



The Minnesota Green Expo

January 7 – 9, 2004 • Minneapolis Convention Center

The second annual **Minnesota Green Expo** will take place from January 7-9, 2004 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Following the success of the inaugural event, this year's Expo has been expanded in several areas. First there will be pre-Expo Workshops that offer educational opportunities for those who wish to attend. Dr. Brian Horgan will be offering his Phosphorus Training School Tuesday afternoon, January 6, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. While this is geared primarily for golf course personnel, all turfgrass managers are welcome to attend and will receive some very valuable information. Separate registration is required to participate. Watch you mail or go to Dr. Horgan's web site, www.turf.umn.edu, or the Expo site listed above for further information.

The Trade Show has been reconfigured in order to allow more exhibitors to participate. The new layout maximizes the number of booth spaces that can be accommodated in the two domes we have at the Convention Center. Virtually everything that impacts the turf and grounds industries will be on display throughout the course of three days. Trade Show hours are from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Thursday and 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Friday. This is your chance to see an amazing display of equipment, hard goods, soft goods, technology and services offered by our vendors. These are the people and companies that make this event possible, so be sure to thank them by visiting their displays and considering them for your 2004 purchases.

Speakers from around the country will be on hand to share their expertise on many issues relating to the Green Industry. The MTGF Welcome is set for 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7th. President Greg Hubbard will present the current state of the Foundation and address some very important issues that are currently pending. This is your opportunity to hear what is taking place in a number of areas impacting the Foundation and the Green Industry throughout this area.

This year's Keynote Speaker is world-renowned marathon runner Dick Beardsley who will present "Nothing's Too Big To Beat". Dick Beardsley is a two-time champion and course record holder of Grandma's Marathon. He is also the champion and course record holder of the Napa Valley Marathon as well as the London Marathon champion. His accomplishments in marathon running include a host of other awards and honors.

His running accomplishments almost certainly would have even more notable had he not developed Achilles tendon problems. Following multiple surgeries, he retired from competitive running and slid into a nightmare. In 1989, while using an auger to lift corn into a crib, he became entangled in the auger and it began to tear him apart. Before he lost consciousness, he managed somehow to stop the machine. All of his ribs on his right side were broken as well as his right arm.

His left leg was mangled and he had severe head injuries. He was laid up for five months.

Then in 1992 he and his wife Mary were blind-sided by another driver. He spent fifteen days in the hospital with an injured back and neck. Then about six months later while on a run during a snowstorm, Dick was hit by a truck which put him back in the hospital for two weeks. A month later, again in a fierce snowstorm, he rolled the vehicle he was driving "a bunch of times." Again, back and neck injuries resulted. Several surgeries followed and with each hospital stay, pain medication was prescribed. As his tolerance to the medications increased, he was prescribed more and more pain pills. He knew his had become addicted to this medication, but was in denial.

GREEN EXPO *continued on page 3*

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TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

Introduction.....	2
ED's Notes.....	5
New Department Head.....	7
Horticulture Major.....	8
President's Report.....	13
2003 Field Day.....	15

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Thomas Michaels, Head Horticultural Science Department



*Dr. Thomas Michaels,
Head, Horticultural
Science Department.*

Since I just started as the new Department Head of Horticultural Science at the University of Minnesota, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the members of the MTGF and readers of *Clippings*. I came to the University of Minnesota from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada where I had been Professor of Plant Agriculture and Associate Dean of the Ontario

Agricultural College. The University of Guelph is on the one hand very different from Minnesota, and on the other, very similar. Guelph only has about 18,000 students on campus instead of the nearly 50,000 we have in the Twin Cities. Yet the Ontario Agricultural College and COAFES are very similar in size and mission, including a strong commitment to building strong turf and grounds research and teaching programs.

My research at Guelph in the Department of Plant Agriculture focused on plant breeding and genetics. I did most of my work on navy beans, kidney beans and peanuts. Peanuts in Canada? You bet! And if we wanted, we could grow peanuts in Minnesota too. This beautiful October weather has me longing to be back out in the field in my research plots, and I hope to be doing a bit of that again once I get settled in to the administrative tasks. I maintained close contact with bean and peanut grower organizations in Canada, and with their direction and support, I released over a dozen new varieties of those crops which were or are in wide commercial use.

