



Turfgrass
Information Center

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

tic.msu.edu

1.3+ million searches • 44% linked to full text • 15,000+ new records • 20+ TIC-hosted sites • 60+ academic subscribers worldwide

The Turfgrass Information Center
would like to thank supporters for their ongoing contributions,
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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_2010.pdf



Turfgrass Information Center Annual Report 2010
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Editor: Michael Schury

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Contemporary information seekers expect, maybe even demand, instant access to materials of interest. Increasingly impatient, it is a rare searcher today that will go beyond the first screen of results returned via a web-browser search, such as one done in Google. What they can find and get to quickly is what gets used in most cases. Now these statements are used, often by librarians like myself, to caution individuals that the “first couple of items retrieved in such searches aren’t necessarily the ones that will best respond to your inquiry.” While this is a point worth serious consideration, it is clearly the case that the reality of how most information seekers behavior these days “is what it is,” and we might as well accept that fact.

So what does this have to do with the Turfgrass Information File? TGIF was originally designed, during the 1980’s, as an index and abstracting service geared primarily to turfgrass researchers, most of whom are located on university campuses. The implication here is that these users, alerted to an item of interest via a TGIF search, could go to their university library and generally secure the desired item, or if not available, have the library borrow the item from elsewhere. During the last 20 years, however, TGIF has been adopted by thousands of practitioners, golf course superintendents who were exposed to TGIF as part of their education, which, it is worth noting, occurred at a university where access to the cited literature was available at the library, just as it was for campus researchers. Once these students moved on to be course superintendents, they still have access to TGIF, but now there is no library at hand to provide desired items. Therefore, to secure the full-potential of TGIF, and make it useful whether one resides near a university library or not, efforts were undertaken to provide direct access to the full-text of materials. This was accomplished with the scanning of back-files of turfgrass journals, such as *Golf Course Management*. This project, which digitized more than 85,000 pages of the publication, allows TGIF searchers to go directly from a citation to any article in *Golf Course Management*.



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At this time approximately 44% of the materials indexed within TGIF allow the user to proceed directly to the full-text of the item, a significant enhancement for users, and especially for the new-wave of impatient users who will look elsewhere rather than wait. These efforts help to insure that TGIF users will get to the best information in response to their inquiries, but more remains to be done. What remains is for the producers of other turfgrass publications indexed within TGIF to [contact Pete Cookingham](#) about considering a project to digitize back files of the publication and make it available within TGIF. This can be done at absolutely no cost to the organization producing the publication. So please get in touch and help us move the 44% closer to 100%, something that will benefit everyone.

Sincerely,

Clifford H. Haka
Director of Libraries

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 172,000 records (with over 44% linked to the full-text of the item), and is the main access point for information on turfgrass whether it is in print, electronic, or other format.

TIC was created in 1983 by an association between MSU Libraries and the United States Golf Association (USGA). Its actual roots began in the 1960s when an 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 provide the financial resources 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. Most 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 continuing multi-year commitments during 2010 from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), the O.J. Noer Research Foundation, and the Sports Turf Association (STA), as well as from a range of individual and corporate donors.

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.

TGIF Online: Major Enhancements and Changes 2010

 Added graphics on “Brief Table” display to show if the record contains:

- **Ab** indicates Abstract present
- **Kw** indicates Keywords present
-  indicates that the record has a link to another record. Examples of this include multiple parts of items, an item and a response letter to that item, or related items.
-  indicates that the record has a link to multiple other records for sub-items. For instance, the record for a book may show this graphic if records exist for individual chapter records as well.
- **Extra** indicates that the record contains additional content not found within or from the item itself, for instance annotations about the item from Cornish and Hurdzan’s *Golf Course Design: An Annotated Bibliography with Highlights of Its History and Resources*. (Read more about this on page 10).

 Created prototype for RefWorks display format

Since 2005 the TGIF database has been able to display search results in a manner that can be imported into EndNote. Recently the Turfgrass Information Center has been queried by academic institutions as to the TGIF database’s ability display results in a RefWorks manner. We now have in place a RefWorks display format for testing purposes in academic user sessions.

