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During a down economy it's sometimes tempting to come up with excuses for not attending

an industry event even though you know from experience that attending such an event may help you operate your business more efficiently and more profitably.

Any such excuses quickly fade away when you consider the tremendous advantages and benefits derived from attending an event. This is especially true when it comes to TPI's Summer Convention & Field Days, where you have the opportunity to exchange ideas with other turfgrass producers, meet with leading manufacturers, view live equipment demonstrations, see new product innovations, gain insight into the industry's latest technology and have an opportunity to meet with industry experts.

Whether you're an attendee or exhibitor, your presence at TPI's Summer Convention & Field Days, especially during these challenging economic times, is more important than ever.

## Being Where Successful Companies Gather Has Its Advantages

For exhibitors, being part of the industry's largest gathering of leading manufacturers and suppliers sends a clear message to existing and prospective clients. You'll enjoy the benefit of one-on-one meetings with current and prospective customers who are key decision makers.

As a turfgrass producer the benefits are immeasurable including the number one reason cited by TPI members for attending such events — NETWORKING.

According to TPI member surveys, the chance to network with peers and industry experts is the biggest plus of attending any TPI event. Exchanging experiences, addressing mutual concerns, problem solving and getting helpful advice from other turfgrass producers, manufacturers and suppliers from around the world is invaluable.

When you take into account farm and other local tours, the TPI Welcome Reception, The Lawn Institute Memorial Golf Tournament, TPI Banquet, Round Table Forum and this year's Field Day at the Hancock Research Center on the Michigan State University campus, it's obvious that the TPI Summer

Convention & Field Days will provide a learning, sharing and social environment that's unmatched by any other in the industry.

There's no denying that being where successful companies gather has its advantages . . . so take advantage of it!

### Registration Has Never Been Easier!

Registration for the TPI Summer Convention & Field Days has never been easier thanks to the convenient option of on-line registration.

Click the link below and it will take directly to registration information.



Be sure to take advantage of the Early Bird rate available if you register by June 12, 2009.



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## TPI Members Get Exclusive Worldwide Access to Turfgrass Science Information through TGIF

Welcome to the

### Turfgrass Information File

A Unique Resource for Turfgrass Researchers, Practitioners, and Students



### Member Benefit

The Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) database is designed to be flexible for all users, from those accessing for the first-time to more sophisticated users.

TGIF provides bibliographic and descriptive records of all types of works related to turfgrass culture. Established in 1983 by the United States Golf Association (USGA) Turfgrass Research Committee and the Michigan State University Libraries, TGIF is now maintained by the Turfgrass Information Center, a division of Michigan State University 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;
- 3) Provide a direct link to the full-text or actual content of each item when possible.

As of September 2008, there were over 140,000 records in TGIF, with a gradually increasing percentage of content linked to full-text sources. About 10,000 new records are added every year, with over 35% including full-text or linking to full-text. Ultimately, the Turfgrass Information Center hopes to offer online access to the complete publication history of turf science, reaching back into the late 19th century (or perhaps before) through TGIF. In fact, much of this older material is already listed in TGIF; for example, all [USGA Green Section periodicals](#) published since 1921 are now indexed and linked to full-text electronic versions from within TGIF.

This member's only benefit can be accessed through the TPI website at [www.turfgrassod.org](http://www.turfgrassod.org), login with your TPI member username and password.

From the member's only menu click on:



Turfgrass Information File (TGIF)  
Enter TGIF  
Full database - search now  
Welcome to TPI members appears,



Click here to search TGIF  
Be sure to click that you accept conditions and terms and it will bring you to the Basic Search option. Now you have exclusive access to turfgrass science information at your fingertips!

### 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 fertili will automatically find fertilizer, fertilization, fertilization, 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 you to limit the search to an industry sector. The sectors are: Breeding and Genetics, Golf Courses, Landscape, Lawn care, Parks and Grounds, Roadsides, Seed, Sod, Sports Turf, and Utility turf.

More detailed instructions can be found at <http://tic.msu.edu/search.html>

### Contact TGIF:

Turfgrass Information Center  
100 Library, 3rd floor West  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1048 USA  
Telephone: (517) 353-7209  
USA and Canada Voice: 1-800-446-TGIF  
Fax: (517) 353-1975  
Email: [tgif@msu.edu](mailto:tgif@msu.edu)  
Web: <http://tic.msu.edu>

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# GREEN ROOFS Have Come a Long Way in 1,000 Years

## 2009

## 1009

**Vancouver Convention Centre** features Canada's largest Green Roof.



The newly-completed Vancouver Convention Centre features a six-acre green roof, the largest in Canada, and the largest non-industrial green roof in North America.

Built by LMN Architects, the building has some unique features, including:

- A green roof with 400,000 native plants and grasses, as well as hives for 60,000 bees. Plant variety includes Hooker's onion, chamisso sedge, beach strawberry, broad-leaved stonecrop and silverweed. There is also bentgrass, pearly everlast and quarto sheeps fescue. All plants are indigenous to British Columbia.
- Designed habitats for marine life in the building's foundation.
- On-site black water treatment and desalination systems that are projected to cut potable water use 60 to 70 percent.
- Seawater pump system for heating and cooling.
- Radiant floor cooling.

