

# International Turfgrass

The Newsletter of the International Turfgrass Society

May 2018

## Results of the survey to strengthen and improve International Turfgrass Society

by Dr. Tom Hsiang, University of Guelph  
Guelph, Ontario, Canada

The ITS conducted an online survey of members from 18 November 2017 until 20 February 2018. The ITS Survey Committee composed of Tom Hsiang, Trygve Aamlid, Gwen Stahnke and Scott McElroy along with the ITS Board of Directors wrote up the Survey with the following objectives: (a) to allow the ITS board to further develop and improve ITS, (by improving the service to ITS members); (b) to involve the ITS members in this work; (c) to increase ITS membership.

We received 158 responses to the survey. Among the 28 questions of the survey, we are now releasing the results of 19 of the questions. Further analysis will come from the ITS Membership Committee as well as the 2017 Conference Planning Committee in future articles in the Newsletter.

Please find the tabulated survey results at:

[http://turfgrassociety.com/2018/1805 ITS\\_survey\\_results.pdf](http://turfgrassociety.com/2018/1805 ITS_survey_results.pdf)

I also would like to encourage you to visit the tabulated results of the online survey the ITS Survey Committee conducted. I think the results will be very helpful to the Officers and Directors. Personally I found it helpful that almost 92% of the respondents thought that the frequency of the newsletter, which is three times a year, is “about right”.

If you have any newsworthy stories or information for readers of International Turfgrass, I hope you will consider submitting an article for the next newsletter in September 2018.

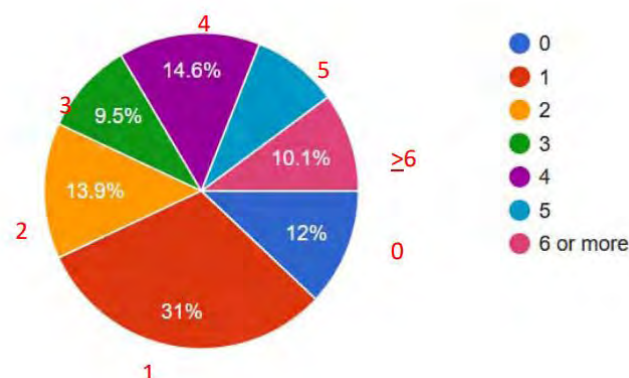
I hope you enjoy the very good articles in this edition.

Sincerely,  
Nathan R. Walker

If you have questions or concerns, you can direct them to a member of the ITS Membership Survey Committee.

This is an example of the type of data collected.

How many ITS Research Conferences have you attended?



### In this Edition

- Results of the International Turfgrass Society Survey
- Publication options for the 14<sup>th</sup> ITRC in 2021
- 2018 Annual Meeting of Korean Turfgrass Society
- Severe winter damages on Norwegian golf courses
- Korea Turfgrass Research Institute
- STERF Yearbook 2017
- 14<sup>th</sup> ITRC in Copenhagen – Save the date!
- Introducing some of the new ITS officers
- ITS Membership Application
- ITS Board Members

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# Publication options for the 14<sup>th</sup> ITRC in 2021

by Trygve S. Aamlid, ITS Editor in Chief

Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research's Turfgrass Group

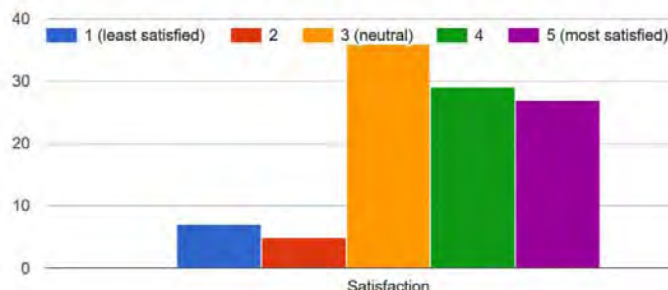
Grimstad, Norway

As presented elsewhere in this Newsletter, a comprehensive survey was conducted among ITS members from November 2017 to February 2018. For me, as ITS' new 'Editor in Chief', the most interesting questions in this survey were about ITS members' opinion about the publication process at the conference in New Jersey in 2017 and recommendations for the upcoming conference in Copenhagen in 2021. Three questions were related to these issues, one also addressing ITS's long-term publication strategies.

