

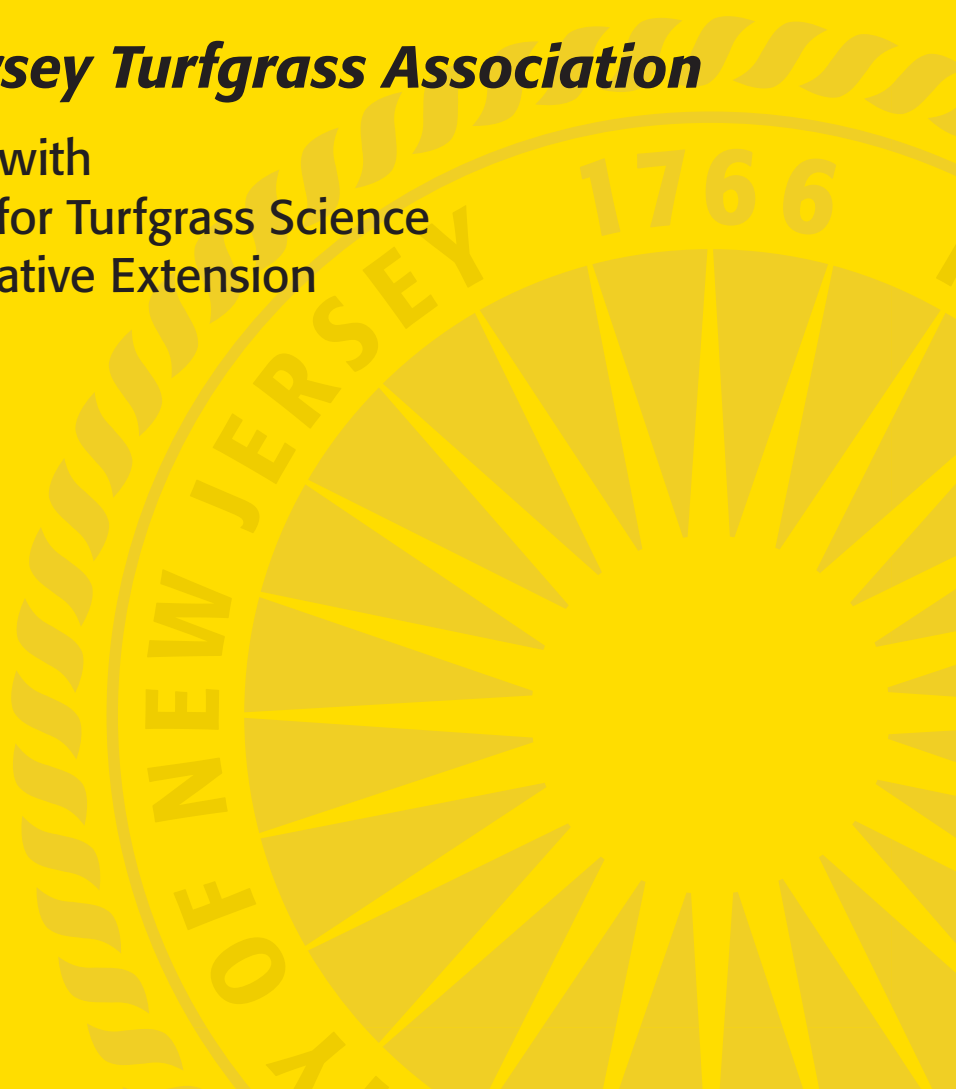
# RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station

## **2006 Turfgrass Proceedings**

***The New Jersey Turfgrass Association***

In Cooperation with  
Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science  
Rutgers Cooperative Extension



# **2006 RUTGERS TURFGRASS PROCEEDINGS**

**of the**

## **New Jersey Turfgrass Expo December 5-7, 2006 Trump Taj Mahal Atlantic City, New Jersey**

The Rutgers Turfgrass Proceedings is published yearly by the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science, Rutgers Cooperative Extension, and the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey in cooperation with the New Jersey Turfgrass Association. The purpose of this document is to provide a forum for the dissemination of information and the exchange of ideas and knowledge. The proceedings provide turfgrass managers, research scientists, extension specialists, and industry personnel with opportunities to communicate with co-workers. Through this forum, these professionals also reach a more general audience, which includes the public.

