



Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) ■
O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection ■

Volume 6 Issue 1

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Toro Grants Retroprocessing Items

In the beginning of 2003, the Toro Foundation awarded a grant of \$11,000 to the Turfgrass Information Center. This grant has started the processing of non-USGA material that was published before the opening of TIC in 1984. This grant was a huge step for the Center because it has allowed for a vast amount of historical turfgrass material to be included in the database.

Since this first donation has been accepted, phase one of this project has been completed. Within 9 months, 1,873 records of pre-1984 material were added to the database. Among the materials processed were 289 records of content from *National Greenkeeper*, all *Southern California Turfgrass Culture/California Turfgrass Culture* articles, 102 records of the *Proceedings of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Conference*, 35 records of *Australian Greenkeeper* and 32 records from the *Proceedings of the First and Second National Turfgrass Conferences [UK]*.

The growth and evolution of TGIF is due largely to sponsors like Toro, who have made the expansion of the database possible.

Please see Toro Grant, page 2.

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Number of Records now in TGIF: 99,000+!

Beard Collection Arrives at TIC

In April of 2003, a donation of about 30,000 items was received at the Turfgrass Information Center from Dr. James B Beard and Mrs. Harriet Beard. After weeks of cleaning and restoring books and periodicals, building cabinets and finally shelving the books, the Beard Collection was born.

On July 16th, the collection was dedicated to Dr. Beard and named "The James B Beard Turfgrass Library Collection". The materials donated by Dr. Beard thus far have been a significant addition to the TIC collection started while Beard was a professor at Michigan State. This was the first major academic collection to be produced on turf science, research, and teaching.

With this addition to our already expansive collection, MSU now has the largest and most complete compilation of turfgrass literature for public use in the world. We are currently working to provide access to all of these newly obtained books, periodicals, technical reports, and other materials through our online database, the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF).

The Beard Collection includes nearly all of the turf-related publications from just before 1900 to the present day. Also included are many supporting items concerning the wider-ranging context of grasses and landscape care dating back even to the 1700s. The Beard Collection joins the O.J. Noer Collection previously brought to the Turfgrass Information Center through the efforts of Dr. Beard and Dr. Richard Chapin, then Director of the MSU Libraries.

We at the Turfgrass Information Center and MSU Libraries are truly grateful for this generous donation by Dr. and Mrs. Beard. It will surely prove to be an invaluable resource for all turfgrass students and professionals on into the future.

Toro Grants (cont'd)

The president of the Toro Foundation, Stacy Bogart, stated "The expansion of TGIF to include historical resources, much of which underpins contemporary turf practice, will further enhance the utility of the database, and is the reason that the Toro Foundation is pleased to provide our support with this grant."

With the help of additional funding of \$15,000 from the Toro Foundation, we were able to complete Round II of retroactive processing in 2004. An additional 2,623 records from the period of 1900 – 1983 were added to the database, bringing the number of records created under the Toro program to a total of 4,496.

Special thanks to the Toro Foundation for their continued support.

EndNote Import Format Now Available

We are happy to announce that TGIF users now have access to a TGIF filter for use with EndNote, a bibliographic software package which allows the importing and organizing of downloaded results of a user's database searches, including TGIF, and creates correctly formatted bibliographies in your word processing software.

EndNote is a commercial software product. See their website at www.endnote.com for further information about this product.

To use this format in TGIF (after you have installed the TGIF filter):

- 1.) View any single record or search in TGIF
- 2.) Change the drop down box at the top of the screen to "EndNote Import Format"
- 3.) Download the TGIF filter from the TIC website (<http://www.tic.msu.edu/endnote.htm>). Select save from the file download box. In the save as window locate your Endnote filters folder typically C:\program files\endnote\filters\ and select save. You only need to do this once, or if the filter is updated.
- 4.) From your web browser's File menu select Save as...
- 5.) In the Save as type: drop down box select text
- 6.) Enter the name of your file and select save
- 7.) Open Endnote, select File menu and then import
- 8.) In the Import option select "TGIF"
- 9.) Select Ok

USGA TERO

The *USGA TERO* (which stands for *Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online*) is an electronic technical journal published by the United States Golf Association. The journal is hosted alongside TGIF and reports the results of research projects funded under USGA's Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program.

The private, non-profit research program provides funding opportunities to university faculty interested in working on environmental and turf management problems affecting golf courses. The USGA has funded over 290 projects costing \$25 million since 1983.

You may search for TERO articles by clicking on the link titled "*USGA Turfgrass & Environmental Research Online*" at the bottom of the TIC website. From there, click on "Browse TERO Articles" on the left side of the page. You can also search TERO articles from within TGIF itself and link to the full-text from there.