The ITRC in New Jersey was the first conference at which participants were given the option to have papers published in an international journal with impact factor. With ITSJRJ, this is not possible given its quadrennial structure. The possibility to publish in an impact-factor journal has therefore been requested for a long time, particularly among young scientists for whom such publications are one of the most important criteria for tenure and promotion. When planning the ITRC 2017, ITS' former President, Dr. Bruce Clarke and former Editor in Chief, Dr. Jim Murphy, therefore agreed with the Agronomy Society and the Crop Science Society of America that papers submitted to ITS could be published in Agronomy Journal or Crop Science if meeting the quality standards of these journals. At that same time, the ASA/CSSA/SSSA' online publication platform was made available to make the publication process more efficient for ITS-members still wanting to publish in ITSJRJ.

Given the high number of submissions to the 13<sup>th</sup> ITRC and fact that this was the first time with a formal agreement on publication process between ITS and the ASA/CSSA/SSSA, my main impression is that the publication process was very successful. This was also the opinion of the overwhelming majority of respondents in ITS's survey, in which about 90% of those submitting papers were either 'neutral', 'satisfied' or 'most satisfied' with the process (Slide 19). On behalf of the ITS membership, I would like to congratulate Jim Murphy and his collaborators at the tri-society publication platform on this result: You all did a great job !

19) Were you satisfied with the manuscript submission options from the last conference?

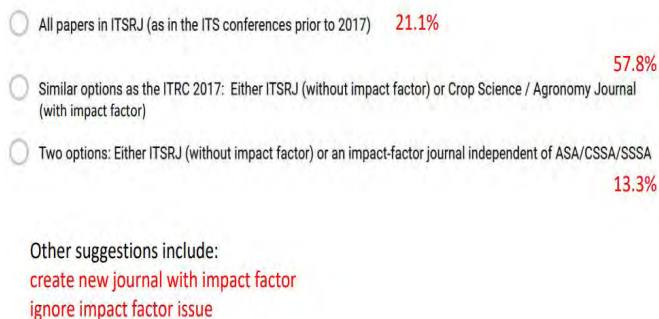


Slide 19

## Future recommendations

Given the general satisfaction with the past conference, it is not surprising that 58 % of the respondents recommended using the ASA/CSSA/SSSA publication platform in 2021 (Slide 21). Some would prefer going back to the old structure with ITSJRJ only, but in my opinion that's not an option if we are going to attract new members pursuing a career in turfgrass sciences, especially outside the US. There was also a small group of respondents (presumably mostly non-US) who want ITS to consider an impact-factor journal independent of the tri-societies. This would perhaps emphasize the independency of ITS in relation to ASA/CSSA/SSA, but personally, I think that's quite obvious already, and it would also require a lot new of negotiations and administrative work that

21) What do you recommend regarding publishing for the next ITRC in Copenhagen in 2021? (128 Responses)



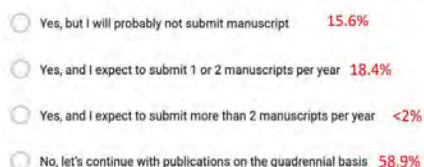
Slide 21

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Related to the choice of publisher was also the question whether ITS should have the long-term goal of establishing its own journal with (at least) annual issues and impact factor. This idea has – on several occasions – been brought forward within the ITS board, and I must admit I found it attractive when I first heard about it. My major argument against it if it is at all realistic given the current membership and financial resources of ITS. Like it or not, universities, research institute and private sector – are no longer willing to pay the cost for one of their employees serving as editor for an international journal, and the task is too big that we can expect members to do it voluntarily in the spare time. Other ITS members probably have more contacts with international publishing companies that I have, but for the time being, I agree with the 59 % of respondents who recommended to continue publishing ITSJR on a quadrennial basis (Slide 22). Symptomatic and supporting this is also the fact that almost half of those respondents who wanted an ITSJR with impact factor at the same time also admitted that they had no intention of submitting papers.