To utilize the RefWorks display format:

1. From a display of search results in TGIF select “RefWorks *Testing*” from the “Display Format–Sort” menu
2. Copy the record(s) you wish to import into RefWorks
3. In RefWorks, go to References > Import
4. Set the “Import Filter/Data Source” to “RefWorks Tagged Format”
5. Set “Database” to “Tagged Format”
6. Choose “Import Data from the following Text” and paste inside the textbox below
7. Click “Import” at the bottom of the page

EndNote and RefWorks are bibliographic software packages which allow users to import and organize the results of database searches and create correctly-formatted bibliographies in word processing software.

As TIC has only limited abilities to test this output format, we need your help to move this from “testing” to a permanent, “launched”, format! If you are a RefWorks user, please try to load search results from TGIF and let us know what is not correct with the output format or directions! Send any and all feedback to tgif@msu.edu

Database Construction

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

Source	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Periodical	9,881	11,365	8,662	9,731	8,220
Monograph	819	1,086	1,454	1,383	1,373
Web	4,881	2,590	1,742	1,181	490

TGIF Summary Construction Statistics

TGIF Construction Statistics	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
New records created	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 ¹	2,717	4,000	1,483	1,782	2,351	2,015	n/a
Zero-hit issues ²	912	1,245	518	769	633	836	n/a
Records modified in current year, but created previously ³	17,719	42,034	34,659	20,388	18,440	14,623	n/a
% Full-text	44%	41%	36%	33%	24%	21%	n/a
Total records in database	172,589	157,530	142,481	130,732	118,473	108,741	99,707

¹The issues closed are periodical issues which have had the descriptive record, indexing, and abstracting completed on all articles selected for inclusion in TGIF.
²The zero-hit issues are periodical issues which were reviewed but no articles were selected for inclusion in TGIF.
³The records modified in the current year are records that were edited or enhanced.

Snapshot Status of TGIF

	2010	2009	2008	2007
Descriptive Records	100%	100%	100%	100%
Abstracted Records	56%	57%	59%	72%
Indexed Records	65%	69%	72%	57%
Indexed and Abstracted Records	53%	55%	57%	32%
Full-text Available Records	44%	42%	36%	33%
Full-text Searchable Records	22%	21%	5%	—
Full-text Available, Indexed, and Abstracted Records	25%	25%	22%	16%
Full-text Available, Indexed, Abstracted Records, and Full-text Searchable Records	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 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 40,000 records with the text of the item contained in the TGIF record, 95% come from periodicals digitized by TIC.

Characterizing the Full-Text Available Content within TGIF

2010	<p>44% Records with full-text availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions <p>24% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users <p>20% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
2009	<p>41% Records with full-text availability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% Records with full-text availability that may have secondary access restrictions <p>23% Records with full-text availability provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16% Records with restricted access but available to all TGIF users <p>18% Records with full-text not provided through MSU Libraries' efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

TIC USE AND USERS

TIC and TGIF Summary Use Statistics

TGIF Search Statistics	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
Total TGIF Searches	127,422	114,518	104,749	84,957	68,640	57,860	46,402	39,460	41,495	36,820
TIC-hosted Electronic Resources Searches (excluding Browsing)	20,313	20,949	19,902	17,974	16,490	18,126	10,803	743	62	n/a
Fastlinks	1,166,399	1,253,491	776,007	248,976	186,198	76,789	18,905	10,060	4,050	2,039
Total Searches and Fastlinks	1,314,134	1,388,958	900,658	351,907	271,328	152,775	76,110	50,263	45,607	38,859

TIC-Hosted Electronic Resources Use, Including Browsing	2010	2009	2008	2007
# of Resources	23	15	10	6
PDF Views	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.

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

What is a Fastlink? A "Fastlink" is a database capability which can be described as a form of "deep lining". Essentially, this is the ability to create a URL (=hot link) which can burrow into a database (such as TGIF) and retrieve a specific record or set of records in a specific presentation format without the user even necessarily being aware of what has actually occurred. To the user, it is "just another hot link".

