



Turfgrass

Information Center

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ANNUAL REPORT

09

The Turfgrass Information Center
would like to thank supporters for their ongoing contributions,
be it financial or donations of needed materials.
We appreciate your continued dedication that benefits
turfgrass research and management.

An electronic version of this report is available at:
http://tic.msu.edu/TIC_Annual_Report_2009.pdf



Turfgrass Information Center Annual Report 2009
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Clockwise from top: September 16, 1950, Brynwood, Wisconsin: Close-up view of Ryan power sod cutter;
August 31, 1939, Milwaukee Country Club, Wisconsin: Loading the hopper of a Peoria Fertilizer distributor;
August 15, 1939, Lake Sunapee Golf Club, New Hampshire: Crew of four spreading stolons of Kernwood velvet bentgrass by hand.

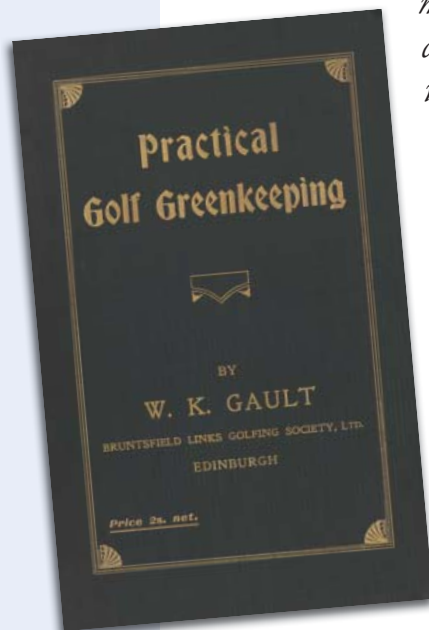
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FROM ^{nearly} INACCESSIBLE TO TOTALLY ACCESSIBLE

TIC and the MSU Libraries are most pleased to announce the online availability of a digitized version of one of the rarest works in the turfgrass literature: W. K. Gault's *Practical Golf Greenkeeping*, published in London around 1913. The cooperation of the **Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America (GCSAA)** is gratefully acknowledged in providing the loan of their copy of the book for digitization. Only one copy of this book is known to be in a public library or institution, at the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh, with a copy as well at the USGA Library in Far Hills, NJ. Only a few other copies are known to be in the hands of private collectors around the world.



W.K. Gault, of the Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society, Ltd. of Edinburgh, outlines and describes his take on month-by-month care of the green. He notes his intent in his preface:

"In this little book on the art of greenkeeping, I shall endeavour to set forth a plain treatise which is the outcome of my own personal experience, together with the study and general observations regarding results of various methods in greenkeeping, on both seaside and inland golf courses, all of which were possessed of some little peculiarities worth finding out. To my mind, however, the most impressive lesson any green keeper can learn, is the one acquired under adversity. The real science in greenkeeping is not to be gained where difficulties in maintaining the turf are never experienced. Practical tests in overcoming trouble of any kind are the best way to obtain knowledge."

Gault then proceeds to range widely on both environmental conditions and variations, and cultural practices of many kinds: worm and moss control, rolling and brushing, topdressing, snow and frost concerns, watering greens, seeding and sodding ('laying turf'), patching, etc. In all, 100 pages of advice to consider, or learn from.

Read more about TIC's digitization efforts on page 7!







Begin at the TGIF record for this item:
<http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flink.pl?recno=33203>

OVERVIEW OF THE TURFGRASS INFORMATION CENTER

The Turfgrass information Center (TIC) is a specialized unit at the Michigan State University Libraries. It contains the most comprehensively publicly available collection of turfgrass educational materials in the world. The Turfgrass Information File database (TGIF) now has over **157,000 records** (with over **41%** linked to the full-text of the item), and is the main access point for information on turfgrass whether it is in print, electronic, or other format.





TIC was created in 1983 by an association between MSU Libraries and the United States Golf Association (USGA). Its actual roots began in the 1960s when an initiative to collect turfgrass publications was aided by the donation of the personal collection of pioneering turf agronomist O.J. Noer, through the O.J. Noer Research Foundation.

The Center has four primary functions:

-  Collect and preserve published and unpublished materials relating to turfgrass science, culture, and the management of turfgrass-based facilities, including golf courses, parks, sports fields, lawns, sod farms, roadsides, institutional grounds, and other managed landscapes.
-  Provide precise and structured online access to TIC collections, as well as other print and electronic turfgrass-related resources, via the TGIF database.
-  Assist users of the collection and online system, by helping them to identify and locate materials that meet their needs.
-  Provide user workspace and cooperative electronic infrastructure to support collaborative turfgrass scholarship.

