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# The Sward

USGA Turfgrass Information File

O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection

James B Beard Turfgrass Library Collection

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Special Issue

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## Special Issue: Academic Edition

### TIC is Getting You Geared For the New School Year!

This special edition of The Sward is aimed to provide those in an academic setting with materials to aid in hands-on training of the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF)!

Within this issue you will find:

- Two short videos that briefly discuss what TGIF is, and why TGIF is the database of choice in support of academic turfgrass work.
- Getting Started with TGIF guide, and the TGIF Quick Start video will be of interest to those new to using TGIF.
- The TGIF Basic Search Tips handout provides some handy advice to make searches more concise.
- Information on short term "license bump-ups" for classroom TGIF use.
- Reminder about TIC's amazing full-text resources!



So, what is TGIF?



Why should I use TGIF?

These videos quickly explain what TGIF is, and why TGIF is simply the best for your documented turfgrass knowledge needs!

## Turfgrass Information File

Worldwide Access to Turfgrass Science Information

### Getting Started with TGIF

The Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) is designed to be flexible for all users, from those accessing for the first time to the more sophisticated researchers/users. TGIF provides bibliographic and descriptive records of all types of works related to turfgrass culture. TGIF was established in 1983 by the United States Golf Association (USGA) Turfgrass Research Committee and the Michigan State University Libraries, and is now maintained by the Turfgrass Information Center, a division of MSU Libraries. The ultimate goals of TGIF are to: 1) identify all available print or online materials reporting on turfgrass and its maintenance; 2) provide access to records representing each item; and 3) provide a direct link to the full-text or actual content of each item when possible.

#### Accessible Via:

- American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA)
- Asociación Española de Greenkeepers (AMGE)
- Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association (AGCSA)
- British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA)
- Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA)
- Direct TGIF Subscriber (includes Individuals and Institutions/Corporations with Market access)
- Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Class A, SM, C, ISM, AA, or A-RT
- Michigan Resident (access via Me)
- Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCSA)
- Sports Turf Association (STA)
- Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA)
- Turfgrass Producers International (TPI)
- Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association (WGCSA)

#### Basic Search



The default page of TGIF is the Basic Search page. Instead of using a question or common language, type the most important words such as **white grub control**.

Type phrases such as **brown patch**, without quotation marks. Typing only part of the search word may produce better results as truncation happens automatically. For example, typing **fertiliz** will automatically find **fertilizer, fertilization, fertilisation, fertility, etc.**

When searching for two or more topics, put semicolons between them. For example, if **winterkill; cold tolerance** is typed, TGIF will retrieve everything about **winterkill OR cold tolerance**.

The drop-down list below the search box allows the limiting of a search to an industry sector. The sectors are: Breeding and Genetics, Golf Courses, Landscape, Lawn Care, Parks and Grounds, Roadides, Seed, Sod, Sports Turf, and Utility Turf.

To search the underlying full-text of items (not just the TGIF record contents), check the "Dig Deeper" box.

15: 02/2014

This "Getting Started with TGIF" guide, as well as the "Quick Start" video below, provide an easy path to get new TGIF searchers going.