Academic Institutions with Campus-Wide Access:

Perpetual institutional subscribers now represent 38 states in the USA, 4 Canadian provinces, and 5 other countries:

Institution	State/Province	Country
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Georgia	USA
Auburn University	Alabama	USA
California Polytechnic State University	California	USA
Central Piedmont Community College	North Carolina	USA
Clemson University	South Carolina	USA
Colorado State University	Colorado	USA
Cranfield University		United Kingdom
Elmwood College		Scotland
Florida Gateway College	Florida	USA
Georgian College	Ontario	Canada
GPRC Fairview College Campus	Alberta	Canada
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		United Kingdom
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
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
Utah State University	Utah	USA
Writtle College		United Kingdom

There are also annual access arrangement with Guildford College of Further & Higher Education in the United Kingdom and the University of Wyoming.

Organizational 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 Superintendents (ASGCA) members
-  Asociación Española de Greenkeepers (AEdG) members
-  Canadian Golf Superintendents (CGSA) members
-  Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) Class A, SM, C, ISM, AA, or A-RT members
-  Michigan resident (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

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.

Individual Subscribers with Their Own Logon

Currently individuals with their own logon can be found on 6 continents. These can either be annual or perpetual-access arrangements.

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

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 usability for users to directly access the full-text of identified articles and other items of interest—over 44% 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 so 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 172,000+ 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.

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 (Word file) (<http://tic.msu.edu/digitization-prospectus.doc>). Everyone gains from such an

effort: your members or clientele, your advisors, and the broader world of turf science in general.



Electronic Resources New This Year

- 1 CUII; 2 GreenKeepers; 3 Sports Turf Manager;
- 4 SportsTurf; 5 The Grass Roots.

During 2010, TIC continued digitization of materials from its various cooperators.

Cooperators	Title	Issues Linked	TGIF Records Added	Total TGIF Records	URL	Noteworthy
American Society of Golf Course Architects	<i>ASGCA Architect's Gallery</i> 	n/a	n/a	412	http://golfarchitects.lib.msu.edu/	
Asociación Española de Greenkeepers	<i>GreenKeepers/ Césped Deportivo 1999-Present</i> 	11	73	258	Restricted	Archive site launched
Canadian Golf Superintendents Association	<i>GreenMaster 1965-Present less 3 months</i> 	6	53	2132	Restricted	
Cornell Cooperative Extension	<i>CUTT 1990-Present</i> 	65	76	239	http://cutt.lib.msu.edu	Archive site launched Dig Deeper Implemented
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America	<i>The Golf Course 1916-August 1921</i> 	0	0	120	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/gcmb/	
	<i>Golf Course Management 1933-Present less 1 month</i> 	12	308	11379	Restricted	
	<i>The National Greenkeeper 1927-October 1933</i> 	0	0	1173	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/ngktc/	
	<i>Proceedings of the GCSAA Conference As published, 1927-1998</i> 	1	7	1713	Restricted	Found and digitized 1931 issue (Thank you, USGA!)
Individual Authors	Turfgrass-Related Theses/Dissertations	50	n/a	168	Links are within corresponding TGIF records	
International Turfgrass Society	<i>International Turfgrass Society Research Journal and Proceedings 1969-Present less 2 years.</i> 	n/a	0	1381	Restricted	Copyright clearance continues to be sought from all authors: for materials within 'moving wall', 949 authors have granted copyright permission ; 813 remaining. Linked digitized PDFs for articles with TGIF records: 847 linked TGIF records; 534 remaining.
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation	<i>Proceedings of the Michigan Turfgrass Conference 1972-2005</i> 	0	0	1661	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/mitgc/	
Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents	<i>On Course/The Bull Sheet 1948-Present</i> 	12	72	2736	Restricted except current and prior year: http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/publiconcourse/	