#### Slide 22

22) Do you think ITS should have the long-term goal of creating its own journal with annual issues and impact factor? (141 Responses)



#### So what now?

As your new 'Editor in Chief', my clear recommendation for 14<sup>th</sup> ITSC is to build on the platform built by Jim Murphy and his crew in 2017. As reflected by some of the constructive comments accompanying the responses, there are a certain issues that may be improved or handles slightly differently. One of them being the general recognition that things do not only take time, but a lot of time ! Another, more specific issue that I experienced myself at previous conference is the handling of manuscripts that are rejected from publication in Agronomy Journal or Crop Science but may still be eligible for publication in ITSJR.

As your new editor, I will pay attention to my predecessor's advice which is to start the publication process early, and to select a good crew of associate editors among the broad ITS membership, and not only from the US. With the formal permission of ITS' director and board, I will soon approach the ASA/CSSA/SSSA publishing office to negotiate terms and deadlines for manuscript submissions to the 14<sup>th</sup> ITRC. I hope to keep you updated in the coming newsletters.

## 2018 Annual Meeting of Korean Turfgrass Society (KTS)

### Ilsan, South Korea

by Dr. Sang-Kook Lee

Hoseo University

Asan, Chungnam, South Korea

The Turfgrass Society of Korea (TSK) was found in 1987 and Weed and Turfgrass science (WTS) is the official publication of the TSK. WTS is published quarterly and about 30-35 research articles are reported, annually. The scientific meeting of TSK was held at Ilsan City, South Korea on January 24 to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Ilsan city is located right next to Seoul. The meeting is held together with the Korea Golf Industry Show (KGIS) biannually. 2018 was the year to have the meeting together with KGIS. During the meeting, about 8,000 attendees visited the trade show hosted by KGIS and 42 attendees were registered for the TSK meeting.



Opening ceremony of the Turfgrass Society of Korea

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Exhibition of the Korea Golf Industry Show

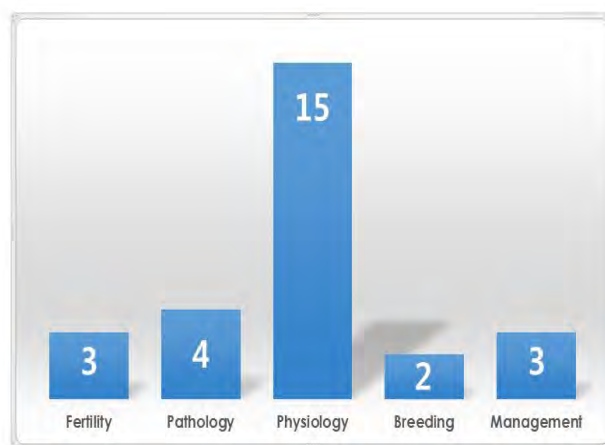
For the scientific meeting, 9 and 18 topics were presented for oral and poster section, respectively. Among the oral section, 3 special speakers had great presentations for attendees. Dr. Kisun Kim from Seoul National University presented the research topic ‘Using composted liquid manure to reduce chemical fertilizer and fungicide’. Dr. James Murphy from Rutgers University had a great presentation for developing best management practices for anthracnose on annual bluegrass turf. Dr. Geunhwa Jung from University of Massachusetts reported his research results ‘Multidrug-resistant superbug fungus *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* emerging from on turfgrass’.

Five universities, six research institutes, and two golf courses participated in the meeting to present their research results in 2018.



Presentation of the special speaker (Dr. James Murphy)

The next annual meeting of TSK will be held at Jeju island and the dates will be announced in June.



