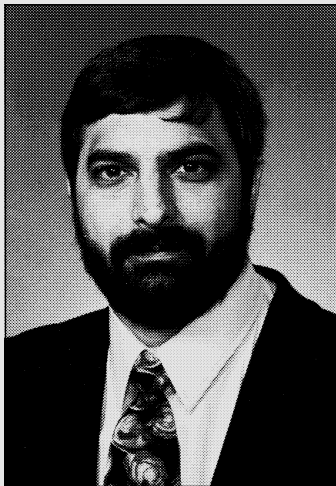


Clippings

For many years, Mike has exemplified the type of individual who gives more than he takes. He plans his program to provide the maximum benefit for the overall good of the industry.



Mike Villani



Villani Receives Outstanding Service Award

Cornell Turfgrass Team member and internationally renowned soil insect ecologist, Mike Villani was awarded the Outstanding Service Award from the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina. Dr. Rick Brandenburg of NC State University presented the Award during the 39th North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show in January. The following is an excerpt from Dr. Brandenburg's presentation that should ring a familiar tone from Mike's acceptance of the NYSTA Distinguished Service Award in 1999.

"There is often a need to collaborate with colleagues at other institutions to provide the necessary support to solve a particular problem. On rare occasion, an individual is fortunate enough to team up with someone who places a high priority on the benefit to the science and not on personal gain. This describes my relationship with Dr. Villani over the last several years.

For many years, Mike has exemplified the type of individual who gives more than he takes. He plans his program to provide the maximum benefit for the overall good of the industry. While Mike was on vacation with his family on the beach at Ocean Isle, he would head out to the golf course to help me study mole crickets. He has been a model of humility for many of us.

A friend since my graduate school days, Mike has always impressed me with his ethical nature of doing business and his commitment to quality. Since he is a NC State graduate, we reap the benefits of his allegiance to his alma mater. His willingness to collaborate has been a tremendous benefit to the industry and allowed us to move our programs forward at a much faster rate.

Sadly, Mike at age 47 was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer in December. As a friend and colleague of Mike's, I personally thank you, the outstanding people of this organization for making the effort to extend our most sincere thanks to Mike for all his contributions."

Editor's Note: In December 2000 we learned that our friend and colleague, Mike Villani, was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. Mike, his wife Connie and their two daughters are facing significant challenges. Mike is still coming into the office a few days a week as he embarks on an aggressive chemotherapy program. He enjoys hearing from friends and colleagues via cards and letters sent to NYSAES-Geneva, Barton Hall, Geneva, NY 14456

Here's the Culprit!

A quick glance at the cover and you'll notice this is the Winter issue of *CUTT*. Obviously, we were delayed in publishing this issue as well as the pending Spring issue. We thought we would let you know how this occurred. Our editor, Frank Rossi, and his wife Barbara welcomed their son, Tucker Angelo Rossi into the world on November 30, 2000. Almost two months before he was due!



Tucker Angelo Rossi

Mom and son came home a week after the delivery, except Barbara continued to have health concerns that had her in and out of the hospital for the next three months. Needless to say our editor was distracted.

We are happy to report that Tucker is approaching a healthy 15 pounds and Mom is well enough to be giving our editor a hard time again.

continued on page 6



Curious?

Read a sample issue on page 14

Take advantage of a special, limited-time subscription offer on page 15

Your Weekly Link to Turfgrass Information!



Clearly the writing is on the wall that fewer pesticides are going to be available and that pest management practices are going to be more closely scrutinized and regulated in the future.


The annual New York State Turfgrass Conference held November 14-16, 2000 in Syracuse, NY was attended by a record number of participants.

The 2001 Cornell Turfgrass Short Course Season helped train our 1500th participant over 14 years.

Legislative Impacts

..... continued from page 5

The Future

Clearly the writing is on the wall that fewer pesticides are going to be available and that pest management practices are going to be more closely scrutinized and regulated in the future. The best defense for practitioners is to reduce your reliance on pesticides, better educate yourself about alternatives, and begin to experiment with new practices. 

Jennifer A. Grant

registry in New York would be as low as in other states, the logistics of notification would be much easier for lawn care providers. The NYS Turf and Landscape Association currently has a voluntary registry, and many in the industry are promoting its use as an efficient and complete alternative to mandatory notification of all neighbors.

For more information, the following websites are recommended:

- DEC Pesticides Management Program:
<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshm/pesticid/pesticid.htm>
- NYS IPM Program: <http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu/>
- NYS Turf and Landscape Association: <http://www.nystla.com/>
- NYSTA: <http://www.nysta.org/>
- NYPIRG: <http://www.nypirg.org/>
- Environmental Advocates: <http://www.envadvocates.org/>
- RISE: <http://www.pestfacts.org/>
- IPM institute website (for school IPM): <http://www.ipminstitute.org/>

Clippings

..... continued from page 2

NYSTA Turf and Grounds Exposition Grows!

The annual New York State Turfgrass Conference held November 14-16, 2000 in Syracuse, NY was attended by a record number of participants. The attendees have come to expect high quality education and were not disappointed. Several sessions that addressed pending legislation regarding pesticide reductions, neighbor notification, and organic turf management were filled to capacity. Stephen Smith, two-time Past President of NYSTA received the Associations highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award, for his many years of service and dedication to the turf industry in New York. Planning is already underway for the 2001 Conference; if you'd like to be a part of the excitement, contact NYSTA at (800) 873-8873 or through their website, www.nysta.org.

Cornell Trains 1500th Short Course Student

The 2001 Cornell Turfgrass Short Course Season helped train our 1500th participant over 14 years. This year the original course was held for one week and an advanced seminar series followed during January in Ithaca. The Advanced Series once again brought speakers from across the country to supplement the expertise of the Cornell Team. Additionally, over 40 professionals attended the 2nd Short Course held in the Hudson Valley in Westchester and Putnam counties. Plans are underway for the 2002 season. If you'd like more information, contact the Director of Turfgrass Education, Joann Gruttadaurio, at (607) 255-1792 or jg17@cornell.edu.