TIC ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

The endowment campaign will provide the financial resources to ensure the ongoing operation of TIC. The continuation of the Center and the production of TGIF are critical because:

-  TIC activities continue a 40+ year effort to collect, inventory, and provide access to the literature of turf science and turf culture, with TGIF serving as the only bibliographic database in the world that exclusively targets these areas.
-  TIC directly supports turfgrass research. Most turfgrass investigators depend on TGIF as their primary resource for identifying turf-related literature, both past and present.
-  TIC and TGIF directly support improved turf education, including certificate, technical, undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs for practitioners such as golf course superintendents and sports turf managers.
-  TGIF provides access to more comprehensive turf-related information sources, which translates to improved management of turf facilities including athletic fields, golf courses, and other managed landscapes.

We were pleased to receive continuing multi-year commitments during 2009 from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS), the O.J. Noer Research Foundation, and the Sports Turf Association (STA).

TGIF, THE DATABASE

TGIF provides bibliographic and descriptive records for all types of works related to turfgrass culture. The ultimate goal of TGIF is to provide access to all published or available materials reporting on any aspect of turfgrass research and its maintenance.

TGIF Online: Modifications and Changes 2009

Enabled “Turf Topics” to be manipulated through TGIF’s Guided Search by selecting them in the “Browse Index” for Turf Topics.

Separated TGIF sessions between “group” users and individuals logging in with their own user name and password. This enables customization of features for these two types of TGIF users. For instance, group users will now see information directing them to utilize their local Interlibrary Loan Service to request items instead of TIC’s Document Delivery service. TGIF sessions by individual users and designated sub-accounts at academic institutions and corporate subscribers will continue to have a link to utilize extra-cost services via TIC.

What are Turf Topics?

“Turf Topics” are a series of pre-searched sets of TGIF results that emphasize current and more widely-available publications on a specific issue in turf culture or turf facility management. They basically permit TGIF users to find selected results using only their mouse.

What’s a “TGIF Session”?

A “TGIF Session” is the set of screens a user sees when using the TGIF database. It includes, search screens, help screens, and results screens – any screen layout seen from accepting the database’s conditions of use to logging out of the database.

Database Construction

TIC creates TGIF records for a wide range of materials including periodical articles, monographs (book-like items), fact sheets and pamphlets, images, and web documents. Most records in TGIF contain informative abstracts; some contain full-text or are linked to web-accessible full-text. Records in TGIF are indexed using controlled vocabulary from the *Turfgrass Thesaurus*, produced by the Turfgrass Information Center, with additional identifiers where needed.

Records primarily come from three main types of sources: periodicals, monographs (including fact sheets and pamphlets), and web documents.

Source	2009	2008	2007	2006
Periodical	11,365	8,662	9,731	8,220
Monograph	1,086	1,454	1,383	1,373
Web	2,590	1,742	1,181	490

TGIF Summary Construction Statistics

TGIF Construction Statistics	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
New records created	15,049	11,749	12,259	9,732	9,035	7,448	8,423
Toro Foundation subset	—	2,635	2,668	2,633	2,637	2,623	1,873
Issues closed ¹	4,000	1,483	1,782	2,351	2,015	n/a	n/a
Zero-hit issues ²	1,245	518	769	633	836	n/a	n/a
Records modified in current year, but created previously ³	42,034	34,659	20,388	18,440	14,623	n/a	n/a
% Full-text	41%	36%	33%	24%	21%	n/a	n/a
Total records in database	157,530	142,481	130,732	118,473	108,741	99,707	92,266

¹ The issues closed are periodical issues which have had the descriptive record, indexing, and abstracting completed on all articles selected for inclusion in TGIF.

² The zero-hit issues are periodical issues which were reviewed but no articles were selected for inclusion in TGIF.

³ The records modified in the current year are records that were edited or enhanced.

Characterizing the Full-Text Available Content within TGIF

41% Records with full-text availability

5% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions

23% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts

16% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users

18% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts

12% links to periodical articles

2% links to book-like items

4% remaining links. These are to a variety of materials, including blueprints, databases, images, judgments, online presentations, patents, podcasts, and slide sets

Snapshot Status of TGIF

Record Completion	2009	2008	2007
Descriptive Records	100%	100%	100%
Abstracted Records	57%	59%	72%
Indexed Records	69%	72%	57%
Indexed and Abstracted Records	55%	57%	32%
Full-text Available Records	42%	36%	33%
Full-text Searchable Records	21%	5%	—
Full-text Available, Indexed and Abstracted Records	25%	22%	16%
Full-text Available, Indexed, Abstracted Records, and Full-text Searchable Records	13%	3%	3%

Descriptive records are the “base record” and contain general citation information like title, source, author, pagination, year, and any URL to the item. Because descriptive records are the first stage of processing, the number of completed descriptive records becomes the denominator for calculating all other percentages. After the descriptive record stage, items are moved to the abstracting stage (unless they have published abstracts already). Here, items are manually reviewed and abstracts written for them. Once all records from an item have abstracts, the item moves to the indexing stage where the records are assigned keywords using a controlled vocabulary. As the abstracting and indexing stages require an understanding of the content of the item, these stages require greater time and skill to complete. Records with URLs are considered to have the full-text available. Records with the text of the item contained in the TGIF record are considered full-text searchable, since that text can be searched in TGIF directly.