The number of research topics presented in the KTS meeting

## Professor Eric Watkins came from Minnesota to see severe winter damages on Norwegian golf courses

by Trygve S. Aamlid, Tatsiana Espevig, and Wendy Waalen,  
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO), Turfgrass Research Group

On 23-26 April, Professor Eric Watkins, University of Minnesota, visited Norway to study winter damages on golf courses and discuss future collaboration between U.S. and Scandinavian turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation (STERF). With regard to damaged greens and research plots, Eric's visit certainly paid off: NIBIO's Research Center at Landvik on the Norwegian south coast has experienced its worst winter damages since turfgrass research started in 2003. All research plots in the SCANGREEN variety trial had to be reseeded irrespective of species. At the same time, two out of

three golf courses in South East Norway, are facing more winter damages than in a 'normal' year, and many courses do not expect to open ordinary play on summer greens until late June or July. A survey by the Norwegian Golf Federation among 18-hole courses in the greater Oslo area shows an average economic loss of 44.000 Euro from April to July. About half of this is lost revenue from green fee; the other half is extra costs due to labor, machinery, seed, fertilizer, sand and water for repair of the damaged areas.

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Ice removal on green no 15, Vestfold GK, Norway, 4 April 2018. Photo: Oddbjørn Tideman.

The specific reasons what actually killed the grass and when it died is still a matter of discussion among greenkeepers, but there is no doubt that it was related to prolonged ice cover, on some golf courses also large amounts of melting water. Golf facilities in the Oslo area had frozen greens from mid November. During late November, December and early January, fluctuating temperatures with high precipitation, partly as rain and partly as snow, resulted in heavy ice formation. From January to March, most precipitation came as snow – more than 120 cm on many courses. Courses that routinely remove most of the snow from the green areas to avoid melting water and new ice formation had a hard time; many of them gave up in January but resumed the work in March and April. At Landvik, the winter's minimum temperature came as late as 19 March after the snow had been removed on many greens. The temperature at the official weather station it was -13°C at 2 m height, which probably



Winter damage in SCANGREEN trial, Landvik, 15 April 2018. Photo: Trygve S. Aamlid.

corresponds to -16- -18 °C at ground level on greens without snow. These temperatures are lethal to *Poa annua*, and they may even be lethal to *Agrostis* sp. that recently came out of ice encasement.

In November 2017, almost 100 turfgrass scientist, consultants and practitioners from nine different countries participated at STERF and NIBIO's International Seminar on Turfgrass Winter Stress Management in Oslo. Before this seminar, our current knowledge on turfgrass winter stress was summarized in a handbook that can be downloaded at <http://www.sterf.org/Media/Get/2892/winter-stress-mgmt-handbook>). The last winter's experiences emphasize that there are still many aspects of turfgrass winter survival that we do not understand, and that there is a need for continued and more in-depth research, particularly in the field of abiotic winter damages due to a changing winter climate with more precipitation and temperature fluctuations. In this regard, Eric Watkins' visit to Norway brought forward many interesting discussions, also with US researchers Michelle Dacosta (University of Massachusetts) and Paul Koch (University of Wisconsin) who participated via Skype. STERF and NIBIO turfgrass group look very much forward to transatlantic collaboration within this highly important area.



During his visit to Norway, Eric Watkins visited several golf courses in addition to NIBIO's research centers at Apelsvoll and Landvik. This photo was taken on 24 April at Toten GC in the inland 150 km north of Oslo which did not have nearly as much ice under the snow as golf courses further south. The snow had been removed from the green about one week before Eric's visit, and the red fescue/ colonial bentgrass green seemed to have survived in excellent condition. From left to right: Lily Watkins (Eric's wife) , Maria Strandberg (STERF), Wendy Waalen (NIBIO), Jørgen Hornslien (headgreenkeeper), Eric Watkins and Tatsiana Espevig (NIBIO). Photo: Trygve S. Aamlid.

# Introduction of Korea Turfgrass Research Institute (KTRI)

by Dr. Gyu Yul Shim

Director of Korea Turfgrass Research Institute

Affiliated in Korea Golf Business Association

Seongnam, South Korea

KTRI, established in 1989, has made significant efforts to publish education material on turfgrass management for golf course superintendents in Korea (recently extended to some Asian countries). The institute has also researched and advised golf courses and athletic fields to solve course management dilemmas in Korea.