As Associate Dean in the OAC, one of my administrative responsibilities included the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. The GTI was built and is sustained through the strong support of the Canadian turfgrass and grounds industries

and is a vital link between University research, public outreach and the private sector. As Associate Dean I also oversaw the development of a two-year turfgrass diploma program that is attracting an increasing number of new students from across Ontario. As Department Head at the University of Minnesota, I will continue my connection to turf and grounds issues, and look forward to close interaction with the MTGF membership.

Even though most of my research has been associated with field crops, I know that the term “yield” can mean much more than just the weight of beans produced on an acre of land. In my personal life, I continue to play and coach several sports, so I am directly aware that the “yield” of playing surfaces in youth and recreational sport involves playability and player safety, not the weight of the grass clippings. Yield on the golf course isn’t necessarily the number of strokes, but rather the continuing challenge of the holes and pride of membership when hosting a foursome of business associates. Similarly, parks and grounds yield reflection, serenity and increasing knowledge of our natural environment.

I take on my new role with great excitement, and I look forward to working with the MTGF in the future. Thank you for your warm welcome. ■

MTGF Allied Associations

Minnesota Association of Cemeteries

Minnesota Park Supervisors Association

Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association

Minnesota Turf Association

Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association

Minnesota Society of Arboriculture

Minnesota Association of School Maintenance Supervisors

Northern Minnesota Forage and Turf Seed Advisory Committee

GREEN EXPO *continued from Page 1*

Then he received a call from his father, whom he learned was dying of cancer. He wanted to visit his father, but was low on his medication and his doctor was out of town. He had a prescription in his wallet so he doctored it, photocopied it and forged a signature. He repeated this until, by the end of the day he had 240 pills. He suffered through his father's death while his addiction spun out of control.

Then in 1996 he was caught. "It saved my life," he said. After nine days in a Fargo psychiatric unit in 1997, he emerged free of drugs. In spite of all that had happened, he managed to restart his running program. Today Dick is enjoying running more than ever. He completed five marathons in 2002 and kicked off 2003 with his best time since his farm accident in the Hops Marathon in Tampa Bay. Come hear this amazing story as Dick Beardsley presents "Nothing's Too Big To Beat."

Following this inspirational session, nine different educational tracks begin, addressing a wide variety of topics. The complete schedule can be seen at the Minnesota Green Expo web site listed above. There will be something to learn for virtually everyone attending. During the course of the first day alone, presentations will be made addressing the importance of communications, preparation of landscape beds and putting green speed. Transportation regulations, climate changes and the effect those have on living plants, artificial turf vs. natural turf, the basics of turf management, handling of B and B materials and landscape design will also be addressed.

Once again, the University of Minnesota Extension Information Lab will occupy the lobby area in front of Hall E. Last year the University did an outstanding job of designing, constructing and manning a large area which featured many of the activities and areas of expertise impacting the Green Industry. This year they plan to make their displays more interactive, including samples and visual pieces for inspection. They also plan to have faculty on hand to speak about the various items on display as well as answer questions that might arise. This exhibit will be available for visiting during all three days of the Expo.

The opening of the Trade Show takes place Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and will remain open throughout the day until 6:00 p.m. The traditional Welcome Reception will be held in the Exhibit Halls from 4:30 - 6:00. This is a great networking opportunity and offers a chance to thank our exhibitors for their support of the Expo in an informal setting.

Thursday gets off to a quick start with the first educational sessions beginning at 8:30 and continuing throughout the day until 4:30 p.m. Presentations addressing cool

season turf research, aquatics, heat tolerance of woody plants and ninety minutes of landscape gadgets are scheduled. In addition, landscape design, irrigation design and installation and a Dale Carnegie course will be offered. Soil and water relationships for turf, new and unusual conifers, tree biology issues and water management will be featured. Equipment technicians will have three presentations offered to them including a discussion of no-contact reel mowing that will interest all turf managers looking for the latest theories in mowing. New and emerging diseases of cool season turf, an alternative method of putting green construction, new and exotic pests, new perennials and components of the mid-western landscape will round out the day's presentations.