TIC USE AND USERS

Several “routes” to TGIF exist for various types of database users:

Academic Institutions with Campus-Wide Access:

Perpetual institutional subscribers now represent 37 states in the USA, 4 Canadian provinces, and 5 other countries:

Institution	State/Province	Country
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Georgia	USA
Auburn University	Alabama	USA
California Polytechnic State University	California	USA
Central Piedmont Community College	North Carolina	USA
Clemson University	South Carolina	USA
Colorado State University	Colorado	USA
Cranfield University		United Kingdom
Elmwood College		Scotland
Georgian College	Ontario	Canada
GPRC Fairview College Campus	Alberta	Canada
Iowa State University	Iowa	USA
Kansas State University	Kansas	USA
Kishwaukee College	Illinois	USA
Michigan State University	Michigan	USA
Mississippi State University	Mississippi	USA
Myerscough College		United Kingdom
National Agricultural Library - USDA	n/a	USA
New Mexico State University	New Mexico	USA
North Carolina State University	North Carolina	USA
North Dakota State University	North Dakota	USA
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	Nova Scotia	Canada
The Ohio State University	Ohio	USA
Oklahoma State University at Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	USA
Olds College	Alberta	Canada
Oregon State University	Oregon	USA
Pennsylvania State University	Pennsylvania	USA
Purdue University	Indiana	USA
Red River College	Manitoba	Canada
Rutgers University	New Jersey	USA
Sheridan College	Wyoming	USA
South Dakota State University	South Dakota	USA
Southern Illinois University	Illinois	USA
State University of New York, Cobleskill	New York	USA
State University of New York, Delhi	New York	USA
Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet		Sweden
Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture		Ireland
Texas A&M University	Texas	USA
University of Alaska Fairbanks/Rasmuson Library	Alaska	USA
University of Arizona	Arizona	USA
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	Arkansas	USA
University of Connecticut	Connecticut	USA
University of Florida	Florida	USA
University of Georgia	Georgia	USA

Institution	State/Province	Country
University of Guelph	Ontario	Canada
University of Hawaii	Hawaii	USA
University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign	Illinois	USA
The University of Maryland	Maryland	USA
University of Minnesota - Crookston	Minnesota	USA
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	Minnesota	USA
University of Missouri - Columbia	Missouri	USA
University of Nebraska - Lincoln	Nebraska	USA
University of Pisa		Italy
University of Queensland		Australia
University of Rhode Island	Rhode Island	USA
University of Tennessee - Knoxville	Tennessee	USA
University of Western Australia		Australia
University of Wisconsin, Madison	Wisconsin	USA
University of Wisconsin - Stout	Wisconsin	USA
Utah State University	Utah	USA
Writtle College		United Kingdom

Organizational Blanket-Access Agreements

Members of these organizations can access the TGIF database from within the member-only section of the organization's website:

-  American Society of Golf Course Superintendents (ASGCA) members
-  Asociación Española de Greenkeepers (AEdG) members
-  Canadian Golf Superintendents (CGSA) members
-  Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Class A, SM, or C members
-  Michigan resident (via the Michigan eLibrary – MeL)
-  Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents (MAGCS) members
-  Sports Turf Association (STA) members
-  Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) members
-  Turfgrass Producers International (TPI) members
-  Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association (WGCSA) members