The KTRI consists of nine Masters and Ph.D. scientists who specialized in golf course management (turf, arboriculture, soil, disease, insect, and weed management). And visit golf courses during the growing season.

“Standard and truth of golf course management” was published by KTRI, has been utilized as the textbook by many colleges. “Golf course management calendar” is used as a practical guide and “Korea Golf Course Management (KGCM)” is published quarterly and provides new management information and trends from foreign countries.

KTRI manages many education programs. The “Greenkeeper school” is a one-year program training young and talented course managers and has produced 500 graduates over the last 24 years. In addition, the “Winter short-term education course” also trains for two weeks in the form of seminars. There is also a “Test for golf course manager certification” that has produced 1,200 of managers so far.



One of the invited speakers Dr. Geunhwa Jung from the University of Massachusetts.

The KTRI also provides registration test of pesticides for the control of pest weeds in turf and performance test of various equipment for lawn care.

## 2018 Korea Golf Industry Show (KGIS)

The Korea Golf Industry Show is held biennially in Korea with the Korea Turfgrass Research Institute (KTRI) and Golf Course Superintendents Association of Korea (GCSAK) holding this exposition alternately. The education and exhibition content are the best in Asia. The 2018 KGIS, organized by KTRI, hosted approximately 60 companies and over 8,000 visitors from January 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> at the 2<sup>nd</sup> exhibition center of KINTEX located in Ilsan city, Gyeonggi-do, Korea. The industry show consisted of golf course management equipment exhibition and educational programs with diverse subjects.

Major exhibitors selling equipment, golf cars, crop protection system installed large booths, and the exhibition hall was filled with the other companies related to turf, materials, course management outsourcing, equipment parts, lighting and IT. Course management equipment attracted the attention of equipment that increased work efficiency, fuel economy and maintenance costs.



Opening ceremony at the Korea Golf Industry show.

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Golf carts are being specialized in the high quality of foreign products, domestic technology development, and various colors. Pesticides and fertilizers specialize in treating problematic pests, and growth control agents to reduce turfgrass growth. Fertilizers which are having different ingredients and functions have attracted interest. New varieties of grasses developed to combat climate change, artificial turf and grass protection materials that complement natural grass were exhibited. Irrigation-related products to solve the water shortage and LED lighting related products received much interest.

Time for the introduction of exhibited products was given to each participant company on the first day of the industry show. On the second day, golf course management symposiums discussed climate change with a panel of experts from academia and golf course managers. The International seminar after the symposium was divided into two sessions, and eight domestic and international specialists gave

lectures which were very informative. On the last day, training for golf course CEO, caddies, and equipment managers concluded the industry show.

The number of exhibitors and visitors decreased in 2018 compared to the previous year, but improved quality of the show was witnessed by companies and experts.

Dr. Gyu-Yeol Sim, the head of KTRI who had organized this show, said, "We made efforts to increase both quantity and quality of exhibition and information by intensive and efficient exhibition arrangement and various education/training programs, and we found the enthusiasm of registrants and attendees to get more information was much higher than the previous."

### 국제 세미나

2018.1.25(화요일) 303, 304

Session I	Session II
13:00~14:20 <b>건강한 잔디와 병 관리에서의 발전</b> Advances in Turfgrass Plant Health and Disease Management Dr. Richard Rees Bayer	13:00~13:50 <b>벤트그래스 그린의 여름철 고온스트레스 관리</b> Bentgrass Summer Heat Management on Golf Green Dr. Milt Engleke Texas A&M Univ.
14:30~15:20 <b>고온·수분스트레스 저감을 위한 시비방안</b> Fertilization Management for Heat & Water Stress Reduction Dr. Lee Dongwook Korea Turfgrass Research Institute	14:00~15:20 <b>일본에서 잔디병 방제에의 경험과 신기술</b> Trends and New Techniques of Turfgrass Disease Control in Japan Dr. Toshihiro Hayakawa RIKEN GREEN
15:30~16:20 <b>생물학적 방제를 위한 화학 및 재배적 관리 전략에 대한 최신정보와 데이터 기반의 통합이 달라진 것에 미치는 영향</b> An update on chemical and cultural management strategies to control summer patch and a fairway rolling effect on dollar spot Dr. Jung Geunhwa Univ. of Massachusetts	16:30~16:50 <b>장마기의 퍼팅그린 배수관리</b> Managing Drainage of Putting Greens for Success during Wet Weather Dr. James Murphy Rutgers University
16:30~18:00 <b>토너먼트를 위한 고온철 퍼팅그린 관리프로그램</b> A Deeper Look at the Longer Range Programs and Practices That are Used to Produce High Levels of Conditioning James Sklaricki USGA Green Section	17:00~18:00 <b>기후변화에 따른 골프장 잡초발생 변화와 통제전략</b> Weed Occurrences and Control Strategies to Climate Change in Golf Course Dr. Park Nam-il Best Green Tech

