



**Turfgrass**  
Information Center  
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2011

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

1.3+ million searches • 46% linked to full text • 21,000+ new records  
5.6+ million PDFs displayed of TIC-hosted materials • 67 academic subscribers worldwide

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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\\_2011.pdf](http://tic.msu.edu/TIC_Annual_Report_2011.pdf)**



Turfgrass Information Center Annual Report 2011

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## Historic Milestones of TIC

- Early 1960's • Dr. James B Beard & MSU Libraries Director Dick Chapin agree to begin building a significant turfgrass collection at the MSU Libraries.
- c 1968 • The collection of agronomist O.J. Noer is donated to the MSU Libraries, facilitated by the O.J. Noer Research Foundation. All turfgrass-related holdings at MSU are named the "O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection" at that time.
- 1983 • The USGA Turfgrass Research Committee and the MSU Libraries agree to begin the construction of an online database indexing the turfgrass literature, to be called the USGA Turfgrass Information File (TGIF).
- 1984 • The Turfgrass Information Center (TIC) is established as a unit of the MSU Libraries to build TGIF and continue to develop the Noer Collection.
- 1988 • TGIF becomes available for end-user dial-up access.
- 1993 • TGIF becomes available via the Internet.
- 1997 • TGIF becomes available via the World Wide Web.
- 1997 • TIC relocates to dedicated space on the 3rd floor of the West Wing of the Main Library.
- 1998 • TIC Endowment Campaign is started.
- 2000 • TIC receives on indefinite loan the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection.
- 2002 • TIC makes available its first digital archive website for the *USGA Green Section Record* (1921-present).
- 2002 • *USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online* is launched – the first online-only electronic resource hosted by the Turfgrass Information Center.
- 2003 • TIC receives the Scotts's Archive, which is partially housed in the MSU Libraries' Special Collections.
- 2003 • The James B Beard Turfgrass Library Collection is dedicated within the Turfgrass Information Center.
- 2005 • 100,000th record is entered into TGIF.
- 2005 • TIC launches a redesigned public website, including a blog.
- 2006 • Entries from *Beard's Turfgrass Encyclopedia for Golf Courses, Lawns, Sports Fields* are made available through TGIF's Basic Search.
- 2008 • An intentionally-designed Turfgrass Information Center re-opens.
- 2009 • TGIF database searches crest the 1,000,000 mark.
- 2012 • 200,000th record will be entered into TGIF







Thanks go to the **Scotts Company** for providing TIC with the most complete run of *Lawn Care* magazine known to exist. *Lawn Care* began in 1928 and continued throughout the 20th century expanding to 19 different regional variations. *Lawn Care* was provided free to Scotts' customers and covered such topics as disease control, maintenance, establishment, and many others. Especially given the nature of the regional publishing, it is great to have a significant run of this serial together and held for posterity in TIC.

## 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 comprehensive publicly available collection of turfgrass educational materials in the world. The Turfgrass Information File database (TGIF) now has over 193,000 records (with over 46% linked to the full-text of the item), and is the online discovery device for information on turfgrass whether it is in print, electronic, or another format.





TIC was created in 1983 by an association between MSU Libraries and the United States Golf Association (USGA) Green Section Research Program. Its actual roots began in the 1960s when an MSU 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 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 help guarantee the financial resources needed 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. Many 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 payments during 2011 in fulfillment of multi-year commitments to the Endowment Campaign from the O.J. Noer Research Foundation and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), as well as from a range of individual and corporate donors.

*If you have specific suggestions or ideas about fund-raising to help move forward the Campaign to Endow the Turfgrass Information Center (TIC), please contact our new MSU Libraries' Development Officer, Mr. Seth Martin, at: (517) 884-6446, or: [marti981@mail.lib.msu.edu](mailto:marti981@mail.lib.msu.edu). He'd very much like to hear your ideas. The TIC Endowment is the future of TIC and TGIF, and we need your support and involvement to help ensure that future. There are also alternatives to make your involvement with TIC and TGIF more visible to the rest of the TGIF user community. For others wishing to contribute to the TIC Endowment Campaign, please see <http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html>. Thank you for your support in this way.*

## 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 materials reporting on any aspect of turfgrass and its maintenance, regardless of age, language, or format.

### Database Construction

TIC creates TGIF records for a wide range of materials including periodical articles, monographs (book-like items), fact sheets and pamphlets, images, podcasts and web documents. Most records in TGIF contain informative abstracts; some records 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.

**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.

Source	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Serials	17,342	9,881	11,365	8,662	9,731	8,220
Web	2,947	4,881	2,590	1,742	1,181	490
Monograph	904	819	1,086	1,454	1,383	1,373
Total	21,193	15,581	15,041	11,858	12,295	10,083

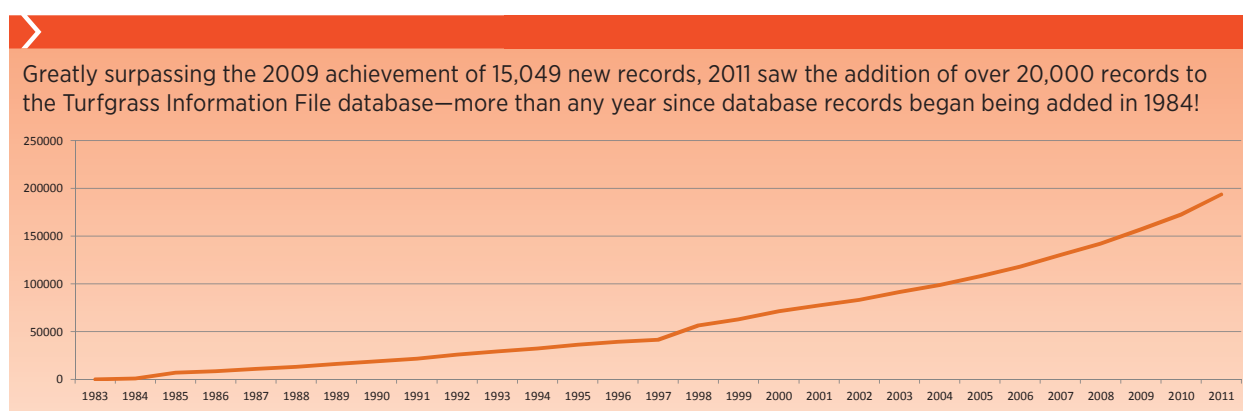
### TGIF Summary Construction Statistics