LMN Architects write: "The roof landscape will have the ability to retain storm water releasing excess amounts slowly, clean particulate matter from this water, clean pollutants from the air, and provide habitat for insects and birds in the urban environment. The usually benign roof landscape will be transformed into a rich and diverse urban sanctuary."

<http://www.greenroofs.com/projects/pview.php?id=545>  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R\\_zgAsTf0c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R_zgAsTf0c)

**L'Anse aux Meadows** is an archaeological site on the northernmost tip of the island of Newfoundland in the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador that was discovered in 1960.



Although the Viking Norsemen who first arrived on Newfoundland's shores more than 1,000 years ago didn't make it a permanent home, they left evidence of their passage in the foundations of the original sod structures that once housed them.

Archeologists and historians now believe they stayed one generation or less. The L'Anse aux Meadows site was probably a way station for Norse exploration in North America one thousand years ago. The longhouse re-construction is operated by Parks Canada and is based on archaeological findings at L'Anse aux Meadows and elsewhere. The original longhouse on the site may have been constructed by Leifur Eiriksson and the other members of his party. The remains of eight buildings are believed to have been constructed of sod (turf) placed over a wooden frame.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4NedH4pYqc&feature=related>

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# Finding Time to HORSE Around!

**Claus and Anne Zander** of Zander Sod Co., Limited in Kettleby, Ontario, Canada know there's more to life than owning and operating a turfgrass farm. They both like to horse around too!

In addition to their love for equestrian riding they also own and operate Cedar Peaks Farms, a year round equestrian training facility in Cookstown, Ontario. The facility is dedicated to education of both horse and rider. Schooling is available year round.

Their cross country facilities includes fences, banks, ditches, sunken roads and a water complex with over 60 cross country jumping opportunities for riders.

They also have a 60m x 60m sand ring for dressage and stadium jumping, two 20m round pens and a 20m x 50m indoor arena.

Riders are invited to bring their own coach or Anne Zander, an award winning rider in her own right, is available to coach.



<http://www.cedarpeaksfarm.com/>



Claus Zander and Wisconsin

*Photo By: Andrew Bailini*



Cedar Peaks Farms indoor training facility.



*Photo provided by: Claus Zander*

**Anne Zander & Caliente Kisses** in a "water jump" at the Checkmate horse trials in Collingwood, Ontario Sept 08.



*Photo By: Andrew Bailini*

**Claus Zander & Wisconsin** take a jump during the Grandview's Fall Combined Test in Hawkestone, Ontario, Canada in October 07.



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Where in the world is  
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and copy from TPI member websites.

**Eikenhof, South Africa**

<http://www.evergreenturf.co.za/>



**Evergreen Turf** offers a comprehensive range of green services to domestic and commercial customers in South Africa. Established in 1987 by **Hantie and Fanus Cloete**, Evergreen Turf is now recognized as the largest supplier of instant lawn in Southern Africa. Companies in the group offer maintenance, irrigation, as well as golf course and sports field construction.

Evergreen Turf currently has 650 hectares of quality lawn under propagation at their main centre in Johannesburg, as well as in Pretoria and Ballito,



KwaZulu-Natal available throughout the year.

Their website notes, "With all the latest, modernized equipment in our operation, it enables us to

deliver quick and professional service to the client, whether it be a delivery or harvesting. We also offer professional lawn laying services to Municipals, Sports Fields, Construction, Property Developers and the Private sector, to name a few."



**TurfSide-UP**



Artificial turf salesman Otis P. Fernando demonstrates yet another diversified use for artificial turf during the recent , *Pink Flamingo & Other Plastics for Your Yard Conference* held in Whyunearth, Freedomia. The theme of this year's conference was "I Feel The Temperature Rising".

Guest speaker, R. N. Uhot did a presentation entitled, "You Too Can Turn Any Playground or Backyard Into a Sauna". The conference was cut short because the outdoor display and exhibit area (covered with artificial turf), reached temperatures in excess of 190 degrees Fahrenheit (88 degrees Celsius).

One attendee was quoted as saying, "I haven't been this hot since I fell into barbecue pit at an Hawaiian Luau on the Big Island of Hawaii."

Photoshop image: Jim Novak

**Consumer Reports**

**New Lawn Care Survey Suggests Consumers Will Spend More Time Enjoying Outdoor Green Space Compared to Last Year**

According to the latest lawn care poll by Consumer Reports National Research Center, nearly half (43%) of adults plan to spend more time in their outdoor space this year compared to last year, and only five percent plan to spend less.

Consumer Reports' second-annual lawn poll is part of a special section on lawn-care advice, bargain-yard makeovers, lawn equipment ratings, and mower and tractor maintenance featured in their May 2009 issue of the magazine.