The ever-popular Casino Party, the green industry's biggest networking event of the year, will be held from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Try your luck at the tables. Maybe win a door prize. Listen to the cheers of winning and the groans of defeat. Enjoy a snack and libation. Visit with friends and make new ones. All of this and more at this very popular event.

Friday has been designated as Pesticide Recertification Day although there are educational offerings for everyone throughout the day. Recertification sessions are held for turf, nursery and arborists and greenhouse attendees. Topics include the influence of thatch on pest management, designing disease control programs for greens, new and novel insecticides, choosing herbicides wisely and pesticide fate. Other presentations include ornamental grasses, designing for trees, computer file management, hardscape issues and reducing pest problems with plant selection, planting and management practices.

Over the course of the Expo there will be over seventy different educational presentations offered. These address golf, sports turf, general turf, general grounds, annuals, perennials, woody ornamentals, irrigation, landscape design and installation, as well as garden centers and greenhouses. Researchers, teachers and extension personnel from a number of universities, as well as experts from industry all come together in one location for the benefit of the turf and grounds professionals throughout this area. Speakers from Penn State, Ohio State, Clemson, Michigan State, Minnesota and other Universities, as well as Miller Park in Milwaukee, Iowa State athletics, California and even Great Britain will all be gathered to share their insight and expertise with you. Yes there is something being offered for everyone who is part of the Green Industry. And yes, the largest tradeshow in this area! Renew friendships, make new ones, support your suppliers and network with others who share many of the same problems and concerns as you. What better chance to find solutions to those problems than by attending the Minnesota Green Expo, January 7-9, 2004. ■

Check out minnesotagreenexpo.com for info on networking, career fair and other Expo events



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- Urban forestry pro Ed Gilman of the University of Florida
- Turf and grounds equipment guru Stephen Bernhard of England
- Plus many more sessions on turf, plants, landscaping and more!



Minnesota Green Expo partners

ED'S NOTES

Larry G. Vetter
Executive Director

2003 has been a very active year for the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation. The economy, while improving, has resulted in struggles within the University of Minnesota as programs are cut, positions are eliminated and wages are frozen. The University's Extension Service will no longer exist as it has in the past. Clerical workers strike for the first time in fifty years as health care costs continue to skyrocket.

To some degree or other, many of the members in our Allied Associations are having similar experiences. Budgets for schools and parks have been slashed. Employers are closely watching the bottom line when it comes to personnel, equipment and supplies. Irrigation systems were given a severe test this year. Overall, most are being asked to do more with less.

However, all is not gloom and doom. Mother Nature seems to have cooperated with the turf and grounds managers much better this year than last. With the exception of an extended drought through much of the summer and early fall, temperatures were more moderate and dew points were much lower than last year. This reduced the disease pressure that most experienced when compared to 2002. Reports indicate that golf rounds are up this year, which bodes well for the golf industry in the surrounding area. It is reported by some of our members that sod has essentially been sold out for some time which means that sales were good this year. However, with the lack of rainfall, newly established fields are struggling.

Also on the positive side, the new Head of the Department of Horticultural Science is now on board. Dr. Thomas Michaels officially arrived on October 13 and is quickly getting up to speed. Other articles in this issue introduce Dr. Michaels and he has provided us with some ideas concerning his vision for the Department. Having visited with Dr. Michaels I am happy to report that he will be a great ally for all of us in the turf and grounds industries. Dr. Carl Rosen who was the Interim Head of the Department has now gone back to his work in the Soils Department. Dr. Rosen was extremely engaged and helpful throughout his time while the University recruited the new Department Head.

At the time of this writing, the second round of interviews of potential candidates is in progress for the turfgrass teaching and research position. Three candidates have been interviewed and hopefully this new person will be in place in the near future. The turfgrass pathology position is another story however. This position is in limbo due to the budget crunch within the University. Your MTGF is actively engaged in all respects of this situation in an attempt to have this position filled as soon as possible. Several meetings have been held with University officials in an attempt to help move this process along. The MTGF is committed to doing whatever it can to assist the University achieve the goal of having a world-class turf program on the St. Paul Campus. Your Board of Directors has approved a significant financial package over the next three years to assist the University reach that goal. In addition, the MTGF continues to actively pursue the construction of a building on the site of the new TROE Center, as this is another piece to the puzzle of getting this program in place. We are excited to report that the design process for a new building has been approved and is going forward.