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
New records created	21,193	15,618	15,049	11,749	12,259	9,732	9,035	7,448
Toro Foundation subset	—	—	—	2,635	2,668	2,633	2,637	2,623
Issues closed <sup>1</sup>	2,437	2,717	4,000	1,483	1,782	2,351	2,015	n/a
Zero-hit issues <sup>2</sup>	663	912	1,245	518	769	633	836	n/a
Records modified in current year, but created previously <sup>3</sup>	30,732	17,719	42,034	34,659	20,388	18,440	14,623	n/a
% Full-text	46%	44%	41%	36%	33%	24%	21%	n/a
Total records in database	193,607	172,589	157,530	142,481	130,732	118,473	108,741	99,707

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

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

<sup>3</sup> The records modified in the current year are records that were edited or enhanced.



## Snapshot Status of TGIF

	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Descriptive Records	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Abstracted Records	52%	56%	57%	59%	72%
Indexed Records	60%	65%	69%	72%	57%
Indexed and Abstracted Records	49%	53%	55%	57%	32%
Full-text Available Records	46%	44%	42%	36%	33%
Full-text Searchable Records	22%	22%	21%	5%	—
Full-text Available, Indexed, and Abstracted Records	24%	25%	25%	22%	16%
Full-text Available, Indexed, Abstracted Records, and Full-text Searchable Records	14%	14%	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/indexing stage. Here, items are manually reviewed, abstracts written for them, and keywords are assigned using a controlled vocabulary. As the abstracting/indexing stage requires an understanding of the content of the item, this stage requires greater time 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.

For full-text searchable records, there are two sources: periodicals which have been digitized by TIC and web source materials. Of the nearly 44,000 records with the text of the item contained in the TGIF record, 89% come from periodicals digitized by TIC.

## Characterizing the Full-Text Available Content within TGIF

<b>2011</b>	<p><b>46% Records with full-text availability</b>            4% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions</p> <p><b>25% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            14% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users</p> <p><b>21% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            12% links to periodical articles            2% links to book-like items            7% remaining links. These are to a variety of materials, including blueprints, databases, images, judgments, online presentations, patents, podcasts, and slide sets</p>
<b>2010</b>	<p><b>44% Records with full-text availability</b>            5% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions</p> <p><b>24% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            16% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users</p> <p><b>20% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            13% links to periodical articles            2% links to book-like items            5% remaining links. These are to a variety of materials, including blueprints, databases, images, judgments, online presentations, patents, podcasts, and slide sets</p>
<b>2009</b>	<p><b>41% Records with full-text availability</b>            5% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions</p> <p><b>23% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            16% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users</p> <p><b>18% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</b>            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</p>

## TGIF Scope of Coverage

To build TGIF, hundreds of journals, magazines, annuals, etc. are selectively monitored on an on-going basis to “keep track of” items potentially relevant to turf culture. The “periodical turfgrass literature” is made up of a wide range of “published” material. This includes about 90% of TGIF’s content. To understand this better, we can break the literature into categories or levels:

## Typology of Turfgrass Literature in TGIF

Category (LEVEL)	Primary Audience	Example Titles	% of TGIF Content
Refereed	Researchers	<i>Crop Science, Plant Disease, HortScience, Agronomy Journal, Journal of ITS</i>	7%
Report	Researchers	<i>ASA/CSSA/SSSA Annual Meeting Abstracts, Iowa Turfgrass Research Report, Fungicide &amp; Nematicide Tests, Rutgers Turfgrass Symposium Proceedings</i>	19%
Proceedings	Practitioners	<i>Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Proceedings of the Florida Turfgrass Conference</i>	7%
Professional	Practitioners	<i>USGA Green Section Record, Golf Course Management, Greenkeeper International</i>	30%
Trade	Practitioners	<i>Grounds Maintenance, SportsTurf, Golf Course News, Lawn &amp; Landscape</i>	18%
Newsletter	Practitioners	<i>Tee to Green, New Hampshire Turf Talk, A Patch of Green, Divots</i>	6%
Popular	The Public	<i>Golf Journal, newspapers, Golf Digest</i>	4%
Miscellaneous Unclassified	Varies widely	No pattern; includes books, theses and dissertations, webpages, booklets, fact sheets, and other monographs	9%

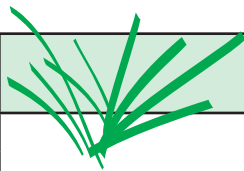
In producing TGIF, TIC monitors the turfgrass literature, regardless of sector, context, geography, or language. Thus, TGIF can produce excellent searches for transitional overseeding, cricket wicket preparation, kikuyu grass invasion, gray snow mold control, sod production in Florida, or variety trial results in German.

This model gives TIC the ability to slice the literature based on the type of source it was published in. “**Refereed**” materials are clearly the most important from a research perspective. They have passed through the process of peer review and revision, with traditional academic rigor. “**Report**” materials are not refereed, but are research, often qualified as preliminary or incomplete. “**Professional**” sources are those generally produced by not-for-profit corporations as communicative media for membership. “**Proceedings**” are usually from a specific conference, and can include individual articles which might show up in any of the other categories, except refereed. The “proceedings” literature is very unpredictable, uneven, and sometimes frustrating, but it is an important category in the whole of the literature, particularly from 1950-1990. “**Trade**” sources are generally commercial magazines, and are distributed widely within the industry. “**Newsletters**” are just that, mostly GCSAA affiliate productions. The “newsletters” vary tremendously in their availability, size, and usefulness from the perspective of TGIF. “**Popular**” publications are those intended for a general public readership, outside the professional arena. In addition, there are “**Miscellaneous**” sources which complete the literature.