Cooperators	Title	Issues Linked	TGIF Records Added	Total TGIF Records	URL	Noteworthy
Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District	<i>Noer/Milorganite@ Division MMSD Image Collection</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a	Upcoming	Seeking support See http://tic.msu.edu/noer-mmsd-prospectus.html
Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey	<i>Update 2001–Present</i>	39	167	167	Upcoming	
Sports Turf Association	<i>Sports Turf Manager/ Sports Turf Newsletter 1987–Present less 6 months</i> 	6	34	434	http://archive.lib.msu.edu/tic/stnew/	Archive site launched Dig Deeper Implemented
Sports Turf Managers Association	<i>SportsTurf 1985–Present less 2 months</i> 	27	244	2317	http://sturf.lib.msu.edu	Archive site launched Dig Deeper Implemented
Sports Turf Research Institute	<i>International Turfgrass Bulletin/ Sports Turf Bulletin 1951–Present less 1 year</i> 	4	53	1610	Restricted	What is Dig Deeper? 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.
	<i>Journal of Turfgrass and Sports Surface Science 1929–2007</i> 	0	0	1746	Restricted	
	<i>Turfgrass Seed 1977–2003</i>	n/a	n/a	n/a	Upcoming	
Turfgrass Producers International	<i>TurfNews 1977-Present less 1 year</i> 	6	72	2229	Restricted	
United States Golf Association	<i>USGA Green Section Record 1921–Present</i> 	3	62	2922	http://turf.lib.msu.edu/gsr/	Converted from bimonthly print to weekly electronic
	<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Online (TERO) 2002–Present</i> 	23	24	209	http://usgatero.msu.edu	
	<i>USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Summary 1977, 1983–Present</i> 	2	101	1175	http://tic.msu.edu/usgarsindex.html	Loaded 2009 and 2010
Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association	<i>The Grass Roots 1975-Present less 1 month</i> 	55	34	1608	Restricted	Archive site launched Dig Deeper Implemented

Sneak Peak – Golf Course Design Online

In 2006, authors Geoffrey S. Cornish and Michael J. Hurdzan published their definitive *Golf Course Design: An Annotated Bibliography with Highlights of its History and Resources*. Link to the TGIF record for this unique book at: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flink.pl?recno=109655>.

Fast forward to 2010. TIC is most pleased to report that the authors have most kindly agreed to permit us to incorporate their authoritative observations, evaluations, and rankings into the corresponding TGIF records for the evaluated works (mostly books). This project is just beginning, but a sneak peek at the kind of comments and value-added content that will begin to show within some TGIF records is available at: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkss.pl?srch=CornishHurdzansampletst>. This sample shows how the data appears, to begin with, for 4 specific items—click on the ‘More detail’ link for each to see the details included.

We very much look forward to making this extraordinary content available to TGIF users—and please watch for further, and more formal, announcements in the future. But our thanks to Mr. Cornish and Dr. Hurdzan for helping to raise the caliber and awareness of the richness, and usefulness, of the historic design literature on behalf of all!

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.

Selected Results from the
Turfgrass Information File
 A Unique Resource for Turfgrass Researchers, Practitioners, and Students

powered by




A cooperative project of the
 United States Golf Association and the
 Michigan State University Libraries’
 Turfgrass Information Center



With special thanks to  for their support of TIC

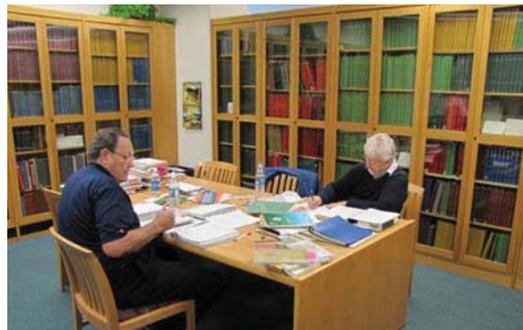
Retrieved 1 Record(s).

