ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg\\_CYn2YMvQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg_CYn2YMvQ)). The video can also be placed on superintendent association websites or golf course websites by clicking on the "embed" button that appears underneath the video on YouTube.

PACE Turf is a membership organization that provides breaking research news, information and expert advice on its website [www.paceturf.org](http://www.paceturf.org). The mission of PACE Turf is to generate and share independent and objective agronomic information for turf professionals, so they may develop management programs that are effective, practical and scientifically sound.

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**Its not easy being GREEN... unless you're ORANGE**

## Recap of the Rho-Cod Cup Tournament By Joe Deely

With temperatures in the high 80s and humidity levels high also, it did not stop the more than 110+ players from participating in this year's Rho-Cod Cup which was held at Pinehills Golf Club and hosted by Joe Felicetti, CGCS. The Cape association had home field advantage but the Rhode Island association had expressed a preference in playing the "Jones" course and their wish was granted. At the end of the day, the "Cape" proved to be too much for the Rhode Island association and handed them their biggest defeat in years winning 16 of their matches to Rhode Island's 9.

Although the "Cup" itself was not present, as soon as it surfaces it will come back across the "Bridge". I know those Rhode Islanders hate to part with it. There was also a 2-man best-ball tournament gross and net. Here are the results:

1st Gross - 69	Garrett Whitney & Ed Gianni	2nd Gross - 71	Kurt Calderwood & Mark Pendergast
3rd Gross - 72	Tom Colombo & Ryan Walsh		
1st Net - 63	Jim Dion & Rene Vadeboncoeur	2nd Net - 64	Steve Murray & John McShane
3rd Net - 65	Frank Hancock & Peter Jacobson	4th Net - 66	Tom Fox & Chris Tufts
5th Net - 67	John LeClair & Greg Misodoulakis	6th Net - 67	George Wise & Eric Euell
Closest To Pin	4th - Scott McLeod	7th -	Chris Bengtson
	14th - Jay McGrail	17th -	Kurt Calderwood

Longest Drive 6th - Eric Euell

Thanks to everyone who participated and a special thanks to Joe Felicetti and everyone at Pinehills. From the bag drop people to the Pro shop staff and food & beverage everything was terrific. Joe, we know you and your crew worked hard in preparing the course and it was fabulous.

Thanks again and we'll look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting.



## S&R Tournament Recap By Joe Deely

With one of the best turnouts in recent years and just short of a full field, our annual S&R Tournament went off with success. It was held at the beautiful Woods Hole Golf Club with our host being the ever popular Tom Flaherty, CGCS.

Julie Heston and Sharon Brownell were there to greet us at the registration table and check everyone in. Here every participant also received some nice gifts for playing in the tournament.

After a nice lunch, we all headed out on the golf course for a shotgun start. Tom and his staff had the course in absolute perfect condition. With "lightning fast" greens and a couple of "slippery" hole locations it was a true test of golf.

In the end, it was the team of Melissa Gugliotti & John Ruzbatzky who took the honors with a 61 net. The gross prize was won by Steve Gregg and his dad Steve Sr. with a 71. Well done to our winners. Here is a list of the results from the rest of the day's events.

1st net - Melissa Gugliotti & John Ruzbatzky	2nd net - Melissa Gugliotti & Steve Bradshaw
3rd net - Melissa Gugliotti & Matt Medeiros	4th net - Alden Tallman & Doug Cavanaugh
1st gross - Steve Gregg & Steve Gregg Sr.	2nd gross - Steve Gregg & Cliff Willy
Closest to Pin Number 3 - Jake Silva	6 - Peter Jacobson
13 - Frank Carpenito	17 - Scott Nickerson
Longest Drive Ladies - Barbara Boone	Men - Tom Harrington

After golf we were greeted with passed hors d'oeuvres and a fabulous dinner in the clubhouse. There we had a raffle which included a set of clubs, foursomes of golf, gift certificates etc. We also had a 50/50 raffle which netted over \$1100. It was won by Mike Varkonyi. Mike said he is going to buy a "shirt & jacket" with some of the winnings. Well done Mike and to everyone who won in the raffle. Also during dinner we recognized one of our members Jim Fitzroy, CGCS who is currently the President of the GCSAA. Thanks Jim for participating it was great to see you. We all know how hectic your schedule must be. Good luck with the rest of your term. Also, a thank you goes out to Ed Nash who had some nice things to say about our association and about John O'Connell whose memory will stay with the S&R forever.

On closing and on behalf of our association we would like to thank Joe Felicetti, CGCS who worked hard on putting this event together. We want to thank Tom Flaherty, CGCS, our host, and who coordinated everything along with clubhouse manager Mike Fay; Head Professional Glenn Kelly and to everyone else at Woods Hole Golf Club who helped make the event a great success.

Last but not least, thanks to all our vendors and everyone else who generously contributed to the S&R Tournament. Without your sponsorship, it would be difficult to host such an event. Last year we gave out approximately \$15,000 in scholarships and after this year's event we will have no problem in doing the same again. Plans are already being made for next year's event and we will look forward to seeing there.

**GCSACC Meeting  
Thursday, October 14, 2010  
Wianno Club**

**Presentation by Dr. Jung with  
Championship Tournament to follow**

**Host: Mark Williams**

9:30 am: Dr. Jung presentation along with visit to research plot at Wianno  
(see below for more information)

Lunch and Golf to follow this discussion (postcards will be mailed to the membership)

**Reversion of a *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* DMI resistant population**

**Geunhwa Jung, Associate Professor**

**Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences**

**Univ. of Massachusetts-Amherst**

Increasing fungicide resistance coupled with increasing environmental scrutiny of existing fungicides, has left many turfgrass managers with fewer options for managing dollar spot caused by *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa*. This fungus has the most reported incidents of fungicide resistance to the benzimidazole, dicarboximide, and demethylation inhibitor classes. The pathology lab at UMASS has been carrying out a few resistance studies at the Wianno golf club in Osterville, MA. One long-term study is aimed at finding the number of applications of non-DMI fungicides such as chlorothalonil, boscalid, iprodione, curalan, and confidential active ingredients required to revert the DMI resistant population to a sensitive one while maintaining acceptable levels of dollar spot control. Cultural and chemical management strategies on reducing the risk of resistance development and on managing the resistance already developed will also be discussed.

**GCSACC's  
1<sup>st</sup> Family  
Fun Day Event  
Cotuit Kettleers  
Baseball Game  
Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**



UMass Turf Research Field Day 2010  
 June 16, 2010  
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- 5-2-2-1 Mix
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