## Comparing Indexing of the Turfgrass Information File to Other Databases (see opposite page)

The Turfgrass Information Center continues to compare the Turfgrass Information File to other databases for selected publications. Although completed in January 2012, this comparison provides an assessment of database record coverage for 28 publications across publication year 1990-2010 for AGRICOLA; AGRIS; CAB; Garden, Landscape and Horticulture Index; SPORT Discus; and Google Scholar. Of special note is the full-text hosting by TIC of 13 publications with two more coming soon.





## COMPARING INDEXING OF THE TURFGRASS INFORMATION FILE (TGIF) WITH SEVERAL OTHER DATABASES AND GOOGLE SCHOLAR FOR SELECTED PRINT AND ONLINE PROFESSIONAL, RESEARCH, AND TRADE PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO TURF SCIENCE

 <b>Turfgrass</b> Information Center  <b>Publication</b>	Number of records for publication years 1990-2010						
	TGIF Searched 1.5.2012	AGRICOLA (via EBSCOhost) Searched 1.5.2012	AGRIS (via FAO AGRIS site) Searched 1.6.2012	CAB (via ISI Web of Knowledge) Searched 1.6.2012	Garden, Landscape and Horticulture Index (via EBSCOhost) Searched 1.4.2012	SPORT Discus (via EBSCOhost) Searched 1.4.2012	Google Scholar <sup>†</sup> Searched 1.6.2012 (Results De- duplicated)
<i>Applied Turfgrass Science</i> (Plant Management Network)	117	60	0	112	0	0	42
<i>Golf Course News*/Golf Course Industry</i> (G.I.E. Media, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio)	10,675	0	0	0	0	0	8
<i>Golf Course Management</i> (Golf Course Superintendents Association of America)	<b>5,733</b>	0	0	0	0	721	519
<i>Golfdom</i> (Questex Publications, Cleveland, Ohio)	<b>1,796</b>	69	0	0	1,845	2,536	7
<i>Golfweek's SuperNews/Golfweek's SuperintendentNews</i> (Turnstile Publishing, Orlando, Florida)	1,551	0	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Grass Roots</i> (Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association)	<b>1,305</b>	0	0	0	0	0	16
<i>Greenkeeper International</i> (British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association)	<b>1,419</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1
<i>GreenMaster</i> (Canadian Golf Superintendents Association)	<b>1,076</b>	0	0	0	0	1,027	8
<i>Grounds Maintenance</i> (Intertec Publishing, Overland Park, Kansas)	1,606	1,651	639	0	2,075	2,078	1,031
International Turfgrass Bulletin/Sports Turf Bulletin/Bulletin for Sports Surface Management (Sports Turf Research Institute, United Kingdom)	<b>911</b>	0	7	67	423	548	33
<i>International Turfgrass Research Journal</i> (International Turfgrass Society)	<b>742</b>	0	0	483	0	0	357
<i>Journal of Turfgrass Management</i> (Haworth, New York)	60	60	36	61	0	57	61
<i>Journal of Turfgrass Science/Journal of the Sports Turf Research Institute/Journal of Turfgrass and Sports Surface Science</i> (Sports Turf Research Institute, United Kingdom)	<b>264</b>	31	68	151	13	40	133
<i>Landscape Management</i> (Advanstar Publications, Cleveland, Ohio)	1,847	0	0	0	5,968	0	475
<i>New Zealand Turf Management Journal</i> (New Zealand Turf Culture Institute)	888	0	0	0	0	98	8
<i>On Course/Bull Sheet</i> (Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents)	<b>1,341</b>	0	0	0	0	0	6
<i>Proceedings of the GCSAA Conference</i> (Golf Course Superintendents Association of America)	<b>488</b>	0	0	0	0	0	1
<i>Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference</i> (Michigan State University and Michigan Turfgrass Foundation)	<b>937</b>	0	0	0	0	0	11
<i>Rasen/European Journal of Turfgrass Science/Greenkeepers Journal</i> (HORTUS, Bonn, Germany)	657	0	69	296	0	0	91
<i>SportsTurf</i> (Sports Turf Managers Association)	<b>2,022</b>	0	0	0	0	1,740	8
<i>Turf &amp; Recreation</i> (Turf & Recreation Publishing, Delhi, Ontario, Canada)	512	0	0	0	0	29	1
<i>Turfax</i> (International Sports Turf Institute, College Station, Texas)	180	0	0	0	0	0	7
<i>TurfCraft International</i> (Agricultural Publishers, Melbourne, Australia)	1,507	0	0	0	0	115	1
<i>Turfgrass Trends</i> (Questex Publications, Cleveland, Ohio)	577	274	119	0	0	20	148
<i>TurfNews</i> (Turfgrass Producers International)	<b>1,783</b>	0	0	0	0	0	12
<i>USGA Green Section Record</i> (United States Golf Association Green Section)	<b>1,543</b>	798	125	0	0	382	237
<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online</i> (United States Golf Association Green Section)	<b>209</b>	0	0	0	0	0	54
<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Summary</i> (United States Golf Association Green Section)	<b>1,024</b>	0	0	0	0	0	10

\* *Golf Course News* searched January 27, 2012

† Google Scholar searches use "Advanced Scholar Search" to limit by publication name(s) and common abbreviated publication name(s)

White text on gray background is full-text hosted by the Turfgrass Information Center coming soon.