Full TGIF Record for: 26014	
Monographic Author(s):	Cornish, Geoffrey S.; Whitten, Ronald E.
Item is a:	Book
Monograph:	<i>The Architects of Golf: A Survey of Golf Course Design From Its Beginnings to the Present, With an Encyclopedic Listing of Golf Course Architects and Their Courses</i> , 1993.
Evaluative Review:	Appears in <i>GreenMaster</i> , 28(4) August/September 1994, p. 38, by Dennis Mellersh.
Annotation from <i>Golf Course Design</i>, by Geoffrey S. Cornish and Michael J. Hurdzan:	"An update of <i>The Golf Course</i> with additional text, new architects, updated course lists and biographies, professionally organized master course list and useful appendices. The best single reference source for the industry, with an accumulation of information not available elsewhere. A cornerstone of the golf course architecture library." p. 59
Cornish & Hurdzan Ratings:	D3; H5; P5
See Also:	Other items relating to: Golf Course Design books (recent) ASA/CSSA/SSSA Citation (Crop Science-Like - may be incomplete): Cornish, Geoffrey S. 1993. <i>The Architects of Golf: A Survey of Golf Course Design From Its Beginnings to</i>

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.



James B and Harriet Beard at work in the Beard Collection within the Turfgrass Information Center.

During 2010, Dr. Beard continued to transfer materials including both monographic and periodical content to MSU, totaling some 1,358 items.

Other individuals have likewise contributed materials this past year to the Beard Collection, including:

- ✦ **Mr. Gene Probasco**, Ohio—Substantial runs of Ohio and national turfgrass periodicals, hundreds of extension and industry booklets and handouts, and many industry separates, particularly relating to LESCO.
- ✦ **Dr. Wachi Agata**, Nishinohon Green Research, Japan—Extraordinary runs of several Japanese turfgrass research reports, from the 1960s to the present. Very, very few of these items were previously held in either the Noer or Beard Collections.
- ✦ **Ms. Pat Weaver-Meyers**, the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Oklahoma—*Molecular Breeding of Forage and Turf* (5th, 2009).

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

As a bit of a sidebar activity to our primary mission of collecting the literature of turfgrass science and management, TIC has continued to aggregate over time a collection of golf course yardage guides and scorecards. These have proven helpful in some cases to resolve questions about the evolution of specific golf course facilities and holes, and may in time be a significant resource relating to golf course design in other ways.

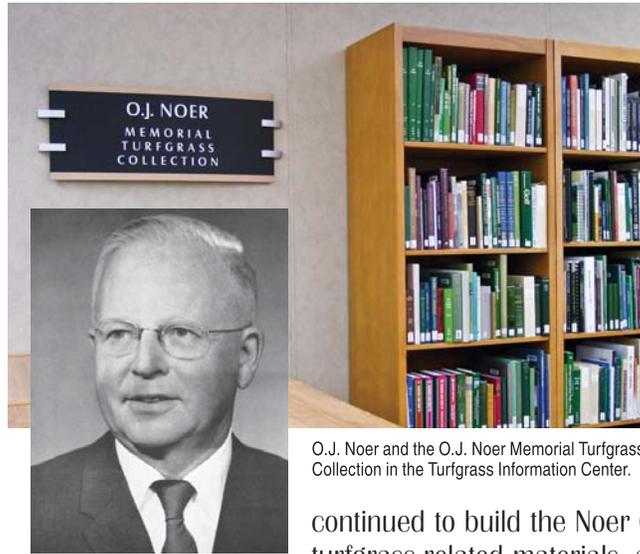
Clearly this is a case where nearly every TGIF user and, for that matter, golfer can help us out. And particularly, if you know of a collector that would like their collection to become a part of something permanent and useful to future scholars—and perhaps get a tax deduction in the process—please have them send those materials to us! Be it one or one hundred, we welcome your help! More information on donating materials to the Turfgrass Information Center can be found at <http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html>.

TIC Collects Yardage Guides and Scorecards



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



O.J. Noer and the O.J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection in the Turfgrass Information Center.

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 2010, 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>

Historical Acquisitions

Several items of historic significance were purchased for the Noer Collection during 2010. See the list as reflected in their TGIF records here: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkss.pl?srch=NOEROLDBUYS10>.