## TGIF Quick Start Video

Mark	Item is a	Title - Items linked where available (Items may require software - see More Details)	Author and Source	More Detail	TGIF #
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report Article	<a href="#">Sand topdressing programme effects on anthracnose disease of annual bluegrass putting green turf</a>	Wang, Ruying; Hempfling, James W.; Clarke, Bruce B.; Murphy, James A. 2013. <i>Proceedings of the Twelfth Annual Rutgers Turfgrass Symposium</i> . p. 50.	<a href="#">MORE</a> (80,176)	223855
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report Article: Abstract or Summary only	<a href="#">Effects of sand size for topdressing putting green turf</a>	Wang, Ruying; Hempfling, James Warren; Murphy, James A. 2013. <i>AS4, CSS4 and SSS4 Annual Meetings</i> [2013]. p. 81646.	<a href="#">MORE</a> (80,184)	232406
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reference Article	Topdressing sand particle shape and incorporation effects on anthracnose severity of an annual bluegrass putting green	Inguagiato, John C.; Murphy, James A.; Clarke, Bruce B. 2013. <i>International Turfgrass Society Research Journal</i> . 12: p. 127-133.	<a href="#">MORE</a> (80,184)	223141
<input type="checkbox"/>	Report Article: Abstract or Summary only	<a href="#">Sand topdressing programme effects on anthracnose disease of annual bluegrass putting green turf</a>	Wang, Ruying; Hempfling, James W.; Clarke, Bruce B.; Murphy, James. 2012. <i>AS4, CSS4 and SSS4 Annual Meetings</i> [2012]. p. 73159.	<a href="#">MORE</a> (80,184)	113287
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional Article	<a href="#">The size of topdressing sand. Does it matter?</a>	Murphy, James A. 2012. <i>USGA Green Section Record</i> . September 7. 50(19): p. 1-4.	<a href="#">MORE</a> (80,184)	210594

For anyone more familiar with searching TGIF, or for anyone simply looking to refine their searching strategies, the TGIF Basic Search Tips worksheet will be of great help.

### TGIF Basic Search Tips

Note: Ignore all quote marks in search examples!

**1. Shorten search terms to their root form to increase results.**

Searching "fertil" will search for "fertility", "fertilization", "fertilisers", "fertilized", etc.  
Searching "groom" will search for "grooming", "groomed", "groomers", etc.

**2. Add words to your search to be more precise.**

Search: "spraying bent fan" to find results that intersect the concepts of spraying, bentgrass, and using fans.  
Search: "cynodon kikuyu" to find results that intersect the topics of both Bermuda/couch grasses and kikuyu grass.

**3. Stack search terms using "+" to search both together. Example:**

Search: "winterkill, cold tolerance" to run searches for both winterkill and cold tolerance simultaneously.

**4. Use the "Dig Deeper" checkbox to find more results on your topic.**

Search: "mowrah meal" with the Dig Deeper checkbox on and then again with it off.  
Compare "tensiometer" likewise.

**5. Basic Search can be used to find definitions that appear in Beard's Turfgrass Encyclopedia for Golf Courses, Grounds, Lawns, Sports Fields. It will be the first result when searched in Basic - click on the hot linked term to receive the definition.**

Search: Tith  
Search: Broadcast sprigging

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TurfLibrary



## Short Term "License bump-ups" for Instructional Sessions Available!

If you are planning on training a group of people to use TGIF in a hands-on setting, a temporary license bump-up can be arranged. Please notify TIC at least one week in advance if you would like to use this option for instructional or training purposes (by phone (517) 353-7209 or e-mail: [tgif@msu.edu](mailto:tgif@msu.edu))

- Bump-up is limited to 25 simultaneous users.
- The machines used for training must be in the pre-defined IP range for the institution.
- It is helpful to call us at TIC the day of the bump-up to be sure that everything is running correctly.

For a smooth session, we also recommend the following:

- Use the database navigation buttons, as opposed to the browser's navigational buttons
- Click the "Log Off" button when TGIF searching is complete. (If a user does not log out properly, it can occasionally cause one of the user "slots" to remain in use until the system times out.

[Click Here to Visit TGIF!](#)

The Turfgrass Information Center has been hosting electronic resources for well over a decade now, and the content continues to grow and grow. Currently, TIC hosts well over 100,000 PDFs from over 35 different publications! Some of the content has access-restrictions, but a vast portion is publicly-available - viewable without ever having to log into the TGIF database.

Those with TGIF database access have the added bonus of logging into TGIF to also receive access to the restricted-access archives. Simply click "Browse Full-Text Journals (Logs out)" from the left-hand sidebar after logging in.



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