C. Richard Skogley Receives USGA Green Section Award for 1992

DR. C. RICHARD SKOGLEY, a turfgrass breeder and educator, has been named the 1992 recipient of the Green Section Award of the United States Golf Association. Dr. Skogley received the award on February 17, 1992, at the annual banquet of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in New Orleans, Louisiana. The award has been presented annually since 1961 in recognition of distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass. Presenting the award was Raymond B. Anderson, Chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee.

"I am very pleased to receive this award," Skogley said. "I am proud to receive the acknowledgement of my peers for my years of work in turfgrass."

Dr. Skogley has been active in turfgrass management programs at the university level for nearly 40 years. He received a B.S. degree in agronomy from the University of Rhode Island in 1950 and an M.S. degree in 1952. He took a position as research assistant at Rutgers University in 1953 and received his Ph.D. from Rutgers in 1957. From 1957 to 1960, Dr. Skogley served as the Turfgrass Extension Specialist at Rutgers University. In 1960, he accepted a position at the University of Rhode Island to research and teach in the field of turfgrass management.

Through Dr. Skogley's energies and direction of the University of Rhode Island turfgrass program, he has taught hundreds of students through the four-year turfgrass science program and has guided many graduate students through their studies and into prominent positions in the turfgrass industry. In addition, he has directed the University of Rhode Island Turfgrass Research Program, which originated in 1890 and is recognized as the oldest continuous turf program.

As a researcher, Dr. Skogley has produced several important turfgrass cultivars, including Providence creeping bentgrass, Jamestown and Jamestown II chewings fescue, Georgetown Kentucky bluegrass, Kingstown velvet bentgrass, and Exeter colonial bentgrass. He also has been involved in developing cultural maintenance practices that have been widely adopted on golf courses throughout New England.

Dr. Skogley has been the author of numerous articles for scientific, professional, and trade journals and other publications. He has been the featured speaker at turfgrass programs throughout the world. For his dedication to the turfgrass industry, he has received many honors, including the Oregon Seed Trade Association Man of the Year and the Distinguished Service Award of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

A comment from one of the award nominations provides an insight into Dr. Skogley as a man dedicated to his profession: "Dr. Skogley is a gentleman, a scholar, and a soft-spoken, compassionate individual who loves the game of golf and the turf on which it is played. When you invite him to play golf, he always has his soil sample tube in his back pocket — just in case he runs into a problem on the course where he can be of assistance."

For his nearly four decades of tireless work as a teacher, researcher, and extension specialist in turfgrass science and management, and for his successful introduction of several important turfgrass cultivars, Dr. Skogley is highly deserving of the 1992 Green Section Award.