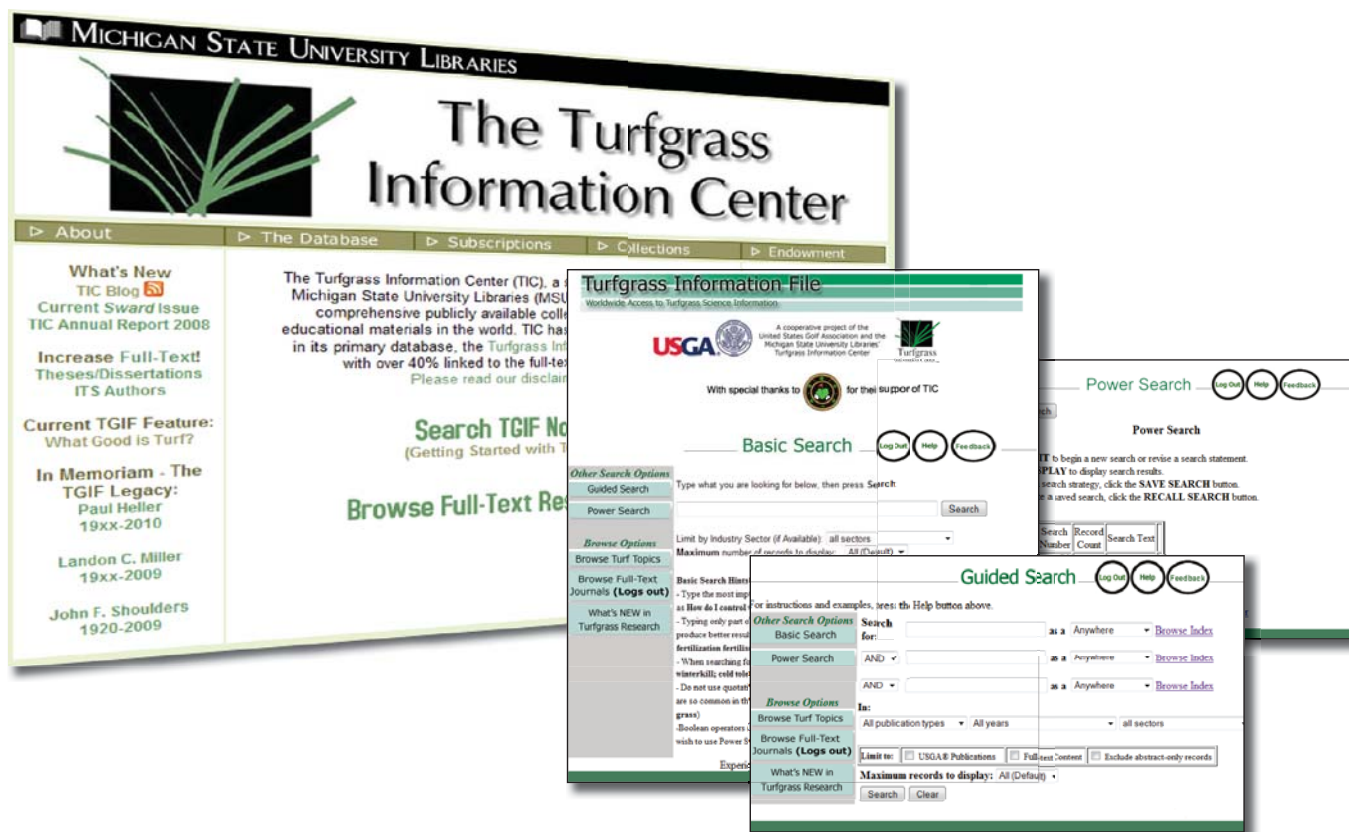
Corporations with Blanket Access

Several turfgrass industry corporations have arranged ongoing access for their research, technical, regulatory, or product support staff, via their own intranets.

Individual Subscribers with Their Own Logon

Currently individuals with their own logon can be found on 6 continents. These can either be annual- or perpetual-access arrangements.

Subscription information as an academic, association, corporation, or individual to TGIF can be found at <http://tic.msu.edu/subscribe.html>



TIC and TGIF Summary Use Statistics

TGIF Search Statistics	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Total TGIF Searches	114,518	104,749	84,957	68,640	57,860	46,402	39,460	41,495	36,820	34,453
TIC-hosted Electronic Resources Searches (excluding Browsing)	20,949	19,902	17,974	16,490	18,126	10,803	743	62	n/a	n/a
Fastlinks	1,253,491	776,007	248,976	186,198	76,789	18,905	10,060	4,050	2,039	573
Total Searches and Fastlinks	1,388,958	900,658	351,907	271,328	152,775	76,110	50,263	45,607	38,859	35,028

TIC Public Website	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Users Sessions	Forthcoming; check online version	14,189	10,523	21,264	15,699	9,329	8,578	n/a	n/a	n/a

Total TGIF searches are the number of search results displayed in the web version of TGIF. Fastlinks are found in many places, including the TIC Public Website, *The Sward*, TIC Blog, Google, TERO Reports, in emails sent in response to a question or to authors who have given permission for their materials to be digitized, such as dissertations and theses, and many other places. TIC Public Website User Sessions are the number of times for the year that people have either logged on to TGIF via the public website or looked up information the Center provides about itself, TGIF, and TIC's activities.

What is a Fastlink? A "Fastlink" is a database capability which can be described as a form of "deep linking". Essentially, this is the ability to create a URL (=hot link) which can burrow into a database (such as TGIF) and retrieve a specific record or set of records in a specific presentation format without the user even necessarily being aware of what has actually occurred. To the user, it is "just another hot link".

HIGHLIGHTS OF EFFORTS FOR COOPERATORS

Digitization

Access to full-text research reports or other management content is a serious challenge for turf professionals, as most do not live next to a research library; however, this is changing. The Turfgrass Information File, originally conceived to index and abstract the literature of turfgrass, has taken dramatic steps to increase usability for users to directly access the full-text of many identified articles and other items of interest—over 41% of TGIF records now link in this way!

Materials are sometimes made available by providers or publishers themselves, and the TGIF records contain links to those materials when they are so available – and hopefully are retained as archive files. Unfortunately, commercial publishers often lose interest in maintaining “older” archives as time goes on.

More needs to be done to provide full-text access to a greater percentage of the 157,000+ records now searchable within TGIF, but the challenges in many cases is that publishers who hold the copyright to these materials may not allow TGIF to digitize and make available the back files of their publications.

The Turfgrass Information Center, with your help and support, stands ready to make the desire for expanded access a reality. Please contact us to discuss your organization or firms’ publication(s) willingness to make these publications available

in this way, and look over our digitization prospectus/operational questionnaire (Word file) (<http://tic.msu.edu/digitization-prospectus.doc>). Everyone gains from such an effort: your members or clientele, your advertisers, and the broader world of turf science in general.
















