

## Zoysiagrass Symposium Speakers and Panelists Set for International Turfgrass Research Conference

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There is worldwide interest in zoysiagrass (*Zoysia* spp.). In 2015, an International Zoysiagrass Symposium was held in Okinawa, Japan with speakers from Japan, Korea, China, and Australia. Interest arising from this gathering led to an informal meeting of those involved with zoysiagrass research and management at the Golf Industry Show in San Diego in 2016 at which individuals from eleven countries attended.

We will continue building on this interest by holding a half-day zoysiagrass symposium on the morning of Friday, July 21, 2017 at the International Turf Research Conference (ITRC) in New Brunswick, NJ USA. Invited speakers will provide a worldwide view of zoysiagrass research, use, and culture. In addition, a panel including industry professionals will offer their perspective on zoysiagrass management. Before and after the symposium, and during a one-hour break, attendees will have an opportunity to view posters and interact with others conducting research on *Zoysia* spp. Those presenting research on zoysiagrass at the ITRC in an oral session earlier in the week have the additional option to create a poster for viewing during the symposium, and those presenting a poster earlier in the week can show their poster again during the symposium (there is no need for these authors to submit an additional title summary).

Speakers will give 30 minute oral presentations covering material contained in manuscripts that will be published as part of the ITS Conference. Topics and presenters:

Implications of *Zoysia* Species, Distribution and Adaptation for Management and Use of Zoysiagrasses

Don Loch, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland Australia

Evaluation and Breeding Zoysiagrass using Japan's Natural Genetic Resources

Masumi Ebina, Forage Crop Genome Unit, Institute of Livestock and Grassland Science, Tochigi, Japan

Zoysiagrass Use and Culture in Europe

Simone Magni, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

Occurrence, Distribution and Introduction of *Zoysia* spp. and their Management and Current Use in Australia

Peter McMaugh, Turfgrass Scientific Services, Carlingford, New South Wales Australia

Zoysiagrass (*Zoysia* spp.) History, Utilization, and Improvement in the United States: A Review

Aaron Patton, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana USA

Molecular Advances in Zoysiagrass

Ambika Chandra, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Dallas Texas USA

Industry panelists who will share their experiences and perspectives on zoysiagrass are Tim Bowyer, Ph.D., Patten Seed Company, Lakeland, Georgia USA; David Doguet, Bladerunner Farms, Poteet, Texas USA; Jim Prusa, Sky72 Golf, Incheon, South Korea;

David Stone, The Honors Course, Ooltewah, Tennessee USA.

If you have questions, contact Jack Fry (USA) at Kansas State University:  
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**Zoysia Planning Committee:**

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Ambika Chandra, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Dallas Texas USA,

Don Loch, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland Australia,

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