This publication includes lecture notes of papers presented at the 2006 New Jersey Turfgrass Expo. Publication of these lectures provides a readily avail-

able source of information covering a wide range of topics and includes technical and popular presentations of importance to the turfgrass industry.

This proceedings also includes research papers that contain original research findings and reviews of selected subjects in turfgrass science. These papers are presented primarily to facilitate the timely dissemination of original turfgrass research for use by the turfgrass industry.

Special thanks are given to those who have submitted papers for this proceedings, to the New Jersey Turfgrass Association for financial assistance, and to Barbara Fitzgerald and Marlene Karasik for administrative and secretarial support.

Dr. Ann Brooks Gould, Editor  
Dr. Bruce B. Clarke, Coordinator

# AN OVERVIEW OF THE CERTIFIED SPORTS FIELD MANAGERS PROGRAM

Don Savard<sup>1</sup>

The Certified Sports Field Manager (CSFM) Program is a credentialing program developed and sponsored by the Sports Field Managers Association (STMA). The purpose of the program is to recognize the professionalism, knowledge, and experience of the sports field managers who have qualified and met the program's rigorous standards.

The process begins by contacting the STMA Headquarters and requesting a CSFM Packet. The packet contains all of the information about the program as well as an application. Candidates qualify for the program by first quantifying their education and their experience. The view of the STMA is that a combination of education and experience are necessary to be the best possible athletic field manager. It recognizes that the sports turf industry is very diverse and that experience as a sports field manager must play a major role. It is possible to become certified with only a high school education if you have enough experience in sports field management. You cannot become a CSFM by education alone.

Once it has been determined that you are qualified, you then prepare for the written examination. The exam consists of 300 multiple choice questions in a multiple choice format, and covers four major areas of sports field management:

- Agronomics: both cool and warm season turfgrasses
- Pest Management: IPM, cultural, pesticides
- Administration: budgets, people skills, first aid
- Sports Specific Field Management: maintenance, playability and aesthetics (but no field dimensions!)

I really must warn you; this test is not for amateurs! The CSFM packet contains a 20-page booklet describing all of the knowledge and competencies needed to pass the exam. The packet also suggests a reading list of books and articles that will be helpful in preparing for the test.

My impression of the test was that it was very fair. The questions were about real life problems and situations. By passing this test, it means that you have a broad working knowledge of sports field management that could get you in the door, anywhere in the country.

There is something special about becoming a CSFM. It demonstrates a commitment to excellence, acknowledged accountability, and increased professionalism. CSFM's are committed to field safety and dedicated to cost-effective facility management. It is a valuable learning experience, and can open doors for future opportunities and earnings potential.

Presently, there are 70 people who wear the designation of Certified Sports Field Manager. We invite you to take up the challenge. Do it for yourself. Join our ranks, and help us take our profession to greater heights.

## CSFM Requirements

A total of 40 combined education and experience points are required to take the certification examination (Tables 1 and 2).

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<sup>1</sup>Certified Sports Field Manager, Certified Grounds Manager, Salesianum School, Wilmington, Delaware 19802. Board Member, Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey.

Table 1.

Program	Points
Turf Related Associates Degree .....	8
Non-Turf Associates Degree .....	2
Turf Related Bachelors Degree .....	16
Non-Turf Bachelors Degree .....	8
Turf Related Advanced .....	24

Table 2.

Activity	Points
Sports Turf Crew .....	1
Sports Turf Supervisor .....	3
Sports Turf Manager .....	6
Golf Course Assistant Superintendent .....	1.5
Golf Course Superintendent .....	3

Note: Education points are not cumulative. Experience points are per year for each activity you have served. No more than 50% of total experience points can be earned on a golf course.





*Cooperating Agencies:* Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.