Of particular note here are:

- a. Two additional volumes of *The Practical Greenkeeper*; one the 2nd American Edition [1914] and the other the 4th American Edition (1921). See last year's [Annual Report](#) for a fuller discussion of this convoluted title.
- b. The Carter's item, from 1911 or 1912 and in excellent condition, is a very, very rare item. We had never even seen or known about this before.
- c. The Collin's Seed Service booklet [1927] is a very interesting overview of golf turf maintenance.

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=NOERNEWBUYS10>

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 2010, we have received these donations of particular note:

1. Multi-item donations & transfers:
 - a. **Ms. Ellen Mentzer & Mr. Fred Grau, Jr.**, Maryland & Pennsylvania. A major, multi-year donation of thousands of items belonging to Dr. Fred V. Grau, one of the true pioneers of turf science, was completed in 2010. This is the largest and most significant donation to the Noer Collection in many years. Included are a wide range of materials relating to many sectors of the turfgrass industry; this donation will require significant future handling, processing, and preservation attention. See the press release regarding this donation, at: <http://tic.msu.edu/TICGrauRelease1010.pdf>, which was picked up by a number of industry periodicals and websites. (Read more about this on page 14.)
 - b. **Dr. John (Jack) R. Hall III**, Virginia Tech Professor Emeritus. A major archive of hundreds of files relating to turfgrass research and extension work compiled during the career of Dr. Hall. This will produce a wealth of reprints, extension brochures, conference proceedings, etc. relating to turf work from the 1960s through the turn of the century.
 - c. **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, 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, Mike Kenna of Turf Research and the Zonteks' continuing transfers from Pennsylvania.
 - d. **Mr. Brad Park**, Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey. A complete digital and/or print run of *Update*, the newsletter of SFMANJ, 2001-2010, in preparation for the creation of a digital archive site for this periodical by TIC.
 - e. **Ms. Angie Smith**, Carolinas GCSA. A solid run of *Carolinas Green*, 1999-2009, in hopeful advance of the construction of a digital archive site for this publication.
 - f. **Ms. Margo Campbell Szabo**, GCSAA. Several boxes of local GCSAA affiliate newsletters and magazines.
 - g. **Ms. Pat Weaver-Meyers**, the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation, Oklahoma. Seven needed volumes of the *Proceedings of the Grass Breeders Work Planning Conference*.
 - h. **Mr. Cliff Haka**, MSU Libraries. Continuing partial runs of golf periodicals, and a continuing supply of yardage guides and scorecards.
 - i. **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.

The Turfgrass Information Center is pleased to announce the arrival of a major donation of turfgrass industry materials from the family of the late Dr. Fred V. Grau. Included are a wide range of extension materials, reprints, and other publications, as well as unique content such as correspondence, manuscripts, images, and records dealing with the turfgrass industry beginning in the mid-20th century.

Fred V. Grau (1902-1990) was a research, education, and advocacy pioneer who affected the turfgrass industry from many perspectives. Born on a farm in Bennington, Nebraska, he graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1931. Grau studied for his master's degree at the University of Maryland where he became a research assistant for the Green Section, the branch of the United States Golf Association (USGA) that focuses on golf course care. He earned his Ph.D. at Maryland

in 1935 and went on to Penn State University as the first turfgrass extension specialist working in the United States. Between 1945 and 1953, he served as Director of the USGA Green Section. During and after that time, he actively promoted several new varieties of turfgrasses, including 'Meyer' zoysiagrass, 'Merion' Kentucky bluegrass and 'U-3' bermudagrass.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, Grau advocated for high-quality athletic turfs to reduce sports-related injuries, and worked and consulted for a range of turf businesses. In 1959 he became executive secretary of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council and helped to create a financial base from which to support all types of turfgrass research through grants. Grau may be best known today for his involvement in the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation, an organization created to raise funds for turf research and fellowships. He is notably remembered for his recognition of crownvetch in the 1930s and its subsequent development. He accomplished this in partnership with his wife of

many years, Anne Fagan Grau. Crownvetch is a perennial legume that became widely used along U.S. highways for erosion control, slope stabilization, and beautification programs beginning in the 1950s. He founded and directed Grasslyn, Inc. to produce and distribute 'Penngift' crownvetch.