White text on black background is full-text hosted by the Turfgrass Information Center.

For the most up-to-date version, please see <http://tic.msu.edu/comparison.html>

**TURFGRASS INFORMATION CENTER**  
 Michigan State University Libraries  
<http://tic.msu.edu>  
 1-800-446-TGIF • [tgif@msu.edu](mailto:tgif@msu.edu)

## TIC Use and Users

### TIC and TGIF Summary Use Statistics

TGIF Search Statistics	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Total TGIF Searches	115,183	127,422	114,518	104,749	84,957	68,640	57,860	46,402	39,460	41,495
TIC-hosted Electronic Resources Searches (excluding Browsing)	20,444	20,313	20,949	19,902	17,974	16,490	18,126	10,803	743	62
Fastlinks	1,180,572	1,166,399	1,253,491	776,007	248,976	186,198	76,789	18,905	10,060	4,050
Total Searches and Fastlinks	1,316,119	1,314,134	1,388,958	900,658	351,907	271,328	152,775	76,110	50,263	45,607

TIC-Hosted Electronic Resources Use, Including Browsing	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
# of Resources	31	23	15	10	6
PDF Views	5,671,629	3,895,237	3,607,201	2,462,361	1,127,082

Total TGIF searches are the number of searches in the web version of TGIF. Fastlinks are found in 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.

### Subscribers to the Turfgrass Information File

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

#### *Academic Institutions with Campus-Wide Access*

Perpetual institutional subscribers now represent 39 states in the USA, 4 Canadian provinces, and 6 other countries.

Institution	State/Province	Country
Academic Institution	State/Province	Country
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Georgia	USA
Auburn University	Alabama	USA
California Polytechnic State University - San Luis Obispo	California	USA
California Polytechnic State University - Pomona	California	USA
Central Piedmont Community College	North Carolina	USA
Clemson University	South Carolina	USA
Colorado State University	Colorado	USA
Cornell University	New York	USA
Cranfield University		UK
Delaware Valley College	Pennsylvania	USA
Elmwood College	Scotland	UK
Florida Gateway College	Florida	USA
Georgian College	Ontario	Canada

Institution	State/Province	Country
GPRC Fairview College Campus	Alberta	Canada
Guildford College of Further & Higher Education		UK
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		UK
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

Institution	State/Province	Country
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 Massachusetts	Massachusetts	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
University of Wyoming	Wyoming	USA
Utah State University	Utah	USA
Writtle College		UK

There is also an annual trial access arrangement.

### ***Contributing Cooperators with 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 Architects (ASGCA) members
- Asociación Española de Greenkeepers (AEdG) members
- Canadian Golf Superintendents Association (CGSA) members
- Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Class A, SM, C, ISM, AA, or A-RT members
- Michigan residents (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

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

### ***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.

### ***Annual Subscribers with Their Own Logon***

Individuals with their own logon can be found on 6 continents.

## New TGIF Subscription Options

The Turfgrass Information Center has rolled out an improved subscription system. It is hoped these changes can provide small and intermediate-sized corporations and organizations, in particular, more opportunities to use the TGIF database as well as making the overall subscription process more clearly defined for all of our subscribers.

### ➤ Academic Institution

Academic Institution Subscriptions are designed for use by teaching and research institutions. TGIF can be used to support academic programs in landscape architecture and design, horticulture, parks and recreation facility operations, landscape management, and of course turfgrass science. Academic Subscribers have two options:

- 1) **Perpetual** (Best Value—one time charge, no further annual charges)
  - a) Universities or colleges belonging to the Association of Research Libraries (ARL)—US\$4,000
  - b) Non-ARL institutions awarding baccalaureate (i.e. bachelors) degrees—US\$2,750
  - c) Two-year or community college—US\$1,500
- 2) **Annual Trial Access Charge**
  - a) Any institution—US\$800

### ➤ Contributing Cooperator

Contributing Cooperator Subscriptions provide an opportunity for groups to not only make the resources of the Turfgrass Information Center available to their membership/staff, but also as a way to support the continued expansion of the content and availability of the Center's information. Corporate, association and organizational subscription arrangements are negotiated individually with the Center and primarily depend on the size of the group's membership. Access normally involves the corporation, association, or organization handling authentication from within its own website. Thus, a "members only" area within the cooperator's website, with password-protected access is generally required. We also encourage corporations, organizations and associations to consider the simultaneous digitization of their turfgrass related publications in conjunction with such an agreement. To discuss an arrangement with the Center, please contact either:

**Clifford H. Haka**  
Director of Libraries  
Michigan State University  
100 Library  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1048  
517-432-1147 • [hakac@msu.edu](mailto:hakac@msu.edu)

or

**Peter Cookingham**  
Head, Turfgrass Information Center  
100 Library  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1048  
517-884-1950 • [cooking1@msu.edu](mailto:cooking1@msu.edu)

### ➤ Annual Subscriber

Annual Subscriptions provide users with a single password-based logon to use TGIF online. Annual subscription rates vary depending on how many simultaneous users are desired. For U.S. residents, 95% of the subscription fee may be tax deductible as a contribution to the Endowment Campaign. TIC subscriptions are for one calendar year, beginning January 1. Users can specify if they wish a subscription to begin the following January 1. Subscriptions received after September 1 can begin immediately and expire December 31 of the following year.

#### Annual Subscription Rate Schedule:

- 1 Simultaneous User.....US\$250
- 2 Simultaneous Users.....US\$425
- 3 Simultaneous Users.....US\$575
- 4 Simultaneous Users.....US\$700
- 5 Simultaneous Users.....US\$800

#### The 'Annual Subscription' is limited to:

1. Organizational not-for-profits where all members of the group are of an associated profession, or,
2. A registered for-profit with access limited to paid employees of the firm, or,
3. An individual acting on his/her own.