Electronic Resources New This Year

Top: *Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference* – redesigned and greatly expanded coverage of this publicly-available resource.

Bottom: *On Course/The Bull Sheet* – electronic resource with content dating back to 1948; the current and prior calendar year are publicly-accessible with previous years’ content restricted to MAGCS members and TGIF users.

During 2009, TIC continued digitization of materials from its various cooperators.

Cooperators	Title	Issues Linked	TGIF Records Added	Total TGIF Records	URL	Noteworthy
American Society of Golf Course Architects	<i>ASGCA Architect's Gallery</i> 	n/a	n/a	614	http://golfarchitects.lib.msu.edu/	
Asociación Española de Greenkeepers	<i>GreenKeepers/Césped Deportivo</i> 1999–Present	Upcoming	185	185	Upcoming (Restricted)	
Canadian Golf Superintendents Association	<i>GreenMaster</i> 1965–Present less 3 months 	6	56	2,079	Restricted	Dig Deeper Implemented
Cornell Cooperative Extension	<i>CUTT</i> 1990–Present	Upcoming	59	176	Upcoming	
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America	<i>The Golf Course</i> 1916–August 1921 	0	0	120	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/gcmb/	Dig Deeper Implemented
	<i>Golf Course Management</i> 1933–Present less 1 month 	12	344	11,074	Restricted	Dig Deeper Implemented
	<i>The National Greenkeeper</i> 1927–October 1933 	0	0	1,173	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/ngkct/	Dig Deeper Implemented
	<i>Proceedings of the GCSAA Conference</i> As published, 1927–1998 	0	0	1,706	Restricted	Dig Deeper Implemented
Individual Authors	Turfgrass-Related Theses/Dissertations	9	n/a	2,100	Links are within corresponding TGIF records	320 available in full-text form; of these, 120 digitized by MSU Libraries
International Turfgrass Society	<i>International Turfgrass Society Research Journal and Proceedings</i> 1969–Present less 2 years, with author permission 	n/a	113	1,381	Restricted	Copyright clearance continues to be sought from all authors: for materials within 'moving wall', 931 authors have granted copyright permission; 833 remaining. Linked digitized PDFs for articles with TGIF records: 551 linked TGIF records (all authors having granted permission); 830 remaining.
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation	<i>Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference</i> 1972–2005 (see sample screen on p. 7)	32	2	1,661	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/mitgc/	Archive site re-launched with greatly expanded coverage (back to 1972); Dig Deeper Implemented

Cooperators	Title	Issues Linked	TGIF Records Added	Total TGIF Records	URL	Noteworthy
Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents	<i>On Course/ The Bull Sheet</i> 1948–Present (see sample screen on p. 7)	240	71	2,671	Current and prior year: http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/publicconcourse/	Archive site launched with current and prior year publicly-accessible, restricted-access for materials back to 1948; Dig Deeper Implemented
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	<i>Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a	Upcoming	Archival-quality digitization of 6,792 slides
Sports Turf Association	<i>Sports Turf Manager/ Sports Turf Newsletter</i> 1987–Present less 6 months	86	194	417	Upcoming	
Sports Turf Managers Association	<i>SportsTurf</i> 1985–Present less 2 months	264	221	2,073	Upcoming	
Sports Turf Research Institute	<i>International Turfgrass Bulletin/Sports Turf Bulletin</i> 1951–Present less 1 year 	4	66	1,557	Restricted	Dig Deeper Implemented
	<i>Journal of Turfgrass and Sports Surface Science</i> 1929–2007 	0	0	1,746	Restricted	
Turfgrass Producers International	<i>TurfNews</i> 1977–Present less 1 year 	6	126	2,157	Restricted	Dig Deeper Implemented
United States Golf Association	<i>USGA Green Section Record</i> 1921–Present 	6	74	2,859	http://turf.lib.msu.edu/gsr/	Dig Deeper Implemented
	<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online (TERO)</i> 2002–Present 	26	26	185	http://usgatero.msu.edu	
	<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Summary</i> 1977, 1983–Present 	1	75	1,074	http://tic.msu.edu/usgarsindex.html	
Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association	<i>The Grass Roots</i> 1975–Present less 1 month	149	59	1,576	Upcoming (Restricted)	

What is Dig Deeper? Dig Deeper is a search feature within several of the TIC-hosted digital archive sites that allows for searching the **complete text** of the articles; not just the citation, abstract, and assigned keywords in the TGIF record.

A “moving wall” in publishing refers to the time period between the last issue of a periodical available in a given online archive and the most recently published print issue of a periodical. It is specified by publishers in their license agreements with databases (like TGIF), and agreements with TIC currently range from no moving wall to two years.