The MTGF continues to support many segments of the turf and grounds industry. Contributions have been made this year supporting work in a number of areas that affect most of our Allied Association members, including pesticides, fertilizers, irrigation, flowers, trees and turf. The TROE Center has been expanded significantly as Dr. Horgan and Troy Carson, along with others within the Turfgrass Working Group, continue to work extremely hard to develop meaningful research and outreach for all of our members.

The Pesticide Recertification program held this fall was successful although the number of members needing to recertify was down now that the State requires recertification on an every other year basis. An excellent program was offered and over one hundred people attend. The Field Day held in July was probably the best ever as a tremendous amount of information was made available. Unfortunately the number of attendees was down this year and everyone involved is reevaluating the structure and timing of a future offering in this area. This seems to be the case in a number of areas around the country as reports indicate that many, if not most events of this type have seen attendance decline. We are doing business very differently than in the past, with the acceptance of electronic communications, the world wide web, expanded service by suppliers and so forth.

The Minnesota Green Expo debuted that year as the premier event in our industry throughout this area. The 2004 event will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center from January 7 - 9, 2004. Speakers from around the

Former Board Member Honored



Former MTGF Board member representing the Minnesota Association of School Maintenance Supervisors (MASMS), Roger Pocta, was honored recently with the Leading With Faith Award given for leaders in small business. Roger, a civil engineer with Larson Engineering of Minnesota, served several years on the Board and his contributions were greatly appreciated.

Roger is known by those who work with him as an energetic individual who is especially appreciated for his honesty, integrity and open-door policy. He leads a department of eight and is known as a great team player. When his team does a good job, Pocta is the first one to

congratulate them. "He's always shaking hands and patting people on the back" reported one of his people.

Those judging the candidates for the award were particularly impressed with his dedication to quality customer service. Because of Roger's leadership, his department achieved its highest quota ever during 2002 even though the economy was struggling at the time.

When not in the office Roger volunteers a great deal of time at his church where he heads up the parish's building and landscape committees. The MTGF appreciates the contributions that Roger made while serving on the Board of Directors. It is very gratifying to see that others appreciate him as well and that he is honored for his dedication to his profession, his volunteer service and for being such a fine role model for those who come in contact with him. Congratulations Roger for receiving this award. ■

ED'S NOTES *continued from Page 5*

country, and even one from Great Britain are scheduled to present the latest information on virtually everything affecting the turf and grounds industry. The Pesticide Recertification portion of the Expo will be held throughout the day on Friday, January 9. Virtually everything needed to maintain turf and grounds will be on display filling two domes in the Convention Center. Whether your interest is equipment, landscaping supplies, hard goods, soft goods or service offerings, chances are you will see it on the trade show floor throughout the course of the Expo. Supporting those who exhibit at this event is one of the most important things you can do to ensure your success and the success of the Expo. More extensive information is available in this issue. This year pre-Expo workshops have been added that will take place on January 6th. Watch your mail and check the website, www.minnesotagreenexpo.com for further information on the pre-Expo workshops.

Dr. Horgan will be offering an intensive training course, The School of Turfgrass Management, from February 23 – 27, 2004 in the Metro area. His website, www.turf.umn.edu will provide all of the information needed for those interested in attending this school. This is a great educational opportunity that is being held cooperatively with the University of Wisconsin. The location of the school will

alternate between the two states, so you can attend the school in 2004 with a minimum amount of travel time and expense.

