

# THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL RUTGERS TURFGRASS SYMPOSIUM

School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University

March 14, 2024

Institute for Food, Nutrition, and Health Building, Room 101

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM      Registration**
- 9:00 – 9:10 AM      Welcome – Laura Lawson** (*Executive Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources*)
- 9:10 - 10:30 AM      SESSION I: *Turfgrass Pathology*** (Moderator: Ning Zhang)
- 9:10 - 9:30      **Ming Yi Chou** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*)  
Improving the Detection and Quantification of Current Diseases and Discovering Emerging Diseases in Turfgrass in New Jersey
- 9:30 - 9:50      **Glen Groben** (*USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD*) – Cultivar and Late-season Fungicide Effects on *Claviceps jacksonii* Load in Creeping Bentgrass Fairway Turf.
- 9:50 - 10:10      **Pingyuan Zhang** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*) – Cultivar and Late-season Fungicide Effects on Dollar spot in Creeping Bentgrass Fairway Turf.
- 10:10 - 10:30 AM      Discussion and Break**
- 10:30 - 11:50 AM      SESSION II: *Technological Advances*** (Moderator: Stacy Bonos)
- 10:30 – 10:50      **David McCall** (*Turfgrass Science, Virginia Tech*) Reducing Pesticide Use Through Targeted Applications: An Overview of Precision Turfgrass Management
- 10:50 – 11:10      **Juan Gonzales** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*) – Computer Vision for High Throughput Quantitative Genetics in Sweet Corn
- 11:10 – 11:50      **KEYNOTE: John Sorochan** (*Department of Plant Sciences, University of Tennessee Knoxville*) – Research and Testing focusing on Soccer Field Consistency and Uniformity for World Cup 2026
- 11:50 – 1:00 PM      Lunch Break and Poster Session**

- 1:00 – 1:40 PM**      **SESSION III: *Golf and Fine Turf*** (Moderator: James Murphy)
- 1:00 – 1:20      **Mark LaBarge** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*) –  
Bandon Dunes Golf and Agronomy (2023 Seam M. Pattwell Scholarship)
- 1:20 – 1:40      **Cole Thompson** (*United States Golf Association – Greens Section*) A  
Long-Term View of USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research  
Priorities
- 1:40 – 2:00 PM**      **Discussion and Break**
- 2:00 – 3:20 PM**      **SESSION IV: *Abiotic and Biotic Stress*** (Moderator: Albrecht  
Koppenhöfer)
- 2:00 – 2:20      **William Errickson** (*Agriculture and Natural Resources, Rutgers  
University*) Novel Rhizobacteria for Promoting Drought Stress Tolerance  
and Post-Drought Recovery of Creeping Bentgrass
- 2:20 – 2:40      **Tarikul Islam** (*Department of Entomology, Rutgers University*) – Silicon  
Fertilization to Induce Resistance to Annual Bluegrass Weevil
- 2:40 – 3:00      **Christopher Tkach** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*) –  
QTL Map for Anthracnose Disease Severity in an Octoploid Switchgrass  
Mapping Population
- 3:00 – 3:20      **Matthew Elmore** (*Department of Plant Biology, Rutgers University*) –  
Understanding False-Green *Kyllinga* and Strategies for Integrated  
Management
- 3:20 – 3:45 PM**      **Discussion Session and Closing Remarks**
- 3:45 PM**      **Social Hour and Poster Session**