### 골프장 관리운영 심화교육 프로그램

2018.1.26(수요일) 305~307

09:00~12:00	09:00~12:00	09:00~12:00
<b>I. CEO전문과정</b> (CEO가 꼭 알아야 할 코스관 리실무) • 잔디의 기본 이해 • 코스관리와 실무 • 골프장 환경관리 전략 김규열 소장 한국잔디연구소	<b>II. 경기보조원 과정</b> (시대의 흐름에 맞는 경기과 운영) • 케디서비스 경쟁력 제고를 위한 방법 • 골프장제 인제가 되기 위한 케디 의 경쟁력 • 골프장 변화에 맞는 케디 수습관 리 노하우 김영미 대표이사 KPGA(한국프로골프협회)	<b>III. 장비운영 과정</b> (효율적인 장비운영 방안) • 장비점검 및 관리 방법 • 장비의 효율적인 운영 방안 • 장비예산 절감을 위한 방안 김원근 팀장 에코리안엔지니어링 강동찬 사장 니콜로

### 관람료

- 10,000원(박람회 기간 3일)
- 사전 예약 시 50% 할인
- 예매: 한국잔디연구소 홈페이지(<http://www.ktri.or.kr>) 및  
한국잔디(전시회 박람회)를 앱

### 관람시 특전

- 박람회 디렉토리 및 코스관리 카렌다 1부 제공
- 코스관리 심포지엄, 국제세미나 및 심화교육 무료 참여
- 다양한 종류의 행운권 당첨 기회 제공

### KINTEX

▶ 비즈니스 호텔 ([http://www.kintex.com/clients/c040201/c040201\\_00.jsp](http://www.kintex.com/clients/c040201/c040201_00.jsp))  
▶ 모텔 ([http://www.kintex.com/clients/c040201/c040201\\_02.jsp](http://www.kintex.com/clients/c040201/c040201_02.jsp))

호텔명	전화번호	호텔명	전화번호
힐튼호텔	031-922-5271	알티브 호텔	031-905-5151
리젠트 인 호텔	031-913-2853-5	클레오호텔	031-908-0002
카이저 호텔	031-917-1999	프리미엄호텔	031-942-3778
뉴월드 호텔	031-917-7222	파키스 호텔	031-947-5552
엑서스 호텔	031-917-1777	듀오호텔(주)	031-945-3098
리베라 호텔	031-922-2052-4	라인호텔	031-988-2234
아비스 호텔	031-919-8881	드림빌	031-967-0077-2
리치 호텔	031-917-9903	호텔 사이버	031-974-0008
에버리 호텔	031-919-6707	호텔 사이버	031-974-8871
호텔 니코	031-916-0081		

• 행사기간 중 입주민  
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## 2018 KOREA GOLF INDUSTRY SHOW

# 2018 KGIS

한국골프산업박람회

대한민국  
골프산업의  
미래를 열어 가겠습니다

일시: 2018년 1월 24일(수) ~ 26일(금)  
장소: KINTEX 제2전시장 7홀

주관: 한국골프장경영협회 부설 한국잔디연구소  
주최: 한국잔디연구소 • 한국그린키퍼협회  
후원: 문화체육관광부 • 산업통상자원부

**STERF Yearbook 2017**  
by Dr. Maria Strandberg, ITS President  
**Scandinavian Turfgrass & Environment Research Foundation**  
**Stockholm, Sweden**

The Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation (STERF) has released its 'Research and Development Yearbook 2017'. This reports on the research being undertaken across Scandinavia into global issues such as water and fertilizer management and multifunctional use of golf facilities, and pesticide use and winter stress which have more regional relevance.