All in all, your Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation is actively engaged in fulfilling its mission, which is "to promote the green industries in Minnesota through support of research, education and outreach at the University of Minnesota and elsewhere". The MTGF is making great strides in accomplishing this mission. The MTGF is actively engaged. The MTGF is you. Through your membership in one of the Allied Associations making up the MTGF, you are demonstrating your commitment to the advancement of the art and science of maintaining your turf and grounds areas in the best possible manner while being a good steward of funds and the environment. You are all involved in some way with maintaining and improving the quality of life throughout this area. Playing an active role by contributing your time, energy and expertise to your association and taking advantage of educational opportunities, you are doing your part in making the world a better place. So get involved and take advantage of the opportunities being offered. See you at the Expo in January. ■

New Department Head Arrives Chuck Muscoplat, COAFES Dean

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Thomas E. Michaels will be joining the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences as Head of the Department of Horticultural Science. He will assume his position in early September of this year.

Dr. Michaels received his M.S. and Ph.D. in plant breeding and plant genetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He began his academic career as a lecturer in the Agronomy Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From there, he relocated to Ontario, Canada, where he began his tenure track as assistant professor in the Department of Crop Science at the University of Guelph. He received tenure in 1986 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1989. Since 1995, Dr. Michaels has been Professor in the Department of Plant Agriculture at the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Over the past seven years, he has also served as the Associate Dean of the Ontario Agricultural College, as well as other interim administrative appointments. In his Associate Dean role, he was responsible for the college's undergraduate academic programs which encompass four campuses, as well as continuing education programs.

Throughout his career, Dr. Michaels has maintained a strong research program in plant genetics and plant breeding working primarily with sweet corn, common beans and peanuts. Over the past ten years, he has collaborated with molecular geneticists to expand his plant breeding toolkit through investigations involving molecular markers, genome mapping and marker-assisted selection. He has taught extensively at both the undergraduate and graduate level, having received numerous teaching awards. Dr. Michaels remains passionate about developing innovative teaching approaches and the use of technology in the classroom and anticipates continuing his teaching role in our College. He has had strong linkages with the horticultural industry throughout his academic career, and has most recently been involved in discussions with horticultural industry representatives surrounding priorities for horticultural research funding, new teaching programs in turf, greenhouse floriculture and urban horticulture.

Dr. Michaels strongly supports the College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences overarching priority, Emphasizing Exemplary Education. Enhancing the linkages among research, education, and outreach is the core substance of his emerging

vision for the Department of Horticultural Science, which he believes is among one of the most vital in the College to the citizens of Minnesota today. He is committed to creating an atmosphere that fosters individual excellence in scientific discovery, as well as a synergistic environment where colleagues share, recombine and transform their individual discoveries into new knowledge that they bring to their classrooms and also apply to real-world problems.

Dr. Michaels is positioned well to build on the strengths and excellence of the Department of Horticultural Science and achieve its stated mission of becoming nationally and internationally recognized for exemplary research-based undergraduate and graduate education and outreach. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Michaels to the College.

At this time, I also wish to extend my sincere and utmost appreciation to Dr. Carl Rosen, who has provided strong, collaborative and effective leadership to the department throughout his interim role as head, at an extremely challenging time at the University. ■

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An Overview of the Environmental Horticulture Major

Brad Pedersen, Director of Undergraduate Studies

I am often asked what makes the Department of Horticultural Science's Environmental Horticulture Major different, different from other four-year programs and different from two-year programs. First, we are part of the University of Minnesota, a land-grant Big Ten University that consistently ranks among the top 20 public universities in the nation based on sources such as the National Research Council, *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" and other rankings. Our Twin Cities campuses have a real sense of community with over 75 percent of freshman students living in University housing and more than 400 student organizations and clubs available to students. Yes, the U is a big place, but that also means it has so much to offer. Our college, The College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences, situated on the St. Paul campus, is consistently ranked in the top five colleges of agriculture in the world. Our students do have the best of both worlds because the Department of Horticultural Science is located on the smaller but still urban St. Paul campus.

Second, our students learn from many different faculty who represent the very best of our Department, College and University Research and Outreach efforts. Only in this kind of educational environment can students learn the newest basic and applied science that provides the basis for the lectures, laboratories and studios that students attend every day. Students also gain first hand knowledge of the business and technical side of the industry through internships, mentoring and laboratory-based coursework.

Finally, and most important, our graduates have great potential to help the industry grow as they grow themselves. Understanding the need for life-long learning, they become the supervisors, managers, owners and industry leaders of the future.