Furthermore, Annual Subscribers must limit the availability of passwords for access as outlined above. Passwords cannot be publicly posted online and will be changed annually as a part of the renewal process. Evidence of abuse of this arrangement will result in termination of access. The designated contact individual for each annual subscription will also be ultimately responsible for any extra-charge TIC services generated by users of those passwords.



# 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 retrievability for users to directly access the full-text of identified articles and other items of interest—over 46% 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 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 193,000+ 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.



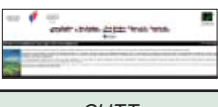








**Electronic Resources New This Year:**  
Update (<http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/updat/>).











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 (Microsoft 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.



Under Construction (clockwise from top left): *Golfdom*; *Greenkeeper International*; *Hole Notes*; *Thru the Green*.

During 2011, TIC continued digitization of materials from its various cooperators.

Cooperators	Title	Scope of Project	
American Society of Golf Course Architects	<i>Architects Gallery</i> 	Year Range	n/a
		Total PDFs	n/a
		Total TGIF Records	412
Asociación Española de Greenkeepers	<i>GreenKeepers</i> 	Year Range	1999-Present
		Total PDFs	865
		Total TGIF Records	302
Canadian Golf Superintendents Association	<i>GreenMaster</i> 	Year Range	1965-Present less 3 months
		Total PDFs	7,505
		Total TGIF Records	2,175
Cornell Cooperative Extension	<i>CUTT</i> 	Year Range	1990-Present
		Total PDFs	576
		Total TGIF Records	246
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America	<i>The Golf Course</i> 	Year Range	1916-August 1921
		Total PDFs	139
		Total TGIF Records	128
	<i>Golf Course Management</i> 	Year Range	1933-Present less 1 month
		Total PDFs	33,901
		Total TGIF Records	11,692
	<i>The National Greenkeeper</i> 	Year Range	1927-October 1933
		Total PDFs	2,114
		Total TGIF Records	1,173
	<i>Proceedings of the GCSAA Conference</i> 	Year Range	As published, 1927-1998
		Total PDFs	2,993
		Total TGIF Records	1,729
Individual Authors	<i>Turfgrass-Related Theses/ Dissertations</i>	Year Range	n/a
		Total PDFs	722
		Total TGIF Records	184
International Turfgrass Society	<i>International Turfgrass Society Research Journal and Proceedings</i> 	Year Range	1969-Present less 2 years, with author permission
		Total PDFs	1,292
		Total TGIF Records	1,408
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation	<i>Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference</i> 	Year Range	1972-2005
		Total PDFs	1,975
		Total TGIF Records	1,660
Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents	<i>On Course/Bull Sheet</i> 	Year Range	1948-Present
		Total PDFs	10,119
		Total TGIF Records	2,811

Cooperators	Title	Scope of Project	
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	<i>Noer/Milorganite Division MMSD Image Collection</i> (upcoming)	Year Range	n/a
		Total PDFs	n/a
		Total TGIF Records	n/a
Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey	<i>Update</i> 	Year Range	2001–Present
		Total PDFs	879
		Total TGIF Records	195
Sports Turf Association	<i>Sports Turf Manager/Newsletter</i> 	Year Range	1987–Present less 6 months
		Total PDFs	1,539
		Total TGIF Records	449
Sports Turf Managers Association	<i>SportsTurf</i> 	Year Range	1985–Present less 2 months
		Total PDFs	7,085
		Total TGIF Records	2,557
Sports Turf Research Institute	<i>Bulletin for Sports Surface Management/International Turfgrass Bulletin/Sports Turf Bulletin</i> 	Year Range	1951–Present less 1 year
		Total PDFs	2,412
		Total TGIF Records	1,675
	<i>Journal of Turfgrass and Sports Surface Science</i> 	Year Range	1929–2007
		Total PDFs	1,602
		Total TGIF Records	1,746
	<i>Turfgrass Seed</i> (upcoming)	Year Range	1977–2003
		Total PDFs	9
		Total TGIF Records	19
Turfgrass Producers International	<i>TurfNews</i> 	Year Range	1977–Present less 1 year
		Total PDFs	5,886
		Total TGIF Records	2,320
United States Golf Association	<i>USGA Green Section Record</i> 	Year Range	1921–Present
		Total PDFs	6,838
		Total TGIF Records	5,812
	<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online</i> 	Year Range	2002–Present
		Total PDFs	233
		Total TGIF Records	233
<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Summary</i> 	Year Range	1977, 1983–Present	
	Total PDFs	1,410	
	Total TGIF Records	1,214	
Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association	<i>The Grass Roots</i> 	Year Range	1975–Present less 1 month
		Total PDFs	5,161
		Total TGIF Records	1,745

**The “Moving Wall” or “Embargo Period”**

Users of TIC’s electronic resources, specifically the digital archive sites, may have noticed that some periodical’s recent content “shows up” more quickly than others. This lag time between the appearance of the print version and the availability of the digital one is referred to as an “Embargo Period”, or a “Moving Wall”. This is specified by the publisher/sponsor of the periodical, as a part of the digitization agreement with the MSU Libraries. Some organizations want their newly-published materials available through the digital archive sites immediately (no moving wall), while others want a delay. The periodicals currently hosted by TIC have moving walls ranging from none to two years. So if a listing shows as “1967–Present Less 2 Months” the digital content in the online archive starts with materials issued in 1967 and is still being published now, but the last two months’ issues are behind the moving wall. In the case of a two-month moving wall, the September issue would show up in the archive in November. One other additional curve here: sometimes the publishers themselves will have the most recent digital versions loaded immediately on their websites, even if the TIC digital archive site’s recent content is behind the moving wall.