Seven new projects starting in 2017 have received a total of €739,000 of funding from STERF, with an additional €597,000 from other sources, for four years. All of the new projects are presented in the Yearbook.

STERF is collaborating with the Norwegian government and its environmental authorities to investigate the fate of pesticides, leaching and runoff, from golf courses. This project is aligned with the Norwegian government's 'Action Plan for More Sustainable Use of Pesticides 2016-2020', and has received match funding from the government.

Key to STERF's work is the dissemination of research findings. 2017 saw STERF host seminars on winter stress management of turfgrass and the possibilities and challenges of providing multifunctional landscapes. In addition to this, a new handbook on winter stress management was added to the library on the STERF website [www.sterf.org](http://www.sterf.org) and a survey on multifunctional activities on Nordic golf facilities was undertaken. A report on the survey is also available on the STERF website.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments related to the yearbook. Your feedback on STERF's ongoing projects and activities would be very valuable for us. Ideas of potential new programmes and projects would also be interesting and inspiring.

The 2017 yearbook and more information about STERF's programmes, projects and activities can be found on [www.sterf.org](http://www.sterf.org)



# 14<sup>th</sup> International Turfgrass Research Conference in Copenhagen

**July 11 - 16 2021 – Save the date!**

By Maria Strandberg, ITS president, Sweden



The next International Turfgrass Research Conference will be arranged by STERF (Scandinavian Turfgrass and Environment Research Foundation) in Copenhagen 2021.

The conference will include keynote speakers, oral and poster presentations, industry networking opportunities, technical tours, social events and much more. New for ITRC 2021 is one-day programme for practitioners.

**Scientific topics of interest** may include: turfgrass establishment and management; turfgrass pests (diseases, weeds, insects et cetera); turfgrass physiology; turfgrass genetics and breeding; soil biology, chemistry and plant nutrition; soil physics and rootzone construction; sustainable water management; ecosystem services and biodiversity; information technology, education and communications.

**Technical tours** will introduce you in Nordic turfgrass research and development which is focusing on internationally important key areas. These include the pressures from government demands for greater environmental regulation, the increasing pressure on

natural resources (notably water, energy and land), the emerging role of turf management in supporting ecosystem services and enhancing biodiversity, the continued need to promote integrated pest management, and the looming challenges posed by a changing climate, and urgent need to adapt.

**The on-day programme for practitioners** will strengthen the ambition to take a lead in making research results and new knowledge easy accessible to end-users and to provide support to implement changes, which is a prerequisite for achieving improvement in the sustainable management of turfgrass.

**Copenhagen** is the congress capital of Scandinavia, and its vibrant cultural heart. Copenhagen is also truly a green city surrounded by water and parks, with climate-friendly citizens to match. The ambitious green profile of the city has a clear goal: The City of Copenhagen aims to become the world's first CO2 neutral capital by 2025. Experience it for yourself. Swim in the clean waters of the city's harbour baths, stay in a sustainable hotel, eat organic, and ride the electric city bikes around the old maritime city.

Please join us in 2021 for the latest cutting-edge research in the turfgrass industry and stay to enjoy all that the Copenhagen area has to offer!

Please visit [www.Itrc2021.org](http://www.Itrc2021.org) to continually get information about the conference.

For more information about STERF please visit [www.sterf.org](http://www.sterf.org)



Nordic turfgrass research.



Copenhagen the green capital.