Dr. Grau remained active in turfgrass industry affairs for the remainder of his life; he died at College Park, Maryland, on December 1, 1990, at the age of 88.

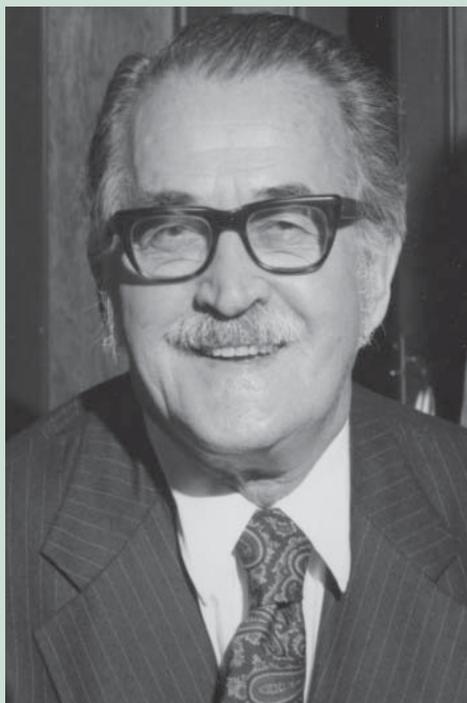
Grau was the recipient of many awards throughout his career, including the Distinguished Service Award from the GCSAA (Golf Course Superintendents Association of America) in 1954, the USGA Green Section Award in 1969, and *SportsTURF* magazine's first Man of the Year Award in 1989. Since 1987, the Crop Science Society of America has annually presented the Fred V. Grau Turfgrass Science Award to an individual in recognition of significant career contributions to turfgrass science.

MSU Director of Libraries Clifford H. Haka notes, "Building on the donations of the O. J. Noer Research Foundation, Dr. James B Beard, and countless others, the acquisition and availability of documentation associated with one of the most distinguished turfgrass researchers, Fred Grau, substantially enriches and broadens the historical component of the turfgrass collections held at the MSU Libraries. We sincerely thank Ellen Mentzer and Fred Grau, Jr., the daughter and son of Dr. Grau, for their assistance in facilitating the transfer of these unique and priceless resources."

For a list of materials by or about Dr. Fred V. Grau as currently indexed within the Turfgrass Information File (TGIF) database, see: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/cgi-bin/flinkbora.pl?name=grau,%20f>

The Grau materials join the O. J. Noer Memorial Turfgrass Collection. Records for items within the Grau materials have already begun to appear within TGIF, and originals are available for consulting use within the Turfgrass Information Center.

Grau Materials Find a Home



2. Other donations:
 - a. **Ms. Kristen Murphy**, National Park Service. *National Mall Turf and Soil Reconstruction Environmental Assessment* (book & CD).
 - b. **Mr. Stuart Bendelow**, South Carolina. Several copies of items relating to Tom Bendelow.
 - c. **Mr. Monroe Miller**, Wisconsin. Sixteen photographs of O. J. Noer, with accompanying letter from Jim Latham.
 - d. **MISTMA**. Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar 2010-2011—Great Lakes Edition.
 - e. **Professor Doug Chamblee**, North Carolina State University. *The Historical Emergence of Turf and Weed Science Programs in North Carolina: The Role of Pasture and Forage Agronomists*.
 - f. **Mr. John Bonjerno**, Michigan. *Trees on Golf Courses*, and several lists of golf course-related theses & dissertations without TGIF records.
 - g. **Ms. Diana Rivera**, MSU. *A Man's Turf: The Perfect Lawn* paperback ed.

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 three main methods of proactive communication with users:

✂ *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)

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.



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.)

