

International Turfgrass

The Newsletter of the International Turfgrass Society

June 2025

Final Call for Registration: 15th International Turfgrass Research Conference - 2025

by Shin Nakamura, Kunitsugu Ogawa, Satoru Tanaka, and Hideaki Tonogi

ITRC2025 Executive Committee; International Relations Committee, Japanese Society of Turfgrass Science

The 15th International Turfgrass Research Conference (ITRC2025) will be coming soon in Japan. We have already received more than 350 registrations through the website as of the end of May. Registration is still open on the conference site (<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/registration/>). The regular registration fee can be applied until July 10th. Don't miss the opportunity to sign up!

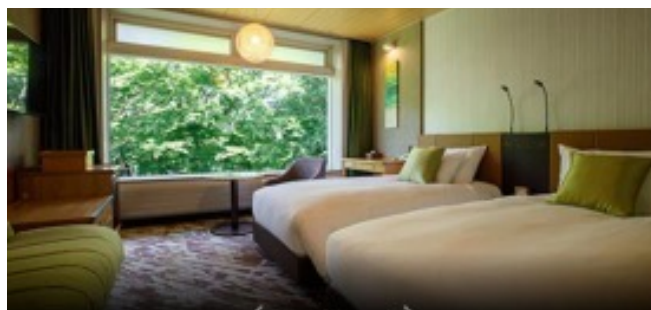
Fees vary depending on the type of pass (Full-day or One-day) and membership status. Accommodations can also be booked through the website.

Date: July 12-16, 2025

*Pre-tour is organized on July 6-11 prior to the conference.

Venue: Karuizawa Prince Hotel West / Karuizawa, Nagano

The location is approximately 1 hour from Tokyo station by a bullet train, "Shinkansen". There are two international airports near Tokyo. When you arrive at Haneda Airport, you need to take local trains to Tokyo station, which will take 30 minutes. From Narita airport, you have to travel about 1 hour to Tokyo station by express trains.



Registration fee payment due date:

*Please refer to website for details.

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/registration/>

Early Bird Registration	Until 12:00 on April 23, 2025 (JST) Closed
Regular Registration	Until 17:00 on July 10, 2025 (JST)
On-site Registration	Until 14:00 on July 16, 2025 (JST)

Conference Program

For comprehensive information, please refer to the link provided below.

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/program/>

July 12	Sat	PM	Opening ceremony, Keynote speeches, Conference reception
July 13	Sun	All day	Practitioner seminar, Oral & Poster Research presentations
July 14	Mon	All day	Graduate student presentation contest, Oral & Poster Research presentations
July 15	Tue	All day	Technical tour (1) Saitama area (2) Nagano area (3) Family Nagano Sightseeing Tour
July 16	Wed	AM	Zoysiagrass symposium, Oral & Research presentations
		PM	ITS quadrennial meeting, Graduate Student Contest Awards, Farewell party

Please access the ITRC2025 website if you have questions:

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/contact/>

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Update about the *International Turfgrass Research Society Journal*

by Doug Soldat, University of Wisconsin, Editor-in-Chief
of International Turfgrass Society Research Journal

The review and publication process for ITRSJ Volume 15 is progressing steadily. We have a total of 214 submissions associated with the conference that are either published or in final review stages across various categories, including 126 Full Research Papers (79 in ITRSJ, 37 in Crop Science, and 10 in Agronomy Journal), 7 Case Studies, 2 Issue Papers, 46 Short Communications, and 33 Technical Reports.

Thank you to the authors for their patience as we work to get all of these manuscripts across the finish line. Our editorial team is working hard to process the manuscripts that are awaiting a final decision. We appreciate the dedication of our authors and reviewers in contributing to this conference and look forward to sharing the latest advancements in turfgrass science in Japan this summer! Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions about the status of your manuscript.

Call for judges for student presentation competition at 15th ITRC

by Paul Koch, University of Wisconsin

The ITRC in Japan will once again have a graduate student oral competition. This year there are 26 student presenters, which is significantly higher than the past 2 ITRCs. The competition will take place on Monday, July 14th and there will be a Pest Management competition in the morning and a Physiology, Breeding, and Management competition in the afternoon. I would like to have at least 10 judges assess the competitors for each session, so your help is needed! If you are able to judge for either or both sessions, please email me at plkoch@wisc.edu to indicate your availability or ask me any questions. Thank you in advance for considering this request.

Information about 15th ITRC presentation guidelines and program

by Wendell Hutchens, University of Arkansas,
International Turfgrass Society Deputy Newsletter Editor

As the 15th International Turfgrass Research Conference rapidly approaches, there is some very important information to be aware of in preparation for the conference. The conference program has been updated and the oral and poster presentation guidelines have been finalized.

