

A Letter to NYSTA Members

Dear NYSTA Members:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the New York State Turfgrass Association, welcome to the second annual NYSTA funded research issue of CUTT. It is your generous support over the years that has made this research possible. In this issue, we are highlighting several studies that are being conducted.

In addition to providing nearly \$50,000 per year in direct support for research through the New York Turfgrass Foundation, NYSTA has been instrumental in securing funds from other sources. The association has given researchers access to more than \$300,000 through programs such as the Environmental Stewardship Fund (ESF) and the New York Farm Viability Institute (NYFVI).

Most recently, we have been working with the Cornell University Department of Horticulture to fill the vacant Weed Science position. This appointment, which will strongly focus on turfgrass and landscape issues, has been made possible through ESF funding. We have also learned that a Turfgrass Pathology position has been approved but the search process has been postponed due to a hiring pause across Cornell University. These two positions will expand the scope of turfgrass education, research and outreach in New York State.

Beyond research, NYSTA provided more than \$50,000 in educational funding for publications such as CUTT, ShortCUTT, the new Sports Field Management manual, and the pesticide management software, TracTurf. Our broad-based commitment to providing the most accessible

education programs in the green industry are also demonstrated through our regional conferences and leadership with the Empire State Green Industry Show (ESGIS).

There is little question we are facing some challenging times with changes in political leadership in New York, patchwork environmental regulations across the state, and a struggling economy. Your Board of Directors is mindful of these challenges and is regularly working to streamline our efforts, while maintaining credibility and visibility with our legislative partners.

We strive every day to add value to your NYSTA membership and look forward to another exciting year of programs with the ESGIS debuting its new January dates, another year of ShortCUTT and, of course, more significant research designed to help you be more environmentally compatible and profitable in the years to come.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



President



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- For More Information regarding the Cornell Turfgrass Short Course contact Maxine Welcome at MW45@cornell.edu or by calling 607-255-5439

