

Speaker Bios & Summaries

Martha Barwinsky, M.Sc., ISA Certified Arborist

Martha is the City Forester for the City of Winnipeg and has been involved in arboriculture and urban forestry for over 20 years. In addition to her career with the City, Martha has been a researcher, instructor, practicing arborist, executive director of Coalition to Save the Elms (now Trees Winnipeg), and has served on many steering and advisory committees related to urban forestry and arboriculture.

Presentation:

Managing trees in a rapidly changing environment

Managing trees has become more challenging as weather patterns become less predictable, the risks of invasive pests become greater, land development increases, and trees age. This presentation will discuss these challenges and outline principles of managing a population of trees, with the goal of shifting to more planned, rather than reactive, management.

Paul Koch, Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin - Madison

Paul joined the University of Wisconsin - Madison faculty as an assistant professor in the Department of Plant Pathology in January of 2014. Paul's research focuses primarily on developing precision disease management strategies for snow mold and dollar spot in turfgrass and investigating the fate and impact of turfgrass pesticides in the environment. Paul also oversees the University of Wisconsin's Turfgrass Diagnostic Lab and the UW Turfgrass Fungicide Testing Program.

Presentation #1

Dollar spot and the kitchen sink; an integrated approach to dollar spot management

More fungicides are used to control dollar spot than any other turfgrass disease, but fungicide use on golf courses continues to come under increased regulatory and social scrutiny. In this seminar we will review the latest research related to integrated dollar spot control; including host resistance, disease predictive modeling, precision dollar spot management strategies, use of iron sulfate, and new fungicides for the Canadian golf market.

Presentation #2

Snow mold control; what works and why the hell didn't it work at my place.

Snow mold is the most important disease for many superintendents in Canada, but control can be difficult during the long and harsh winter months. In this seminar we will discuss the various cultural, chemical, and biological methods available for acceptable control and also discuss potential factors that lead to control failure.

Bill Kreuser, Assistant Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Bill Kreuser (Kroy-sir) is an assistant professor in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He serves as the state's Extension Turfgrass Specialist with a focus on turfgrass ecology and precision management. Bill joined UNL in 2014 after receiving his Ph.D. at Cornell University where he studied turfgrass physiology. Bill is a native of Wisconsin and received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Soil Science with a Turf and Grounds Management Specialization at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research focuses on soil and water management and turfgrass physiology.

Presentation #1

Preventing winter desiccation

Dry and open winters can challenge turfgrasses and their managers with winter desiccation stress. The low winter humidity, winds, and occasional winter thaw can cause turfgrass crowns to dry out and die. This seminar will cover the cause, prevention, and recovery of winter desiccation stress.

Presentation #2

Drive your growth rate

Clipping yield management is an essential part of sound turfgrass management. A turf stand that is growing too fast or too slow can have major performance issues. This seminar will focus on ways to track growth rate and manage clipping yield production with nitrogen fertilization and PGR applications.

Douglas J. Cattani, Acting Associate Department Head, University of Manitoba

Doug received his BSA and MSc. from the University of Manitoba (Plant Breeding) and his PhD. from Wageningen University, The Netherlands in Plant Production Ecology. He has worked with herbaceous perennial for over three decades with emphasis on breeding and seed production. His current position is as Perennial Crop Breeder in the Department of Plant Science at the University of Manitoba with the breeding of intermediate wheatgrass and perennial sunflower for grain production as the major focus.

Presentation

Genetics of Turfgrass Breeding: Risks and Rewards of Selection for Developmental Traits and Stress Tolerances

Plant breeders simultaneously make selections for many traits in turfgrass species. Some are relatively easy to evaluate, e.g. colour, while others are more complicated such as winter tolerance. Stress tolerance traits are generally relatively complex in their genetic control, while others such as seed yield, are the result of hundreds of individual genes interacting throughout the life of a plant. This talk will highlight traits of interest to turfgrass managers on the prairies and how these are developed for new cultivars.

Kent Hahn Biography

Started in the agricultural sprayer industry with Hahn, Inc. as a Regional Sales Manager selling row crop sprayers in 1973.

Assisted in the development of the first dedicated turf sprayer that was introduced to the golf market in 1980.

Assisted in the development of the first automatic sprayer control system for the golf market, which was introduced in 1985.

Over the next few years, introduced the first foam marker system, automatic boom lift and sonar boom system for leveling the boom over the turf.

Sold the Hahn golf sprayer business to The Toro Company in 1991 and put Toro in the sprayer business.

Joined The Toro Company in 1991 as Marketing Manager for the sprayers as well as other turf products.

For the next few years, assisted in the development of several new sprayer products for The Toro Company including the Workman sprayer, Multi Pro 1250 and 1200 and Multi Pro 5500.

Started Hahn Application Products in 2003, developing several new sprayer products for the golf market.

Joined The Toro Company as a contract consultant in 2007 for developing several new sprayer products.

Currently co-owner of Hahn Application Products and work with The Toro Company in developing new, innovative sprayer products including GPS guided sprayers.