## How We Steward Our Assets

### The Print Still Matters

Of course any digitization project starts with the print. The Library staff leverages many years of experience and expertise to effectively work with the materials. The analog materials are examined as necessary by the MSU Library's Preservation Librarian and TIC staff prior to digitization to ensure that each item passes quality criteria pertinent to both the material of the paper and text and image block. Items determined to be too fragile are considered for conservation actions. Should these treatments significantly improve the condition of the item, it is again examined for digitization.

After digitization, analog materials are examined for further conservation treatment in order to prepare the collection for long-term archival storage. These 'originals' are housed within the Noer and Beard Collection locations.

### Digital Assets: process and infrastructure

The Library's Digital and Multimedia Center (DMC) provides production scanning using the latest hardware and software applications. The digitization of the print materials result in three copies: preservation master, distribution master and distribution derivative. Digital preservation masters are managed and stored by utilizing the Libraries high-availability and high-performance Storage Area Network (SAN) which currently offers 42 terabytes of redundant disk storage (extensible). This shared disk file system is built upon enterprise spinning disk drives in a RAID 5 disk array and is made accessible in everyday interactions through the use of the application-layer network protocol Server Message Block (SMB), also known as Common Internet File System (CIFS). This setup is considered a common enterprise storage architecture and provides a number of inherent benefits which are fundamental in facilitating bit-level preservation services including reduced backup times and central administration and security. This first-generation storage environment has been further improved with the recent addition of asynchronous mirroring and is currently being upgraded to a RAID 6 array with a near-line tape library for archival backup. The MSU Libraries have demonstrated their commitment to support this second-generation system (redundant arrays, asynchronous mirroring, and offline backup) by the adoption of a 3 year hardware refresh cycle and by signing service level agreements with central MSU IT.



Digital preservation files are organized in uncompressed hierarchical file packaging structures and include collection manifests to verify (via checksums) the integrity (completeness and fixity) of the collection. These packages include descriptive metadata associated with the indexing and original cataloging of the items as well as technical preservation metadata extracted during the creation of archival packages. Digital files are assigned filenames using best practices for file-naming and saved as uncompressed TIFF files. Preservation masters are regularly audited for integrity and during these audits all digital formats are considered for migration to new formats in order to mitigate the risks of format or software obsolescence. At any one time two (digital) preservation masters are available for recovery via redundant storage should a catastrophic hard failure occur—one offline (tape) and one off location (mirrored at the Michigan State University Computer Center).

### Digital Files

Most users interact with derivative access files. Presently, we produce open and available standard PDFs to serve as the access file. These PDFs are optimized to accommodate even the slowest of internet connections, a boon for those retrieving files from a remote field location.

At the conclusion of a digitization project, four copies of each source exist: the original analog (if any), the digital preservation master TIFF, a preservation back-up, and the PDF access copy. The original analog materials reside in the Noer or Beard Collections while the digital master and back-up are on spinning disc.



## 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 2011, Dr. Beard continued to transfer materials including both monographic and periodical content to MSU, totaling some 802 items.

Other individuals have likewise contributed materials this past year to the Beard Collection, including Mr. James K. Simmons of Alabama, who donated a wide range of turf extension bulletins, ranging from 1935-1976, as well as article reprints.

For more information about the Beard Collection see:  
<http://tic.msu.edu/beard.html>



James B Beard

### 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 Noer Collection development and the TIC Endowment Campaign. Our thanks for their continued vision and support!

Throughout 2011, 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>



O.J. Noer

#### **Historical Acquisitions**

Several items of historic significance were purchased for the Noer Collection during 2011. See the list of **historically significant** items as reflected in their TGIF records here: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkss.pl?srch=NOEROLDBUYS11>.

Of particular note here is the 1899 edition of the 'Sutton's Series,' apparently the 2nd issued, titled *Garden Lawns, Tennis Lawns, Putting Greens, Cricket Grounds* (but with a cover title showing only *Lawns*). This landmark series of booklets and books began in 1892, and continued through seventeen editions until the final one published in 1962, titled *Lawns and Sports Grounds* (TGIF Record R= 33324). This is one of the earliest discrete books published regarding turf care, and we are most pleased to have acquired a copy of this work in excellent condition, with its original beveled covers. See TGIF Record R=102310 for further details regarding this item.

Of transcendent significance was the acquisition of the first edition of *Hortus Graminius Woburnensis*. See the full-page description of this work and its notable history on p. 14.

## George Sinclair's 1816 *Hortus Gramineus Woburnensis*

“...for permanent pasture, irrigated meadows, dry or upland pasture, and the alternative husbandry...”

TIC is very pleased to be able to report that the MSU Libraries have recently acquired a copy of the 1816 first edition of *Hortus Gramineus Woburnensis* (hereafter *HGW*). We have been trying to acquire a copy of the first edition of *HGW* for many, many years. *This item is just plain special!*

George Sinclair was the Duke of Bedford's estate gardener, responsible for the grounds at the historic estate of the Duke, Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire, England. Clearly a gardener with an experimental bent, Sinclair began substantial investigative work with grass and herb plots, intended to learn more about them. His 'grass-garden' contained some 242 plots (see detail), including many species and subspecies of what we now call 'turfgrasses'—what he included within 'alternative husbandry'—as opposed to what we now describe as forage use of many of those same species.

Sinclair's work was widely recognized, as reflected in the ongoing publication success of *HGW*. The 5th edition was published in 1869, some 35 years after Sinclair's death, and with many reprints and translations along the way. Perhaps most significantly, from today's perspective, the work described in *HGW* became one of Charles Darwin's originally-uncited sources underlying some of the fundamental theories explored in his landmark *The Origin of Species* (1859), one of the most famous and influential works in all of science.

The 1816 first edition is massive—and includes 14 pages of mounted seed specimens, 122 mounted botanical specimens, and the often-missing fold-out map of the grass garden itself, dated 1817.

