



Short Cutts

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Frank Rossi Named One of Golfweek's "40 Under 40"

Golfweek recently honored 40 young turf professionals who they consider "most likely to shape the game" over the coming years. *CUTT* Editor Frank Rossi was among them. Frank also is an assistant professor of turfgrass science at Cornell and New York State Extension turfgrass specialist.

Frank became enamored with turfgrass at the tender age of 11 while mowing lawns. As he grew, he worked at golf courses while obtaining his education. He obtained his BS in 1984 and an MS in 1987 from the University of Rhode Island. His first association with Cornell was as a doctoral candidate, earning his Ph.D. in 1990. Though never straying far from the golf course—he's been a golf turf manager as well as being part of maintenance crews—Frank joined the ranks of academia, holding professorial appointments at Michigan State and the University of Wisconsin. He returned to Cornell as a faculty member in 1996.

His research focuses on turfgrass ecology and stress physiology. He has numerous scientific papers, research proceedings and popular articles to his credit. With a grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in 1999, he is writing the *Best Management Practices Guidebook* for golf courses in the environmentally and politically sensitive New York City watershed.

Widely sought after as a speaker and consultant due to his knowledge, experience, engaging personality, and infinite energy Frank has advised major industry associations, including serving as visiting scientist for the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee, which evaluated and distributed over \$5 million in funding.

While Frank has been editor, *CUTT* has grown in size and readership and won a Certificate of Excellence from the American Society of Agronomy in 1998. Also in 1998, the Cornell Turfgrass Team, under Frank's leadership, began the Turfgrass Hotline, now known as *Turfgrass ShortCUTT*, a weekly, two page newsletter delivered each Monday during the growing season via email or FAX to get timely information out as quickly and efficiently as possible (see page 15).

NYSTA Grants Cornell \$50K

The Cornell University Turfgrass Team, an interdisciplinary research and education program, received a \$50,000 grant from the New York State Turfgrass Association. NYSTA has been a committed supporter of turfgrass research and education at Cornell University for over 50 years. Each year the \$50K support is matched dollar for dollar by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The NYSTA funds are deposited directly into the New York State Turfgrass Research Foundation, a long term endowment to support turfgrass research in New York State. The College then distributes another \$50K to members of the Turfgrass Team.

This year funds have been distributed more widely among members of the Cornell Turfgrass Team and include Karen Snover and Andrew Landers. Karen will be using the funds to conduct nematode sampling on golf courses to determine population dynamics of plant parasitic nematodes on golf courses. Andrew is continuing the development of a direct injection sprayer to reduce hazards associated with pesticide application.

continued on page 7

CORNELL Turfgrass

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