

## 1999 Turf Advisory Service Changes

Following four years of maintaining the same fee structure for our Turf Advisory Service, 1999 will bring a small increase. For those of you budgeting for the next season, our fee structure will be \$1,300 for a half-day visit and \$1,800 for a full day.

As an even better value, plan ahead to take advantage of the prepayment discounts. A \$300 discount is offered for both half-day and full-day visits if the visit is paid before May 15, 1999. As always, visits can be scheduled to occur at any time during the season to meet your needs.

The USGA Green Section is the only agency in the country devoted solely to

golf course turf, its playing conditions, and its management. The cost of a TAS visit is a flat fee that covers agronomic aspects of the visit, the preparation of a detailed written report, as well as *all* of the related expenses, such as transportation, food, and lodging. Whether dealing with diseases, soil problems, or day-to-day management of the golf course, the valuable experience offered to your golf course by our 16 agronomists cannot be matched by any individual or agency anywhere.

Contact your regional Green Section office to obtain more information about the Turf Advisory Service and to schedule your visit for 1999.

## USGA Contributes \$1 Million to Turfgrass Information Center

The USGA has announced that it will contribute \$1 million over the next five years to help establish an endowment to support and expand the Turfgrass Information Center (TIC) located at Michigan State University.

"The USGA's Turfgrass and Environmental Research Committee decided to allocate \$200,000 annually for the next five years from its research budget to support TIC," Joe England, Chairman of the USGA's Green Section Committee, said.

"TIC is simply the world's best library of turfgrass and golf course maintenance information. The USGA's support of this one-of-a-kind collection will help ensure the continued availability of this critical resource for generations to come," England concluded.

TIC contains a computerized database that has abstracts of more than 58,000 entries, including books, newsletters, periodicals, bulletins, and other publications. It is used by university faculty, golf course superintendents, turfgrass students, USGA Green Section staff, and others interested in the proper maintenance and management of golf courses.

"The World Wide Web now makes the delivery of the information within the Turfgrass Information Center immediately accessible throughout the world. This valuable gift from the USGA points to the day when the TIC will be universally available," said

Clifford H. Haka, Director of Libraries, Michigan State University.

Since 1992, TIC has obtained most of its funding from Michigan State University (MSU), with a modest contribution from annual subscriptions from users. The Development Department at MSU will establish a campaign to raise \$5 million for the TIC endowment, which includes the USGA's \$1 million contribution.

If at least \$2 million is raised, then the TIC database will be made available free of charge to all Internet users. Additional funds raised would be utilized to expand full-document availability of information from the database, provide video and photographic files, and expand other services to the turfgrass industry and the game of golf.

The USGA originally provided more than \$700,000 to help establish and expand the TIC database from its inception in 1982 to 1992.

Individuals and organizations wishing to support the endowment can contact Clifford H. Haka at (517) 355-2341 or Michigan State University Library, 100 Library, East Lansing, MI 48824-1048.

Questions about the USGA's contributions to the Turfgrass Information Center may be directed to Jim Snow, National Director of the USGA Green Section, at (908) 234-2300.

## Physical Soil Testing Laboratories\*

The following laboratories are accredited by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA), having demonstrated ongoing competency in testing materials specified in the USGA's Recommendations for Putting Green Construction. The USGA recommends that only A2LA-accredited laboratories be used for testing and analyzing materials for building greens according to our guidelines.

**BROOKSIDE LABORATORIES, INC.**  
308 S. Main Street  
New Knoxville, OH 45871  
Attn: Mark Flock  
(419) 753-2448  
(419) 753-2949 FAX

**EUROPEAN TURFGRASS LABORATORIES LIMITED**  
3 Cunningham Road  
Springkerse Industrial East  
Stirling FK7 7SL Scotland  
Attn: John Souter  
(44) 1786-449195  
(44) 1786-449688 FAX

**N. W. HUMMEL & CO.**  
35 King Street, P.O. Box 606  
Trumansburg, NY 14886  
Attn: Norm Hummel  
(607) 387-5694  
(607) 387-9499 FAX

**THOMAS TURF SERVICES, INC.**  
1501 FM 2818, Suite 302  
College Station, TX 77840-5247  
Attn: Bob Yzaguirre / Jim Thomas  
(409) 764-2050  
(409) 764-2152 FAX

**TIFTON PHYSICAL SOIL TESTING LABORATORY, INC.**  
1412 Murray Avenue  
Tifton, GA 31794  
Attn: Powell Gaines  
(912) 382-7292  
(912) 382-7992 FAX

**TURF DIAGNOSTICS AND DESIGN, INC.**  
310-A North Winchester Street  
Olathe, KS 66062  
Attn: Chuck Dixon  
(913) 780-6725  
(913) 780-6759 FAX

\*Revised January 1998. Please contact the USGA Green Section (908-234-2300) for an updated list of accredited laboratories.