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NTEP *Comings and Goings*

Volume 1, Issue 2
June 2010

Dear Kevin,

I am pleased to distribute this second issue of NTEP *Comings and Goings*. Hopefully, NTEP is meeting your needs by providing the type of turfgrass information you desire. If we are not, please contact us - we want to hear from you!!

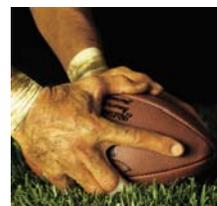
If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

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New Perennial Ryegrass trial plans taking shape

NTEP is finalizing its plans for a new perennial ryegrass trial, to be established at multiple locations in fall 2010. This trial will initiate a new emphasis for NTEP - collecting more specific data on various traits of interest.

Traits such as drought tolerance, salt tolerance, and traffic tolerance, will be evaluated more acutely and completely in *ancillary* trials, at more locations in the past.

Standard trial locations will evaluate turfgrass quality, disease resistance and other traits, as in past NTEP trials. Please watch future issues of *Comings and Goings* for further information on this new, exciting opportunity.

For the turfgrass seed companies, most likely 17-18 lbs. of seed of each entry will be requested. The deadline for entry receipt by NTEP is August 16th. An official invitation along with instructions for entry submission will be mailed this summer.



May 2010 - Four bentgrass entries at Bethpage State Park's green course. These entries are part of NTEP's newest bentgrass trial managed under fairway/tee conditions. This trial has not received any pesticide applications since being planted in May 2009.

NTEP releases first data on 2008 Fairway Bentgrass and Fineleaf Fescue Trials

To follow up on last month's posting of our bentgrass putting green data, NTEP recently posted the first data from its latest fairway and tee managed cultivar trials, planted in fall 2008 or spring 2009. Go here: [2009 data - Bentgrass Fairway/Tee Trial](#) to access the latest data on the NTEP web site.

Included in the data are information on cultivar response to [shade](#), [traffic](#), [low input from Bethpage State Park](#) and [various diseases](#), as well as [turfgrass quality](#), [density](#), [ground cover](#) and other ratings, from multiple university trial locations.

In addition, NTEP has completed and posted its first data from the [2008 National Fineleaf Fescue Test](#). Besides the much requested data on [turf quality](#), [color](#) and [density](#), the report contains interesting information on shade tolerance at [Carbondale, IL](#) and [Brookings, SD](#), as well as [winter injury](#) and [establishment](#) ratings.

NTEP posts survey results online

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After more than three months and almost 250 replies, NTEP has released the results of its online survey. The survey results can be accessed [here](#).

As mentioned in the last issue of *Comings and Goings*, much useful information about our customer's needs and preferences in cultivar selection are evident in the survey results.

The top three turfgrass characteristics noted by survey respondents include (respondents %) 1) highest turfgrass quality (65.8%), 2) best overall disease resistance (46.3%), and 3) traffic tolerance (43%). Also important is staying green during drought (37.8%) and surviving drought (34.1%).

On the question of whether a web-based database to sort and report specific cultivar information would be useful, 55% believe NTEP should develop a database to better organize, sort and report its data. In addition, an overwhelming majority (about 70%) of respondents would either pay for that service or may pay for the service, depending on the quality of the reports delivered.

These results provide NTEP with good information on its customers needs and how to move forward. We look forward to working with our customers in developing better trials, delivering better data, and presenting data in customer-friendly formats!

Thanks for reading again, in this issue about what is happening at NTEP. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at 301-504-5125 or kmorris@ntep.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Morris".

Kevin Morris
Executive Director
National Turfgrass Evaluation Program

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