A major in Environmental Horticulture at the University of Minnesota provides students with the skills they need to succeed in a variety of positions within the industry. The major prepares students for professional positions in businesses and departments, production, sales and service, recreation, reclamation and restoration, design and construction. Environmental Horticulture students study the use and function of plants in human environments and plant-people interactions. They examine how plants can be used to alter environments, restore damaged landscapes,

improve the health and well being of individuals, educate the public about science and horticulture, bring together and improve community environments and provide recreational and practical benefits to the public.

What do students in our program study?

The undergraduate curriculum requires students to complete a set of core courses in algebra, chemistry, physics and biology, with additional applied courses in horticultural science, soil science, entomology, plant pathology and economics. Students majoring in Environmental Horticulture then select one of the following four programs to tailor the major to their specific career goals.

Turfgrass Science Core courses include the study of residential, commercial and recreational turfgrass management, soil fertility, and pest management. The program includes web-based instruction as well as indoor and field laboratories and research facilities. The University recently began construction of a new Turfgrass Research, Outreach and Education (TROE) Center on the St. Paul campus. This facility will provide significantly more space for research and unique learning opportunities for undergraduate students. Faculty in turfgrass science conduct and apply research to improve and create new turfgrass varieties, develop new management systems and improve environmental quality.

Floriculture/Nursery Production and Retail Management, a plant-based curriculum, provides the foundation for coursework in production and retail management. The program area concentrates on the production, sales, and maintenance of bedding, woody landscape, and potted plants. Students use our greenhouse, 10-acre nursery, and landscape and trial garden to gain hands-on knowledge of propagation and production techniques. Coursework focuses on producing and maintaining healthy plants, developing integrated pest management (IPM) systems, and managing small businesses. Students work with faculty who have strong ties to the industry and expertise in production practices and plant breeding.

MAJOR *continued from Page 8*

Landscape Design, Implementation and Management, a challenging three-course sequence in residential and commercial landscape design, implementation and management makes up the core of this program. Landscape resources and laboratories include the Sustainable Urban Landscape Information Series (SULIS) web site, the Department of Horticultural Science Display and Trial Garden and a state of the art landscape design studio. Students learn from faculty whose research and extension projects include woody and herbaceous plants, reclamation and restoration ecology, turfgrass science, water quality and landscape design and implementation.

Individualized Program of Study Students who have special interests can work with their faculty advisor to develop an Individualized Program of Study that suits their specific goals. In addition to the Environmental Horticulture foundation and professional courses, students choose a set of complementary courses that meet their goals. These courses can be taken within the department or from other departments and even other universities. Recent graduates have completed studies in fruit and vegetable production, community gardening, organic production, and therapeutic horticulture. ■



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MDA program successfully detects gypsy moth

by Anne Selness
Invasive Species Unit Supervisor

In late July and August of this year, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) found live gypsy moths on nursery stock apparently imported from Wisconsin, Michigan and New York to sites in St. Paul, St. Cloud, the northern metropolitan area and to a site near a housing development in Blaine. Multiple numbers of male gypsy moths, caught in traps set by field staff in the MDA Gypsy Moth Trapping Program, alerted office staff and triggered immediate inspections of the stock. The MDA's routine procedure for finding multiple males in a single trap at a nursery is to follow up with a site inspection. Staff from the Plant Protection Section and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service inspected the three nurseries and the site near the housing development, and found dozens of gypsy moths, including caterpillars, live pupae and females in the process of laying egg masses. As a result, the infested nursery stock was quarantined, and the MDA investigated the possibility of other infested trees entering the state.

Because of the extreme risk of spreading gypsy moth on plant material, nurseries where egg masses were found were required to sign compliance agreements with MDA and USDA in order to continue selling nursery stock. The compliance agreement outlines steps that must be taken to insure that nursery stock leaving the nursery is free of gypsy moth and will be maintained to prevent further infestation.

Two of the three nurseries under compliance agreements with MDA and USDA decided to destroy gypsy moth-infested conifers, and treatments will be required at all four infested sites in the spring. One nursery shipped stock to many other states and to nurseries across Minnesota. MDA staff will be trapping these potential high-risk sites in Minnesota in 2004. Officials in other states were notified and will likely take similar action.