Subsequent to the lavish and labor-intensive effort required to produce the first edition, later editions often added further details about observations and new results—sometimes, as with the second edition in particular, deleting material reported earlier—and none included actual mounted seeds or specimens. Later editions at first included hand-colored plates of the species, and eventually printed lithographs of them.

This first edition of *Hortus Gramineus Woburnensis* was acquired with funds from a variety of sources, with lead thanks to generous support from the MSU Class of 1994 Library Endowment. As well, the O.J. Noer Research Foundation continues to support the growth and preservation of historic works in turfgrass science.

For further details regarding this work, please see *HGW*'s TGIF Record: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flink.pl?recno=110399>. The book itself is housed in the Libraries' Special Collections unit, where it is available for consulting use in their reading room.

The connection between the Duke of Bedford, Woburn Abbey and turfgrass science continues even today, as portions of the estate are now a major 54 hole golf destination, hosting European Tour events.



## 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=NOERNEWBUYS11>

## Your Donations Make a Difference!

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 2011, we have received these donations of particular note:

### 1. Multi-item donations & transfers:

- a. 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, reprints, 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, Andrea Yurcik, and Mary McConnell at Golf House.
- b. Mr. Scott Turtinen, Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association, a run of *Hole Notes*, 1976-2011, in preparation for the creation of a digital archive site for this periodical by TIC.
- c. Mr. Glenn Matthews, Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California, a run of *Thru the Green*, 1987-2009, in preparation for the creation of a digital archive site for this publication.
- d. Ms. Margo Campbell Szabo, GCSAA, a major transfer of periodicals, both GCSAA affiliate newsletters and magazines, and conference proceedings.
- e. Mr. Gary Mannies and Ms. Nancy Spraggins, Best Approach Publications, a shipment of recent golf course yardage guides produced by Best Approach, totaling 142 items.
- f. Mr. Cliff Haka, MSU Libraries, continuing partial runs of golf periodicals, and a continuing supply of yardage guides and scorecards.
- g. Mr. Frank Roggenbuck and Mr. Mark Collins, Hancock Turfgrass Research Center, MSU, several boxes of turf periodicals and separate materials also, which continues their ongoing transfer of materials to us.
- h. Dr. Frank Rossi, Cornell University, a substantial run of Scott's *Lawn Care* and several other associated periodicals and monographs, 1928-196x.
- i. Mr. Kevin Morris, National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, continuing archive copies of NTEP reports.
- j. Mr. James Spindler, Florida, a range of recent turf industry trade and professional periodicals.

### 2. Other donations:

- a. Mr. Paul Kolbe, Michigan, documentation regarding 1946 green treatments.
- b. Mr. C. William Black, Florida, a copy of O. M. Scott & Sons' *The Seeding and Care of Golf Courses*.
- c. Mr. Carol Muller, Chile, A copy of the 2009 *ITS Annexe - Technical Papers*.
- d. Dr. Phil Busey, Florida, a copy of *The Grasses: Their Growth and Development* (1946).
- e. Mr. Tom Conlin, Illinois, Yardage Guide and associated items from Kemper Lakes GC.
- f. Mr. John Bonjerno, Michigan, *Design of Irrigation System for Clear Lake Golf Course*, Manitoba (1959).
- g. Dr. Robert Shearman, Nebraska, a binder run of *Lawn Care*, and *Pointe Aux Barques* (1970).
- h. Ms. Caroline Scholfield, Michigan, a copy of *Tis Fine Land, That* (2009).
- i. Mr. Nikolas Lenover, Michigan, a good run of early *Lawn Care*, and a copy of Scotts' *Good Lawns: Planting and Maintenance*.
- j. Dr. Phil Dwyer, Ohio, several lawn care booklets.
- k. Dr. Doug Brede, Idaho, *Proceedings of the 2010 International Symposium on Forage, Turf-grass and Biofuel Germplasm Research*.
- l. Mr. D. Michael Conlin, Michigan, Yardage Guides.
- m. Mr. Franco Santoro Botti, Chile, copy of his thesis.
- n. Mr. Harley Collins, Pennsylvania, copy of his *Worthington Golf Course Tractors* (2011).

In addition, ongoing donations of items from a wide range of individuals are important, necessary, and appreciated to continue to build a comprehensive collection. 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.

## Outreach and Publicity

Currently there are six main methods of proactive communication with users, including several new social media outlets:

- *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)
- Facebook: Like us at “Turfgrass Information Center”
- Twitter: Follow us at “TurfLibrary”
- Google +: Circle us at “Turfgrass Information Center”

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 on using TGIF and helping TIC.



Communication is vitally important to providing quality service, so here at the Turfgrass Information Center we're always looking for new ways to connect with our users. As such, we are happy to announce the launch of the Official Turfgrass Information Center Twitter account. Perhaps you were a follower of the old TIC Twitter page, and recently it may have seemed to “disappear.” This was a Twitter page being run by an anonymous individual under our name. A special “thank you” is in order to them for their work in keeping interested individuals updated to our goings on! If you had signed up previously, please consider following us again at the Official TIC Twitter, which you can find at: <http://twitter.com/TurfLibrary>

## People & Facilities

### 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

Since nearly the beginning of construction on the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF), the Turfgrass Information Center has relied heavily on student employee labor to produce high-quality, immediately-available TGIF records. Additionally, as TIC continues to partner with publishers and associations to digitize

and make available publications, roles played by TIC student employees continue to expand. Student employees are relied upon to create descriptive (citation information) records, add keywords, write abstracts, determine online article availability, maintain URLs, design websites, create web pages, file and organize materials, serve walk-in traffic, and an assortment of other tasks!

“All that I have accomplished, or expect, or hope to accomplish, has been and will be by that plodding, patient, persevering process of accretion which builds the ant-heap—particle by particle, thought by thought, fact by fact.”