TIC Welcomes Back Kayla Burns

Kayla Burns, former student employee and a current graduate student in the University of South Carolina’s Library Science program, returned to TIC fold as a volunteer while on winter break from her studies. Kayla worked in TIC as an undergraduate while dual majoring in English and History. Here she worked as an abstractor, a skill that carried over to her new endeavors. “When I started [library school] I had no idea what the term metadata was, but it turns out I was working with it all along”. Kayla’s gained valuable leadership experience while heading up Abstracting and Electronic Resources as the section leader in charge of student workers. She was able to gain



proficiency working in Microsoft Office as well as working with the unique database that is TGIF. Additionally, Kayla learned valuable real-world knowledge of the day-to-day operations of a major academic library.

Kayla’s interest in libraries lies primarily in the academic sector which began with her experience in TIC as well as in the Conservation department of the Michigan State University Libraries. While graciously volunteering her time, in addition to gaining valuable experience for her career, Kayla helped to maintain quality control of an ongoing project inventorying the [The Scotts’s Archive](#). This project will no doubt prove invaluable to her future classes in archives management.

We at TIC are happy to have had her back and would like to thank her for all her efforts and dedication. We are lucky to have such dedicated employees and we wish Kayla all the best in her very bright future.

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 completion of all the new electronic resource archive sites, the creation of over 15,000 new records in 2010, the development of a new in-house software program to help indexers add keywords to records faster and more effectively, and an abstracting style guide to help ensure consistency in abstracting.

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.

Student employees advance the mission of the Turfgrass Information Center by developing item records, customer service and more.



Full-time Staff & Library Administration

The past year has seen further staff changes in the Turfgrass Information Center. Nora Carr, who had been with TIC since October of 2009, was reassigned to the MSU Libraries Acquisitions team in May. Joining TIC on a half-time basis in July is Aaron Tomak who comes to TIC from the MSU Libraries Circulation department. Aaron will continue Nora's role as point-person for descriptive serials work (both [record creation](#) and [selection](#)) as well as assisting with coordination and oversight of TIC. Thanks to Nora for her work in TIC and welcome to Aaron!



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Facilities

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!



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ✎ Donate needed materials to the Collection, and encourage others to do the same. See <http://tic.msu.edu/needs.html> for further specifics.
- ✎ Support the TIC Endowment Campaign yourself and/or encourage other individuals, organizations, and groups to become involved and do so as well. See <http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html> for more information.
- ✎ 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 <http://tic.msu.edu/subscribe.html> for further details.
- ✎ 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 <http://tic.msu.edu/fulltext.html> for more information.
- ✎ Volunteer time at the Center. Your expertise can help the indexing of print and visual materials.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- ✎ Continue to build the TIC Endowment Fund to help guarantee future financial stability of both TIC and TGIF. See <http://tic.msu.edu/endowment.html> for information on how to help!
- ✎ 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.
- ✎ Continue to push to increase the percentage of full-text material linked directly from within TGIF.
- ✎ Explore avenues to provide greater access to the increased number of archive-like items within TIC's collections.

✎ 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. See <http://tic.msu.edu/pdf/Retrospective-Processing-Prospectus.pdf> for information on how to help!

✎ Expand the details on the holdings of The Scotts’s Archive Collection.

✎ Launch a prototype image collection presentation, based on the Noer/Milorganite® Division MMSD Image Collection. See <http://tic.msu.edu/noer-mmsd-prospectus.html> for information on how to help! Some sample slide images are below!



Location: Sewerage Plant, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Date: March, 1940
Short Description: Subsurface heating conduit warms soil to start early grass growth within the Milwaukee Sewerage Plant facility.
Item: 334



Location: #6 Fairway, Milwaukee Country Club, River Hills, Wisconsin
Date: August, 1939
Short Description: Golf course crew loading Milorganite into the hopper of a Peoria fertilizer distributor.
Item: 196



Location: Tamarisk Palm Springs, California
Date: October, 1959
Short Description: Burning after verticutting on #11 fairway.
Item: 9613



Location: Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Massachusetts
Date: March, 1940
Short Description: Horse-drawn scoop removing snow from a green to start early growth.
Item: 340



Turfgrass Information Center

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.

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



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