Effective July 1, 2003, under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 18, Article 5, Section 12, Subd. 1, all stock entering Minnesota must be conspicuously labeled with the consignor, the state of origin and the name of the consignee. Stock must also be accompanied by certification documents to satisfy all applicable state and federal quarantines. Even with this information, it may take several weeks to trace the source of infested stock. Currently, plant regulatory officials from Wisconsin, Michigan and New York are still investigating the certification process that guaranteed the stock was free of gypsy moth. The situation illustrates the importance of buying stock from non-quarantined states.

For more information on gypsy moth and other invasive species please call MDA's Arrest the Pest Hotline at 651-296-6684 (MOTH) or 888-545-6684 (MOTH). ■

New Tree Care Registry Minnesota Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Unit

Governor Pawlenty recently passed a law requiring companies and individuals who remove trees, limbs, branches, brush or shrubs for hire to register their businesses with the state of Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA), who maintains the new tree care registry, will use it to let registered companies know of quarantines for gypsy moth and other exotic pests, dates of the quarantine, and other pertinent information to minimize the impact on tree care operations and further reduce the risk of inadvertent movement of exotic pests.

The threat of exotic tree pests is increasing and their potential effects on urban and rural forest are real. Numerous, serious exotic forest pests such as gypsy moth, emerald ash borer, and Asian long-horned beetle are inadvertently introduced into non-infested areas by the movement of infested wood, branches, logs and brush. Prompt notification and communication with tree care companies and tree trimmers will greatly enhance the MDA's ability to restrict the movement of such infested material. We expect that over the next ten years, state and federal quarantines such as those for gypsy moth will increase in frequency within Minnesota.

You may register electronically at <http://www.mda.state.mn.us/tcr> or by calling (651) 296-8328. Companies and individuals must provide current business name, address, and telephone number, along with a complete list of Minnesota counties in which they work. Tree care companies may also include a list of employees who are currently certified arborists. Each person within a tree care company is not required to register; rather, company registration covers all individuals within a company. We would also like city foresters and municipalities who remove brush and trees to register, helping us to quickly let people know when a pest outbreak occurs or when a quarantine goes into effect.

The official language of the legislation is found within the Plant Protection and Export Certification Law, Chapter 18, Section 7 of the state statutes. If you have questions regarding the tree care registry, please call Anne Selness, Invasive Species Supervisor (651) 296-8448, or check our website at www.mda.state.mn.us. ■

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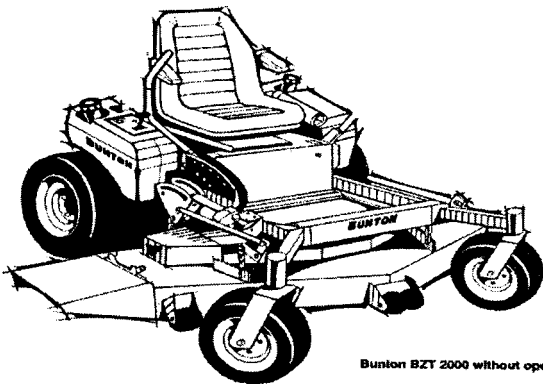
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greg Hubbard
MTGF President

PEOPLE, PROGRAMS, AND SOUL

In support of our mission statement, MTGF has been strengthening the relationship with the University of Minnesota for many years. From our annual conference profits, contributions have been made to many useful and practical programs ranging from landscape to turfgrass management. We have supported former plant pathologist Jon Powell in his fungicide trials and winter cover studies and offered to fund necessary support for Dr. Don White's replacement, among other projects in the past. Currently, we provide support for Brad Pedersen's landscape program and Brian Horgan and the TROE Center in the amount of \$35,000 per year.

Our major objective has been to advance the expansion of the TROE Center, including a new building, to support students, faculty, and staff in their educational endeavors. An improved research facility and a full professorial slate supporting education, research, and outreach, would attract additional dedicated turfgrass students and allow Minnesota to take its place as one of the elite programs in the world. A new building would be a concrete example of the cooperation between industry and the University to further the turfgrass discipline in our state.