COLLECTIONS

James B Beard Turfgrass Library Collection

Professor James B Beard donated his turfgrass library collection to the Michigan State University Libraries in 2003. It forms a distinctive entity within the Turfgrass Information Center's Collection that had its origins in Beard's research while he served on the faculty at Michigan State University from 1961 to 1975. Since no significant body of turf materials existed in any university library, he recognized both the need for and the opportunity to build a literature collection in support of turf science, research, and teaching. His involvement was critical to both the Noer Collection and his own.

During 2009, Dr. Beard continued to transfer materials including both monographic and periodical content to MSU, totaling some 721 items.

Other individuals have likewise contributed materials to the Beard Collection, including:

✱ **Mr. Bill Casimaty**, Strathayr Instant Lawn Pty., Ltd., Australia – Significant partial back runs of *Australian Turfgrass Management*, 2000–2005, and *TurfCraft Aust.* and *TurfCraft International*, 1987–2008.

✱ **Mr. Francisco Javier Garcia Ircio**, Spain – 2 books: *Césped Deportivo: Construcción y Mantenimiento*, and *Manejo de Céspedes con Bajo Consumo de Agua*.

✱ **Dr. David Gilstrap**, MSU – *Proceedings of the 1st–6th International Turfgrass Research Conference, Michigan Turfgrass Conference Proceedings* v. 21–31; several books and extension bulletins.

✱ **Professor Randall Schaetzl**, MSU – A partial back run of the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*.

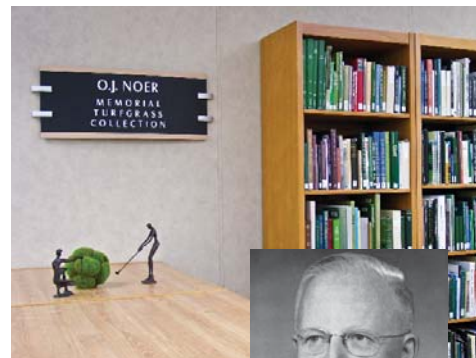


For more information about the Beard Collection see:

<http://tic.msu.edu/beard.html>

O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection

Beginning with the arrival of portions of the personal collection of O.J. Noer in 1968 (transferred to MSU via the O.J. Noer Research Foundation), the O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection has continued as the strongest publicly accessible library of materials relating to turf science and culture in the world. The Noer Foundation continues to support Collection development, and the TIC Endowment Campaign. Our thanks for their continued vision and support!



Throughout 2009, donations and new acquisitions continued to build the Noer Collection. Newly-published turfgrass-related materials, as well as all identified,

available, and affordable historic turf materials are purchased by the MSU Libraries on an ongoing basis, if publishers, authors, or interested third parties do not otherwise donate them to the Collection. TIC would, of course, prefer items to be donated, in order to use scarce resources to acquire additional materials for the collection.

For more information about the Noer Collection see:

<http://tic.msu.edu/noer.html>


Historical Acquisitions


Several items of historic significance were purchased for the Noer Collection during 2009. See the list as reflected in their TGIF records here: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkss.pl?srch=NOEROLDBUYS09>.

Of particular note here is the acquisition of our first copy of any of the pre-War (WWII, that is) editions of James Carter & Co.'s *The Practical Greenkeeper*. This very complex series of publications was first issued in England just after the turn of the century (1900, that is), under the editorship of Reginald Beale. The one that we have acquired is the 5th (UK) edition, published around 1913. Carters stopped formally numbering the 'editions' after 16 apparently, in 1925, though there were additional issues with various tags (such as 'new edition'). Also, there were at least 4 American editions, issued through the teens and twenties. Carter's continued to issue booklets, in this same spirit, well into the 1960's. In any case, this catalog cum turf maintenance handbook contains a range of recommendations for golf and sports turf, as well as wonderful period photographs of facilities, cultural practices, and equipment. Here is a link to the TGIF record for this item: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flink.pl?recno=33126>. In the future, we hope to identify and acquire additional issues of this fundamental series of very applied turf management booklets. Although these items were broadly distributed within the turf industry, there are very, very few of them in libraries—here or in the UK!












Donations to the Collection

Several significant, large-scale transfers of materials were donated, so that TIC can continue to build and further enhance the uniqueness of the Noer Collection. During 2009, we have received these donations of particular note:

 **Mr. Jerry Matthews**, Natural Course Design, Michigan — A major donation of hundreds of items belonging to himself and his father, golf course architect W. Bruce Matthews. Included in the donation are many books relating to golf course design and operations, yardage guides, and a substantial archive of golf course construction documents and plans relating to many of the courses designed by both architects. This special collection will require significant future handling, processing, and preservation attention.

 **USGA Green Section** (Golf House – National Green Section Office, Research, and Regional Offices, especially the Mid-Atlantic) — A continuing stream of items, including periodicals, technical reports, books and booklets, theses and dissertations, conference proceedings, and annual research reports. The Green Section's ongoing, sustained effort to make sure we have materials in hand to

both process for TGIF and build the collection is very much appreciated. Thanks especially to Jim Snow, Kimberly Erusha, and Mary McConnell at Golf House, Mike Kenna of Turf Research and the Zonteks' sustained transfer efforts from Pennsylvania.

