The new Turfgrass Problems is still a pocket guide, however, the authors tripled the number of problems that were addressed in the 1982 edition. The most significant improvement is the addition of several photographs for each problem from a distance and then close-up (see Figure 3). Also, each problem now has detailed written descriptions and cultural management options.

Entirely new sections have been added that address general problem solving skills such as scouting and monitoring for diseases and insects (see Figure 4). In fact, a unique approach that utilizes pest timelines has been developed as the gateway to problem solving (see Figure 5). For example, when a problem is observed, the first step is to review abiotic (nonliving) problems such as winterkill, thatch, shade, etc. (see Figure 6). Next, review the timelines for when certain problems are observed based on seasonal temperature patterns. The timelines then direct the reader to specific pages that contain “picture clues” and then descriptions of each problem. Once a proper diagnosis is made, then management options are available for solving the problem.
Key words and concepts are highlighted throughout the text and then explained in the extensive glossary at the end of the book. Finally, there is a list of additional resources that problem solvers could find more solutions not adequately addressed in the book, notably chemical controls.

Turfgrass Problems: Picture Clues and Management Options will be an important addition to any turf manager’s library. But more importantly it should be in every manager’s pocket for those times when a good sleuth is needed. Remember the key to an effective IPM program is a timely and an accurate diagnosis. It can all begin with this book!

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