—Elihu Burritt (*The Bulletin of the United States Golf Association Green Section*, 9(2), February 1929.)

Similarly, the Center truly could not run, nor could the TGIF database have grown so much, nor could as many new features have been and continue to be added, without student employees. For example,



recent accomplishments primarily achieved through student employee efforts include the record-breaking creation of over 20,000 new TGIF records; creating descriptions of over 200 serial titles which will lead to an even more exhaustive TGIF database; the structural reorganization of thousands of loose serials to allow for easier access, sorting and filing; and significant progress on the creation of four new serial archive sites.

The work performed by student employees is important and valued. A round of applause for the sheer amount of work and effort these students put forth; gratitude from all the researchers, students, and practitioners helped via TGIF searches, archive sites and other TIC online resources; and thanks by all the staff at the Turfgrass Information Center.

## Full-time Staff & Library Administration

Over this past year, the Turfgrass Information Center has seen a few staffing changes that have enabled us to run even more smoothly! Aaron Tomak, who previously had been working in a part time capacity at TIC as a library assistant, and as of early summer we were pleased to have him join us on a full time basis. Aaron is now supervising student employees in the creation of descriptive records from serial and web sources, as well as supervising the office and filing unit in addition to selecting articles to be input. Elisabeth Mabie, who worked for the Turfgrass Information Center as a student employee from February of 2008 through May 2011, has returned to work as an on-call staff member assisting in managing the Descriptive Serials unit. At the beginning of September, Elisabeth was able to join the TIC staff as a short-term Library Assistant. Elisabeth is now focusing on projects that would help complete our processing of older titles, hand selection of articles to be entered, as well as handling user communications.



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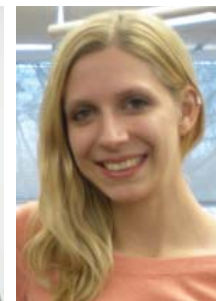
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The Turfgrass Information Center facility provides both public and staff workspace in supporting access to the various collections and the TGIF database. The facility is normally open to the public 40 hours per week for walk-in use for the physical materials; the digital materials are accessible nearly 24/7. Please email or call ahead if you have special needs or interests!



## Future Directions and How You can Help

Future Direction	How You can Help
Launch a prototype image collection presentation, based on the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection.	See <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/noermmsd-prospectus.html">http://tic.msu.edu/noermmsd-prospectus.html</a> and the Challenge Grant sidebar (p. 19) for information on how to help!
Continue to build the TIC Endowment Fund to help guarantee future financial stability of both TIC and TGIF.	Support the TIC Endowment Campaign yourself and/or encourage other individuals, organizations, and groups to become involved and do so as well. See <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html">http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html</a> for information on how to help!
Continue the push to increase the percentage of full-text material linked directly from within TGIF.	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 <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/fulltext.html">http://tic.msu.edu/fulltext.html</a> for more information.
Explore avenues to provide greater access to the increased number of archive-like items within TIC's collections.	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 <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/fulltext.html">http://tic.msu.edu/fulltext.html</a> for more information.
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.	Subscribe to TGIF for yourself or for your academic institution, or encourage your professional organization to become involved so that its members can easily use TGIF. See <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/subscribe.html">http://tic.msu.edu/subscribe.html</a> for further details.
Continue to find support to aggressively process older turfgrass literature with the intention of "completing" TGIF coverage for pre-1984 materials within the next several years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donate needed materials to the Collection, and encourage others to do the same. See <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html">http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html</a> for further specifics.</li> <li>• Volunteer time at the Center. Your expertise can help the indexing of print and visual materials.</li> <li>• See the sponsorship project prospectus on retrospective processing at <a href="http://tic.msu.edu/pdf/Retrospective-Processing-Prospectus.pdf">http://tic.msu.edu/pdf/Retrospective-Processing-Prospectus.pdf</a>.</li> </ul>

## Noer Foundation Puts Up Challenge Grant; Wisconsin Responds!

The O. J. Noer Research Foundation made a challenge gift, promising to match gifts in 2011 up to a total of \$5,000, in support of efforts to digitize and provide access to slides from the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection. No sooner had we announced the matching gift than the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association (WGCSA) pledged \$5,000 to meet the challenge. We are very grateful to both organizations, and equally grateful to other supporters including the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents who are still responding to a mail appeal relating to the project. We hope to exceed the original challenge by several thousand dollars.

Funds from the challenge and the matching gifts will be used to continue digitization of color slides within the initial 14,000 images illustrating the settings, techniques, and results of turf management efforts throughout North America between 1924 and 1980. Complete digitization of the slide portion of the collection, with availability via a public website, is estimated at approximately \$80,000.

To support the Noer/Milorganite image digitization project or other initiatives of the Turfgrass Information Center, contact Seth Martin, Director of Development for Libraries, Computing and Technology, at 517-884-6446 or [marti981@mail.lib.msu.edu](mailto:marti981@mail.lib.msu.edu) or the Turfgrass Information Center at 517-353-7209 or [tgif@msu.edu](mailto:tgif@msu.edu)

And a special thank you to the Noer Foundation, and WGCSA, for their leadership in support of this work!



### Sample images from the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection (clockwise from top right):

**Item 3485:** Wisconsin and Northwestern football warm-ups on the field prior to the game. Camp Randall Stadium, Madison, Wisconsin, November 1952.

**Item 2104:** New trees planted too close to green. Tripoli Country Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 1950.

**Item 3375:** Tee to Green on historic #7 overlooking the Pacific. Pebble Beach Golf Links, Pebble Beach, California, September 1952.

**Item 3735:** Shredding Tifton 57 bermudagrass stolons for fairway establishment during new course construction. Pine Lake Golf Course, Jacksonville, Florida, April 1953.



# Turfgrass

Information Center

[tic.msu.edu](http://tic.msu.edu)

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.

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

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