-  **Dr. Frank Rossi**, Cornell University – A series of historic lawn & turf extension bulletins published between 1931-1971, as well as several notable turf books, including a 1922 copy of O. M. Scotts' *The Seeding and Care of Golf Courses*.
-  **Mr. Gary Mannies and Ms. Nancy Spraggins**, Best Approach Publications – Multiple ongoing shipments of recent golf course yardage guides produced by Best Approach, totaling 156 in 2009.
-  **Mr. Monroe Miller**, Wisconsin – A series of donations, including a complete run of *Wisconsin Turf Research*, 1983-2008; 35 specific older issues of *The Grass Roots*, needed for digitization to build it's online archive site, and a significant number of general science and yearbook items from the "Private Library of O.J. Noer".
-  **Ms. Jaime Staufenbeil**, MMSD – A collection of original Milorganite items, including brochures, fliers, ad placements, including a typescript of the 'Contest Naming Rules' from 1925 of what became Milorganite. Also a series of original issues of *The National Greenkeeper*, mostly 1927. Also a box of facsimile editions of O.J. Noer's 1937 version of *The ABC of Turf Culture*; which we will distribute free here in TIC to visitors.
-  **Ms. Margo Campbell Szabo**, GCSAA – Several boxes of local GCSAA affiliate newsletters & magazines, as well as the loan of a number of unheld items in support of digitization efforts, including *Practical Golf Greenkeeping* (see further detail p. ii).
-  **Mr. Ken Janke**, Michigan – 26 golf course-related books.
-  **Mr. Cliff Haka**, MSU Libraries – Several partial runs of golf periodicals, and a continuing supply of yardage guides and scorecards.
-  **Mr. Frank Roggenbuck and Mr. Mark Collins**, Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, MSU – Several boxes of turf periodicals, which continues their ongoing transfer of materials to us.
-  **Mr. John Bonjerno**, Michigan – Twelve turf & golf course books.
-  **Mr. Mel Lucas**, Massachusetts – A series of unowned turf periodicals.
-  **Dr. Peter Dernoeden**, University of Maryland – Binder of original materials, including correspondence, of the late Dr. Fred Grau.

In addition, ongoing donations of items from a wide range of individuals are important, necessary, and appreciated to continue to build a comprehensive collection, though not detailed here. We thank all our donors!

Do you have materials which could help researchers, students, and scholars better understand the rich history and tradition of turf culture? Consider giving them a permanent home, accessible, retrievable, and preserved, in a known, public, and secure location as a part of the Noer Collection. See <http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html> for further information about items which we seek.

In particular if you know of someone who will be retiring or moving, *please* have them contact us before disposing of materials. We recognize that in many cases the significance of items may well be uncertain – that is both okay and quite normal.

Continuing Acquisitions for the Collection

Acquisitions for the Collection continue on an aggressive basis by the MSU Library as a part of the ongoing efforts to build the collection. Hundreds of such items are purchased every year.

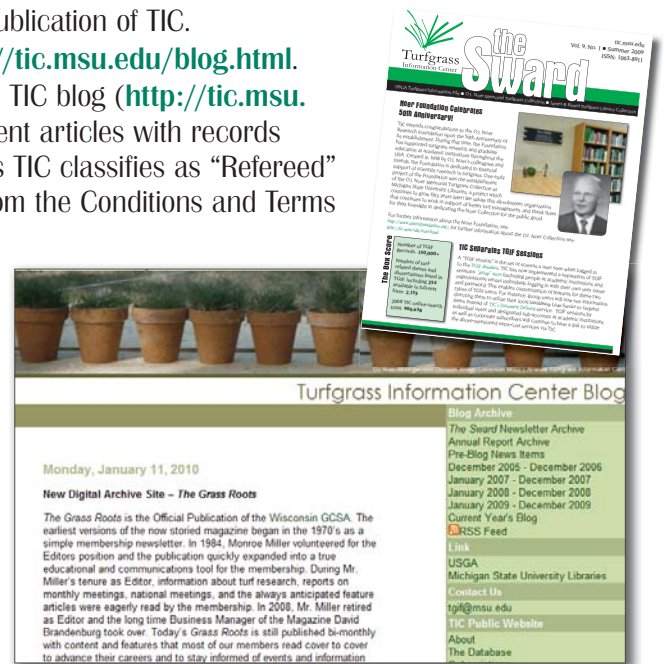
A list of sample titles acquired this past year for the Noer Collection are available at: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkss.pl?srch=NOERNEWBUYS09>

OUTREACH AND PUBLICITY

Currently there are three main methods of proactive communication with users:

- *The Sward*, the quarterly publication of TIC.
- TIC Blog, available at <http://tic.msu.edu/blog.html>.
- RSS Feeds, including of the TIC blog (<http://tic.msu.edu/ticblog.xml>), and recent articles with records added to TGIF from sources TIC classifies as “Refereed” (available for TGIF users from the Conditions and Terms of Use screen).