This information can be found in these three links:

(1) ITRC2025 Program:

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/program/>

(2) Oral Presentation Guidelines:

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/news/itrc2025-oral-presentation-ver-1-2025-5-15-for-guideline-is-now-available/>

(3) Poster Presentation Guidelines:

<https://itrc2025.turfsociety.com/news/itrc2025-poster-presentation-ver-1-2025-5-15-for-guideline-is-now-available/>

EGA Strengthens Role in EU Pesticide Policy Dialogue

by Alessandro De Luca, Italian Golf Federation - Green Section, Historian of International Turfgrass Society

The European Golf Association (EGA) continues to closely monitor EU regulations on pesticide use and, since 2022, has been actively engaged in dialogue with the European Commission to ensure that golf is recognised as a credible stakeholder in future policy discussions.

In March 2025, EGA representatives met with officials from DG SANTE (Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety) to highlight the social, environmental, and economic value of golf and to promote sustainable turfgrass management practices. Although the proposed Sustainable Use Regulation (SUR) — which would have banned pesticide use in sensitive areas — was withdrawn in 2024, the Sustainable Use of Pesticides Directive (SUD) remains in force. This directive continues to mandate further reductions in the use of chemical pesticides, including on golf courses. The Commission has confirmed that EGA will be involved in the upcoming implementation dialogue on the SUD, expected to begin in late 2025. Two key topics have emerged: the acceleration of the authorisation process for biopesticides as alternatives to traditional chemicals, and the legal requirement, starting in 2026, for digital recording of pesticide use.

To support these efforts, the EGA has called on national golf federations to engage with their respective national authorities to:

- Communicate the golf sector's efforts to reduce pesticide use;

Continued on next page

- Represent the specific needs of golf at the national level;
- Explore alternative solutions such as biopesticides;
- Prepare for the upcoming requirement of digital pesticide use tracking.

These actions aim to position golf as a proactive partner in the transition toward sustainable land and turfgrass management practices across Europe.

11th International Symposium of Grass Microbial Endophytes (ISGME2025)

by Alan Stewart, Chief Scientific Officer, PGG Wrightson Seeds

The 11th International Symposium of Grass Microbial Endophytes (ISGME2025) will be held November 11-13, 2025 in Hamilton, New Zealand. Visit the symposium website for information: <https://isgme2025.com/>

Theme: Grass endophytic microbes for sustainable agricultural production

ISGME, previously known as the International Symposium of Fungal Endophytes of Grasses (ISFEG), is an international symposium held every 3-4 years. The 11th symposium is to be held with the New Zealand Grassland Association (NZGA) Annual Conference and will continue the legacy of previous ISFEG symposia on fungal endophytes of forage grasses.

Grasses play a critical role in global food production and ecosystems, from pastures for grazing livestock, to turf uses and grain production for animal and human consumption. This symposium will promote the latest scientific advances in the ecology and agricultural application of microbes that form beneficial associations with grasses.

ISGME2025 will attract researchers from around the world who are focused on the basic and applied aspects of using endophytic microorganisms, including but not exclusively *Epichloë* fungi, as promising solutions for sustainable agricultural production, with a focus on both temperate (C3) and tropical (C4) grasses, including pastures and cereals.

Symposium themes:

1. Occurrence, diversity and ecology of grass microbial (fungal and bacterial) endophytes
2. Mechanistic understanding of host-endophyte interactions
3. Involvement of multitrophic and microbiome interactions
4. Practical application of endophytes for plant protection and production

In conjunction with NZGA Annual Conference:

The New Zealand Grassland Association (NZGA) has a vision of “fuelled by science, tempered by experience” and provides a forum for grassland farming and promotes the value of research and its application. Its members come from a wide range of researchers, consultants, agribusiness and farmers. The annual conference provides a collegial atmosphere, field trips, ready access to current grassland science, best farm practice, and publishes the peer-reviewed Journal of New Zealand Grasslands.

ISGME2025 and NZGA will run concurrent sessions. Registration at ISGME2025 will automatically give participants the added option of attending any session at the annual conference of NZGA and broadening their networks during the shared breaks and field trips.



William Adams Obituary

Of Pant-y-Carne, New Cross.

Passed away peacefully on Sunday 27th October 2024 aged 85 years at the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital in Gobowen, after a period of illness.

Bill, beloved husband to Pat and big Brother to Anne and Edna. Loving Dad to Mark, John and Rebecca and Granddad to Kieran, Joanne and Matthew.

