

THE SWARD

News from the Turfgrass Information Center

USGA Turfgrass Information File O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection Michigan State University Libraries

"TOPICS" FILES

Based on feedback from users and the USGA Turfgrass Research Committee, we have a new "System Main Menu" item called "Download Topics". Selecting one of the listed topics (using the cursor keys or the number associated with a file) will download it directly to your PC. Each file is a pre-searched bibliography on that topic, usually 3 or 4 pages long. Records are in a very short form, and include the USGA TGIF record number so you can "go back" and look at a complete record, if you wish to. A sample of this format is shown below:

Selected Recent Citations on Zovsiagrass

from the USGA Turfgrass Information File

To see the complete USGA TGIF record for a citation listed below, D)isplay the record # listed at the end of the citation in the ALL format at the Command Line in LISGA TGIF.

For example: D R11897 ALL

1987

Al-Khayri, J. M.; Huang, F. H.; Thompson, L. F.; King, J. W., Somatic Embryogenesis in Plant Regeneration of Zoysiagrass. In: <u>Agronomy Abstracts</u>; November 1987: 147. USGA TGIF RecNo: 11288

Borden, Pamela; Campbell, Ronald W. Growth and Water Use of 'Meyer' Zoysiagrass as Influenced by Five Chemical Growth Regulators.In: HortScience; October 1987; 22(5): 63.
USGA TGIF RecNo: 11306

Colbaugh, Phillip F., Brown Patch and Pythium Disease Resistance in Bentgrass and Zovsiagrass. In: <u>Annual Turfgrass Research Report</u> [USGA/GCSAA]; December 1987; 28.
USGA TGIF RecNo; 11896

Dernoeden, Peter H., Growing Zoysiagrass in the Transition Zone. In: <u>Lawn Servicing</u>; April 1987; 4(4): 24-26. USGA TGIF RecNo: 15622

Currently available bibliographies include:

- 51 Recent Poa annua work
- 52 Groundwater and runoff
- 53 Localized dry spot
- 54 Effluent water use
- 55 Protective covers
- 56 Zoysia

This list will change. It is likely, in fact, that there will be additional new screens for listing the many topics which are likely to be added. Remember, too, that these bibliographies are fixed in time. We will update them periodically, but for the very latest citations, use USGA TGIF directly (it is updated as soon as citations are entered by us into STAR).

If subscribers would like a printed copy of any of the bibliographies listed above, please just call and we'll send it (or them) to you via mail.



PUBLICATION DONATIONS

The O. J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection

We are most pleased to report that increased numbers of individuals have seen fit to forward on to us back issues of conference proceedings, research reports, books, technical reports, etc., relating to turf. This is a tremendous help in strengthening the foundation upon which USGA TGIF growth is based; the O. J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection. It does take substantial amounts of time to process these materials, however, so please be patient about the lag time before records for items appear in USGA TGIF. In general, the newer materials are; the higher the priority for indexing and abstracting. And, YES, REPRINTS ARE WELCOME! We maintain Vertical Files for reprints, which provide a back-up for the cataloged and (usually) bound volumes in the open stacks, as well as act as a home for items too small to be in the stacks.

THANKS AGAIN TO ALL DONORS!!

>>>>>>>>>

USER'S QUESTIONS

Q. How can my phone lines influence online searching?

A. Phone lines can have a <u>major</u> influence on how well your online session starts and goes. <u>Some</u> of the variables include:

1) Static (noise) on the line -

If you get static or other "noise" on the line when you talk, it will probably reek havoc with your modem. Local weather can also be a major factor here.

Fancy phones -

The newer phones and services can also make trouble; for example, call forwarding, call advisory, etc. can all confuse a modem.

No easy answers here, you have to experiment a bit! Call if you're not sure about your telephone quality.

THE SIMULATOR IS COMING....

Based on feedback at Orlando, we have expanded the scope of the simulator/trainer/demo disk a bit and it is nearing (a revised and enhanced) completion. It WILL BE SENT TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS (at no charge) when ready.

BONUS INSERT!

Enclosed you will find a slightly revised "Mini-Guide I" for logging-on and off the system. We hope this will be useful; please use it in place of the one in the back of the Dial-Up User's Manual. Note that instead of having to specify "3 TGIF" ("Search and Report", then "TGIF") the system will now assume you want to do this and take you directly to the TGIF search screen.

ACADEMIC'S CORNER

Theses & Dissertations

We are hoping to have an exhaustive listing of every turf thesis and dissertation within USGA TGIF. A recent push on these items has strengthened our coverage (but not holdings) greatly, though most are shortform records. We would appreciate hearing about any theses or dissertations in turf which are not yet listed in USGA TGIF, and would appreciate even more copies of any which we do not yet own. (If there is no "Call No." listed in the ALL or KEEPERS display format of a record, we do not own it.)



NEW FEATURES ONLINE...

Managing Your Own .LST File

Whenever you download a search which you have W)ritten inside USGA TGIF, it is downloaded to your PC as "xxx.lst", where "xxx" is your log-on initials. At our end, this file of yours acts as a kind of holding work-space where you can temporarily store materials before you download them. If you don't download the file at all, or don't finish downloading it, it remains intact. It is now possible for you to manage this file yourself. Each time you enter the STAR database software, the system will check to see if you have an .lst file already. If you do, a "warning" screen will present you with four alternatives:

- Continue on into STAR and leave the xxx.lst file intact.
- Look at the contents of the file, to see what you had "set aside" already, and then return to this screen again.
- 3) <u>Delete</u> the file and continue on into STAR.
- 4) Go back to the "System Main Menu".

As a practical matter, this can be used not only to check carryovers between different sessions, but also within a session. Thus, if you aren't sure exactly what you W)rote:

- Exit USGA TGIF and STAR to the "System Main Menu", and
- 2) Press <RETURN> to again enter STAR.

You can then look at the contents you have ready to download (#2) and then go back to the "System Main Menu" (#4) in order to finish the download if all is well.

Delay in Log-Off Screen

Many users commented on how quickly the log-off detail screen (telling you how long you had been connected at our end) "went past". A delay and simplification of this screen has now been built in, giving you 5 seconds to do a screen print.

JAPANESE VISITORS

TIC was recently pleased to host a brief visit and orientation session for 30 representatives of the Japanese turfgrass industry, as a part of a visit to the MSU campus. The group included superintendents, club owners, industry representatives, and academics.

The group was led by Dr. Yoshisuke Maki, Professor of Agronomy at the Akita Prefectural College of Agriculture, who also translated the online demonstration and discussions. Dr. Maki is the Past President of the International Turfgrass Society.

Moving on....

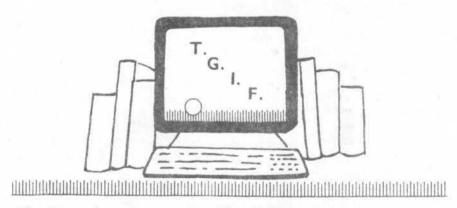
Later in May, Tricia (Ray) Baker, TIC's only full-time employee, will be leaving for the warmth of sunny Tampa, Florida. Tricia has been at TIC for 4 years, so she will be missed a great deal. We wish her the best of luck and extend our thanks for her efforts on USGA TGIF.



Peter O. Cookingham, Editor Tricia (Ray) Baker, Production

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Online Access to the Turf Science Literature

Serving Turf Science, the Turf Industry, and Turf Professionals