STRI Cooperative Venture

Since early 2003, the *Journal of Turfgrass Science*, produced by the Sports Turf Research Institute in the U.K., has been available as full text articles, rather than just abstracts. The issues span from 1929 through 2000.

This feature is extremely useful for both STRI subscribers via the STRI website, as well as to TGIF users.



STRI is the United Kingdom's market leader in turfgrass research. The Journal was said to be "the premier turfgrass research journal in Europe" by Dr. James Beard.

Making available the full text of this journal is a cooperative venture between the MSU libraries and STRI.

Cliff Haka, the Director of MSU Libraries looks to the future saying "we look forward to this being the first of several research journals for which full-text access can be provided within the Turfgrass Information File."

Changes in TGIF

TGIF is constantly undergoing construction, making it more efficient and user-friendly. In either updating already existing features or adding new features, we are trying to make it more helpful to the users. Described below are some of these updates.

New and Improved Basic Search Screen!

Turfgrass Information File
Worldwide Access to Turfgrass Science Information

USGA. A cooperative project of the United States Golf Association and the Michigan State University Libraries' Turfgrass Information Center

Basic Search [Log Out](#) [Help](#)

Type what you are looking for below, then press **Search**:

Maximum number of records to display: 50

[Guided Search](#)
[Power Search](#)
[Turf Topics](#)
[Logoff to Browse Full-Text Journals](#)
[What's NEW in Turfgrass Research](#)

The Basic Search screen has recently been redesigned. With a smaller, more compact screen, it is now easier to navigate, making scrolling up and down on the search page unnecessary. An added option is the ability to browse full text journals which TIC hosts cooperatively with their producers. This should prove to be quite a valuable feature for all of our users.

Remember that we also have the Guided Search, Power Search, Basic Search, and Turf Topics search alternatives. These are also very useful tools for exploring the database.

So logon to tic.msu.edu and click **Search Now!** to get your search started! We hope that you find the new search screen and the full-text browser useful and easy to use.

A New TGIF Feature

A new hot link in some TGIF records allows users to view related TGIF records of articles or other pieces of multi-part works.

Near the bottom of the record, right above where the "Notes" field is, you may find the new "See Also" field, listing the title of a related article, the source and a link to the TGIF record of that article or item.

The See Also field can also contain links tying together books and book chapters. For example, you may see something like this in the "See Also" field: "See also the 10 chapter records from this work", along with a hot link to those 10 records.

Please see New Feature, page 4.

New Feature (cont'd)

Additionally, the "See Also" field may sometimes include information about other material in TGIF on the same topic. A link will be provided allowing you to browse through records related to the topic of the record you are currently viewing.

New TGIF Search Field

Power Search in TGIF now contains a new field: BORA, which can be used to search for material "by or about" a certain person. Simply type a person's name, last name first, into the BORA field and all records including any information on that individual will be brought up.

This search could identify magazine articles, books, book chapters, etc. written *by* that person. It would also bring up any material *about* the person, including interviews with or biographical profiles of them, as well as video segments featuring that individual.

For example, here is how a TGIF Power Search could look using BORA:

BORA = Beard, J*

New Feedback Form

TIC's website now contains a feedback form that can be used to comment on any aspect of TGIF, whether it be a specific record, the TGIF search interface, or another issue you care to bring to our attention. We like to hear back from our users, so if there's something you love, something you hate, or any comments in between, let us know. If you have any ideas on how to improve existing database features, or questions regarding the database, we'd appreciate hearing from you. So feel free to fill out a feedback form and we'll get back to you as soon as we can. Don't forget to include your e-mail address if you'd like to receive a reply from us!

Soon you will see a link to the form from directly within each TGIF record. Use it to point out any errors or dead links you encounter in TGIF. Thank you for helping make TGIF stronger for us all!

The Sward

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*Best wishes for the new year
from the staff at TIC!!*



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The Campaign to Endow the Turfgrass Information File Campaign Update as of January, 2005

Cash Balance	\$1,243,871
Outstanding Pledges Due	
2005 & 2006	494,000
2007 & 2008 & 2009	290,000
Projected Total	2,027,871

Inquiries concerning contributions to this campaign can be directed to Pete Cookingham at 800-446-8443, e-mail address cooking1@msu.edu or Belinda Cook at 517-432-6123 ext. 137, e-mail address cookbp@msu.edu, or see the TIC website at tic.msu.edu. We need your continuing help and support! Thank you.