## Introducing Some of the New International Turfgrass Society Officers (term: 2017-2021)

Christopher Lambrides  
representing Australia



Christopher Lambrides is an Associate Professor in the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences at The University of Queensland (UQ), St Lucia Brisbane. He has been working in northern Australia for more than 35 years. He completed his Bachelors and Phd degrees from UQ and Master's degree from North Dakota State University as a graduate assistant with the USDA. In the early part of his career he was involved in crop breeding/genetics and physiology in both the private (Pioneer Hi-bred) and public (CSIRO) sectors with a major focus on developing drought resistant cultivars for dry environments of Australia. In 2006 he commenced research into Bermudagrass Molecular Genetics and Physiology again with a focus on drought resistance. The thrust of his research is based on the characterisation of naturalised ecotypes of Bermudagrass recovered from across Australia the world's driest inhabited continent. He has now assembled over 1000 ecotypes of Bermudagrass and has been systematically screening this germplasm with various abiotic stresses. He is currently evaluating the collection for salt tolerance. He leads the Turfgrass research team at The University of Queensland and has a passion for Turfgrass Science education including undergraduate teaching and supervision of postgraduate students.

Alessandro De Luca  
representing Italy



Alessandro De Luca graduated in Agricultural Science at Bologna University and awarded the Diploma in Turfgrass Science at Texas A&M University, under the direction of James B. Beard. Member of the Board of ETS (European Turfgrass Society), since 2004 Head of the Italian Golf Federation Green Section, for which it directs didactic and experimental activities and environmental projects. The didactic activity over the years has trained more than 2000 technicians involved in the turfgrass industry (Superintendents, Greenkeepers, Ground managers, Golf managers, company technicians). Under the leadership of Prof. James B. Beard and the collaboration of several universities (Bologna, Padua, Pisa, Turin), his Green Section team have promoted the first studies in the Mediterranean area on turf and on environmental aspects related to golf courses, also involving a number of organizations and experts dealing with the environment. Among the most important results, is the increased use of warmseason grasses and the related reduction on water, pesticide and fertilisers consumption and the on field organic maintenance of golf courses and sport fields. He works and also collaborates as a consultant for private companies on planning, construction and maintenance of golf courses and sport fields. Author of several books on turfgrass construction, management and the environment, he also collaborates with different turf and golf magazines.

Scott McElroy  
representing the United States



Scott McElroy is a Professor in the Department of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences at Auburn University. Dr. McElroy currently holds a distinguished Alumni Professorship as selected by the Auburn University Alumni Association. He received his MS from Auburn University and his PhD from the NC State University in Crop Science with a minor in Plant Ecology. Dr. McElroy now holds a joint appointment at Auburn University with the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station and the College of Agriculture. His primary research areas are on methods for weed management in turfgrass systems, and physiology and molecular biology of herbicide resistant weed species. He is an associate editor for the Weed Science Society of America Journal, Weed Technology, and also serves as a reviewer for Weed Science, Agronomy Journal, and Pest Management Science, among others. Dr. McElroy teaches three classes, Principles of Weed Science, Applied Weed Science Technology, and Advanced Turfgrass Management. Dr. McElroy maintains an active international research and teaching presence previously serving as an elected board member for the European Turfgrass Society. Dr. McElroy was awarded the Director's Research Award from the College of Agriculture at Auburn in 2009, the Outstanding Young Weed Scientist Award in 2011 from the Southern Weed Science Society, and the 2013 Early Career Weed Scientist Award from the Weed Science Society of America.

Dr. McElroy was born and raised in Moulton, Alabama, a small town in Northwest Alabama. In his youth, Dr. McElroy was an avid basketball player, signing a basketball scholarship with Northwest Community College in Phil Campbell, Alabama for his freshman year and transferring his sophomore year to play at Calhoun Community College in Decatur, Alabama. Dr. McElroy is married to Dr. Nichole McElroy, DVM. They have three children, Joseph (14), William (12) and Trent (10). In his spare time, Dr. McElroy is a member of the Auburn Masters Swimming Team, plays golf (very badly), and attempts to avoid mowing his own lawn at all costs.

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Please send comments, feedback, and turfgrass news articles for future issues to the newsletter editor. If you know any non-members, new faculty, staff, and new personnel involved in turfgrass research who might be interested in joining ITS please forward their e-mail address to the newsletter editor and they will also receive the Triannual issues of International Turfgrass.

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is August 15, 2018

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