These communication tools highlight additions and enhancements to the TGIF database and digital archives, happenings within the unit, and visits to TIC by scholars and other people of interest from around the world. Readers can also find useful tips for using TGIF and helping TIC.



FACILITIES

The Turfgrass Information Center facility provides both public and staff workspace in supporting access to the various collections and the TGIF database. The facility is normally open to the public 40 hours per week for walk-in use for the physical materials; the digital materials are accessible nearly 24/7.

Please plan on visiting if you happen to be in East Lansing; email or call ahead if you have special needs or interests!

STAFFING

Volunteers and Interns

Interns from library and/or information science graduate programs provide staffing for projects that might not otherwise be completed for years. These placements have historically been from the University of Michigan and Wayne State University, but TIC welcomes interns from other programs as well.

Volunteers such as retired faculty or graduate students contribute time and expertise to work on projects that the staff and student employees would not have time to complete or the knowledge to complete.

Student Employees

The TIC workforce includes students from varied degree programs such as mechanical engineering, teacher education, international studies, German, criminal justice, packaging, journalism, music therapy, and others. The students are relied upon to do a multitude of tasks, including create descriptive (citation information) records, assign keywords, write abstracts, fix broken links in TGIF records, create web pages, file and organize materials, serve walk-in traffic, and an assortment of other tasks. TIC student employees have great working relationships and their efforts are vital to help the unit achieve our goals. We thank them for their efforts!

TIC Full-time Staff

- Nora Carr, Library Assistant – Contact regarding: questions or concerns about student employment, collections holdings, subscriptions, donations, correspondence, or mailing/emailing lists for *The Sward*.
- Michael Schury, Library Assistant – Contact regarding: questions, concerns or suggestions on digitization projects underway or completed; the operation of the TGIF database or TIC public website.
- Pete Cookingham, Project Director – Contact regarding: Scope of coverage or content issues within TGIF, cooperative initiatives, collection development and donations, or the “Why doesn’t TGIF do ____?” kinds of questions.

Library Administration and Other Library Support

- Cliff H. Haka, Director of MSU Libraries.
- Shawn Nicholson, Associate Director for Digital Information, of which TIC is a unit.
- Libraries Digital and Multimedia Center, especially Elizabeth Bollinger, Ceci Malilwe, and John Shaw.
- Libraries Systems Department, especially Bill Wheeler.
- Libraries Acquisitions and Technical Services, Administrative Services, Human Resources, LC&T Development, and more.



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Turfgrass
Information Center

Is your institution or alma mater a TGIF subscriber? See the list on p. 4. If not, rally support for doing it!

For information on how to get started visit:















<http://tic.msu.edu/academic.html>

HOW YOU CAN HELP

-  Donate needed materials to the Collection, and encourage others to do the same. See <http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html> for further specifics.
-  Support the TIC Endowment Campaign yourself and/or encourage other individuals, organizations, and groups to become involved and do so as well. See <http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html> for more information.
-  Encourage your local, state/provincial, national, or international organizations to become a digital cooperator, and to make their publication(s) available to the turfgrass world (see p. 7).
-  Volunteer time at the Center.
-  Subscribe to TGIF for yourself, for your academic institution, for your corporation, or encourage your professional organization to become involved so that its members can easily use TGIF. See <http://tic.msu.edu/subscribe.html> for further details.

To support the Turfgrass
Information Center with a
financial donation please visit
<http://tic.msu.edu/pledge.html>

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

-  Continue to build the TIC Endowment Fund to help guarantee future financial stability of both TIC and TGIF.
-  Continue negotiations to increase the number of turf users that can access TGIF through their professional, corporate, and academic organizations.
-  Increase availability of guidance and training materials, online and offline, to help users better utilize all TGIF has to offer.
-  Continue to push to increase the percentage of full-text material linked directly from within TGIF.
-  Explore avenues to provide greater access to the increased number of archive-like items within TIC's collections, especially and initially to Scott's Archive Collection.
-  Launch a prototype image collection presentation, based on the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection.
-  Seek financial support to aggressively process older turfgrass literature with the intention of "completing" TGIF coverage for pre-1984 materials within the next several years.
-  Launch the digital archive site for *SportsTurf* (in cooperation with Sports Turf Managers Association and Adams Publishing Co.).
-  Launch the digital archive site for *Sports Turf Manager/Sports Turf Newsletter* (in cooperation with the Sports Turf Association).
-  Launch the digital archive site for *GreenKeepers/Césped Deportivo* (in cooperation with Asociación Española de Greenkeepers).
-  Launch the digital archive site for *The Grass Roots* (in cooperation with the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association).
-  Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of TGIF indexing practice.
-  Continue to actively seek content and associated permissions from current turfgrass reference sources for inclusion within TGIF.
-  Prototype TGIF user contributions to some TGIF record content via online interaction.



Turfgrass

Information Center

tic.msu.edu

The **Turfgrass Information File** is a cooperative project of MSU Libraries and the United States Golf Association (USGA).



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