Additional poll results showed that more than a third of adults (35%) plan to put more of an effort into their outdoor space this year compared to last year. Of those, 59

percent say the extra effort is for entertaining guests and 33 percent say they want their outdoor space to look better or just as good as their neighbor's yard. Over a third (36%) plan to use a professional lawn service this year. The most common services they plan to use this year are lawn and landscape maintenance (22%), fertilizing (18%), trees/shrub care (17%) and seasonal clean-up (17%).

"We found that homeowners should be prepared to dedicate an average of 6.5 hours per week working outdoors during growing season," said Peter Sawchuk, project leader at Consumer Reports.

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**Dziękua**  
(Thank You)



Kazmierz, Poland

***“You made us and them very proud.”***

“Many, many thanks ! We showed the [May 2009 TPI] newsletter to our village and county authorities to show what a good job our organization (TPI) is doing promoting this region. They couldn't believe the names of the locations (Kiaczyn and Kazmierz) where actually mentioned in the US and now they'll be known to the international population. You made us and them very proud.”

Best regards,  
**Ewa and Stan Adamek**  
Grassland Farms SP. Z.O.O.  
Kazmierz, Poland



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**Click here for more info and an Application Form.**

[http://www.grasslandfarms.pl/?k=strony\\_s&ns=21&lang2=en](http://www.grasslandfarms.pl/?k=strony_s&ns=21&lang2=en)

***With a little help from my friends***



Anyone who knows **Bob Weerts** of Blue Valley Sod in Winnebago, Minnesota knows that he's a man of few words. When Bob held a recent auction to sell-off some used equipment he was asked to provide some information for the newsletter. His response (presented in its entirety) was as follows:

- There were 41 internet bidders.
- The internet went very well.
- Had people from Canada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Kansas.
- One harvester went to Michigan.
- Some of the mowers went to Tennessee.
- It was very well attended, 400-500 people.
- Market was fair.
- Some good, some bad.
- The cash is in the bank.

Upon receiving Bob's "to the point" recap we responded:

- Impressed
- Good recap
- Simple
- To the point
- Well done

As always, Bob got in the last word, his reply:  
"That's me . . . Simple????"

**Fellow TPI Members Show Their Support at Used Equipment Auction**



Photo provided by Dave DeBuck

Friends helping friends at the Blue Valley Sod auction. Pictured left to right - **George Brandt**, American Sod, IL; **Dave DeBuck**, DeBuck's Sod Farm of Wisconsin, Delavan, WI; **Bob Weerts**, and **Alan DeBuck** of DeBuck's Sod Farm, Davison MI.



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## Member's Find VALUE in new *Turfgrass Lawn Guide* brochures

"We are using the new *Benefits of Turfgrass* brochure in our annual mailings to established and potential new accounts because it provides useful information for our customers to promote turfgrass sod.

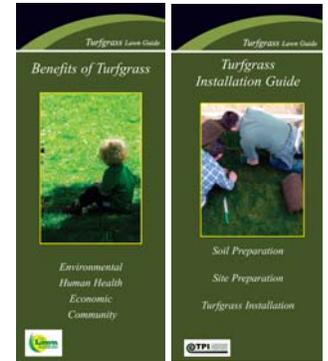
We also give the *Turfgrass Installation Guide* brochure to our garden center and box store accounts so they can save time and better inform their customers. Both brochures are

well done, look professional, they're convenient to buy and easy to provide to our customers."

Chris Beasley  
Tuckahoe Turf Farms, Inc.  
Canton, Massachusetts USA

The *Benefits of Turfgrass* and the *Turfgrass Installation Guide* are two in a series of six new brochures now available.

For more information and order forms: [CLICK HERE](#)



## Last month's "Photos on Grass" generated an interesting response from Wales



"Thanks for the [May 2009] newsletter. It is always an interesting read. I was particularly surprised to see Heather [Ackroyd] and Dan's [Harvey] Grass Art piece. I worked with the couple some years ago funded by a Wellcome Foundation Sci-Art Grant where they used a perennial ryegrass variety I bred which keeps its green color.

Regards  
Dr. Daniel Thorogood  
Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences,  
Plas Gogerddan,  
Aberystwyth University,  
Aberystwyth,  
Ceredigion, SY23 3EB.  
[www.aber.ac.uk/en/ibers/](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/ibers/)



**Dr. Daniel Thorogood** is a member of the Board of the International Turfgrass Society and is a member of the Working Group for the foundation of the European Turfgrass Society.

Dr. Thorogood's research study entitled "**A Comparison of Carbon Sequestration in Soils Used for Turf Farming**" - Danny Thorogood, Ph.D., Tim Williams, Ph.D. James MacDuff, Ph.D. and Owain Rees-Jones, Ph.D. was partially funded by **The Lawn Institute** and recently featured in the May/June 2009 issue of *Turf News*.  
TGIF - Key Words: Carbon Sequestration, Category Code: RS



Photos on grass created by Heather Ackroyd & Dan Harvey greets fans at Wimbledon in 2008



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