Bill enjoyed a long career in Soil Science at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth between 1965 until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in the mid-2000's. During this period Bill fostered links with academic institutions across the world and was one of the pioneers leading advancements in the study and improved performance of sports turfgrass. Bill was presented with many awards for his work including a 1994 Friendship Award from the Peoples Republic of China for co-operation in teaching and research and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute of Groundsmanship in 1999.

Away from work Bill was a devoted family man, keen gardener and small-holder and enthusiast of motor sports, who will be sadly missed.

Funeral service was held at Aberystwyth Crematorium on 30 November 2024 at 12:00. Family flowers only. Donations kindly received towards The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital or the Woodlands Trust Living Legends Appeal.

Please make cheques payable to 'RJAH Charity' or 'Living Legends Appeal', c/o Gwyn Evans, C.T. Evans, Funeral Directors, Llandre, Aberystwyth, SY23 5BS. Tel: 01970 820013. Arthur Adams (Bill)



Teri Yamada has passed away

The world of turfgrass mourns the passing of Teri Yamada, a former Board member and key figure in Canadian golf, who passed away on January 8, 2025, after a battle with Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease. Yamada contributed nearly 40 years to the golf industry, including significant roles at Golf Canada and as a leader in environmental and agronomic research. She played a key role in shaping golf course operations and environmental strategies, and also served on numerous boards and committees in both Canadian and international golf organizations, including the International Turfgrass Society, where Teri served as a Program Director for the 2001 ITRC meeting. Beyond her professional achievements, Yamada was a passionate golfer and active volunteer, deeply respected for her expertise, work ethic, and generosity.

For more information on Teri's career:

<https://www.golfcanada.ca/articles/golf-canada-saddened-by-the-passing-of-teri-yamada/>

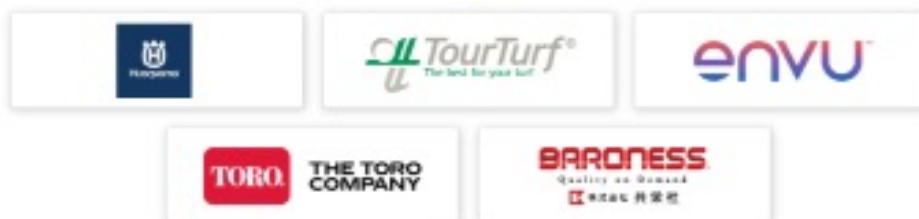


Confirmed Sponsors for ITRC2025 (as of the end of May 2025)

Legacy Premier



Premier



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Gold



Silver



Bronze



Small Sponsorship





INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS SOCIETY

Exchanging Turfgrass Knowledge Worldwide

The International Turfgrass Society (ITS) is a not-for-profit scientific organization that encourages research and education in turfgrass science.

ITS was established in 1969 and promotes communication among international turfgrass researchers by organizing international conferences on turfgrass research and all phases of turfgrass production and use.

International Turfgrass Research Conferences (ITRC) are held at 4-year intervals and the next ITRC will be held in Japan in July 2025.

ITS membership is a 4-year subscription (2022-2025) and includes the following benefits:

- copy of the ITS Research Journal from the next ITRC
- discounts for ITRC registration
- back issues of the ITRC Proceedings and Journal articles.
- access to the Members Only section of the ITS website
- subscription to the ITS Newsletter

Join ITS and ensure your discount for ITRC2025 Japan

Standard subscription fee is 325 USD – Student discounts apply

Please download the membership application form from the ITS homepage turfgrassociety.com



INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP/PAYMENT OF DUES



New preferred method: pay by credit card [here](#)

Please Use Autofill:

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PLEASE CHECK MEMBERSHIP TYPE DESIRED:

Regular Membership Fee (2022-2025)	\$325.00 USD
Sustaining Membership Fee (2022-2025)	\$1000.00 USD
Student Membership Fee (2022-2025)	\$150.00 USD*
Retired Membership Fee (2022-2025)	\$25.00 USD

PLEASE INDICATE METHOD OF PAYMENT:

Check** PayPal

Bank Wire Transfer, please contact Scott McElroy jsm0010@auburn.edu for instructions & account information

* Student member must have confirmation letter from major faculty advisor.

** To avoid heavy collection fees, only checks from U.S. affiliated banks will be accepted.

Please make check payable to: *International Turfgrass Society*.

MAIL OR E-MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM, ALONG WITH 1) YOUR CHECK OR 2) YOUR PAYPAL INFORMATION OR 3) THE WIRE TRANSFER INFORMATION TO:

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Check here, if you do not want your information to be listed on the ITS Website or Newsletter.

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