Unfortunately, with the loss of Dr. Powell, our University turf program has begun unraveling. Brian Horgan, alone, now shoulders the burden of keeping turf alive at the University as we now wait for replacements for two of three positions, an educator and a turf pathologist. While his youthful energies may overcome the short-term lack of help, eventually long-term assistance must be on the way.

A replacement for Dr. White is expected to be hired within the year as interviews for this position have been recently completed. A new turf pathologist to replace Dr. Powell, however, appears to be further in the future. To shorten this time horizon, MTGF has recently entered discussions with University officials about financially supporting the turf pathologist position with "bridge financing" over a three year period. This offer would help the University overcome its current budgetary restraints. When the University regains its financial health, they would assume all salary and benefit expenses and MTGF could again provide other support as in the past.

Though this proposition conflicts with our major goal of funding a TROE Center building, I felt obligated to present this proposal to industry for its review and approval. For the addition of a new turf pathologist, along with the new educator, would finally complete the three-pronged triumvirate of turf professors so necessary to advance the University of Minnesota towards worldwide educational excellence and recognition. We could now seize the opportunity to complete the educational agenda while laying the foundation for a new building in the future. The sequence of our goals would be reversed as we put the students and program first rather than the building.

Our Board of Directors, after consultation with industry leaders, recently approved a dual track concept to advance the turfgrass program at Minnesota. As we support the University in funding the pathologist position over the next three years, initial work will begin on design, site preparation, and fundraising for a new TROE Center building. A complete turfgrass program covering education, research, and extension will then be in place to attract increased numbers of students. This critical mass, in turn, would allow the TROE Center building to become the centerpiece for education, research, and outreach. Our dilemma of choosing which goal to pursue will be answered by this multi-faceted approach; for an empty building has no soul if it's not occupied by people, students and staff. We can reach both goals by being patient and reallocating our funds over time. The payback will be an internationally recognized turfgrass program and its accompanying benefits to our Industry. Stay tuned as we enter final negotiations!

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Michigan expands emerald ash borer quarantine

by Mark Schreiber

Nursery Inspection & Export Certification
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On August 6, 2003, Michigan Director of Agriculture Dan Wyant signed a revised emerald ash borer (EAB) Interior Quarantine regulating the movement of wood and nursery stock from quarantined counties to other areas of Michigan. Although there is no corresponding federal quarantine regulating interstate shipment of these products, Michigan has placed a prohibition on the sale and movement of all ash nursery stock into the Lower Peninsula until August 1, 2004.

The revision does the following:

- Expands the quarantine area to include the addition of seven counties that border the six counties originally placed under quarantine. The 13 counties are: Genesee, Ingham, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Shiawassee, Washtenaw, and Wayne.
- Restricts all firewood from moving out of these counties.
- Restricts the movement of regulated articles (ash trees, ash logs/untreated lumber with bark, and ash branches, un-composted ash wood and bark chips larger than one-inch diameter) from the original six-county core to other parts of Michigan.
- Prohibits the sale and movement of all ash nursery stock into and within the Lower Peninsula until August, 2004.

This last point may have implications for Minnesota nurseries. The Michigan Department of Agriculture is taking this action to restrict the amount of ash material that can serve as additional host material for the EAB.

If you have questions about the new quarantine, please contact Mark Schreiber (651) 296-8388.

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2003 Field Day

The 2003 University of Minnesota Turf and Grounds Field Day was held on July 24. This event, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Foundation, has been an annual offering as a means of informing professionals in the Green Industry about the various types of research



"Brian Horgan explains the Runoff Study which is currently underway".

currently being conducted on Campus. This year's event received numerous comments regarding the high quality of the presentations that were made by the various researchers at the University.

For a complete listing of presenters along with descriptions of their presentations, please visit our web site at www.mtgf.org and click on "Field Day" and then "2003 Field Day" near the bottom of the page. You can then access the complete Field Day booklet that was given to all attendees. This booklet contains detailed information concerning current research and resources available on the St. Paul Campus. Special thanks to Brian Horgan and Troy Carson who coordinated the turf portion and Brad Pedersen who coordinated the grounds portion. Both tracks of the Field Day received numerous accolades. ■

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