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## TOURNAMENT NEWS

### LPGA Tour Plays on SeaDwarf®

The LPGA Tour played its first tournament on SeaDwarf® in April of this year during the Stanford International Pro-Am at Turnberry Isle Resort & Club in Aventura, Florida. The facility was recently redesigned by Raymond Floyd and all 36-holes (Miller and Soffer courses) at Turnberry were grassed with SeaDwarf® tee-to-green.

"The golf course is in magnificent condition. The greens are so good that they are virtually without grain," said announcer and LPGA Hall of Famer Judy Rankin, during the live broadcast of the event on ESPN-2 during Saturday's round. Discussion among the announcers during the tournament broadcast turned to the difficulty many players have in navigating standard bermudagrass greens. Rankin said the SeaDwarf® Seashore Paspalum grass on the greens would make a difference to the players. "Then you have many wonderful players who are not good at Bermuda greens, who like to be on Bent greens. Everybody should be able to putt these greens," Rankin said.

Superintendent Mark Allison was interviewed on ESPN-2 during the tournament and he talked about the SeaDwarf® at Turnberry Isle.

"We use a brackish water to irrigate, which is a combination of fresh water and salt water mixed together, which is why we chose it. It's a lot more salt tolerant," Allison said. He also noted that very little was done outside of regular maintenance to get the course ready for the tournament besides limiting cart traffic in the rough. (The rough at Turnberry Isle is a different paspalum variety.)

(Continued...)

## Industry Insights

"Seashore paspalum is the biggest miracle in the last 10 or 15 years. You can irrigate it with seawater, and it will do perfectly well in some climates. People are going to figure out how to take this grass and start to grow it farther and farther north, so pretty soon we might have paspalum growing in Maine. We've really just begun with this stuff."

Mike Hurdzan, golf course architect, as quoted in an article titled "How Green is Golf?" in the May 2008 issue of Golf Digest

**"Utilizing Seashore Paspalum turfgrass has been a huge success and truly encompasses our commitment to enhance and protect the environment and preserve the natural heritage of the game of golf."**

Steve Williams, golf course superintendent  
Royal St. Kitts Golf Club, St. Kitts Marriott Resort in Basseterre, St. Kitts, in an article published September 12, 2008 on [anguillalife.com](http://anguillalife.com). Greens are grassed with SeaDwarf®. Also published September 11, 2008, at [golfcourseindustry.com](http://golfcourseindustry.com)



Annika Sorenstam assesses her shot at Turnberry Isle



Paula Creamer putts on SeaDwarf at Turnberry Isle



When asked about playing on SeaDwarf®, which is considered to be an environmentally friendly grass, LPGA Tour Player and Hall of Famer Annika Sorenstam said, "I'm glad it's friendly grass. I hope it's friendly to me."

It was. Sorenstam, who shot 8-under-par for the week, clinched the victory in the first playoff hole against Paula Creamer.



Mark Allison on ESPN-2

## RESEARCH

### Perspectives on Paspalum Conference

Turf industry professionals from three continents gathered in September to share their unique expertise and experience in using Seashore Paspalum. The "Perspectives on Paspalum" event held at Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, on the heels of the successful LPGA tournament held at the same facility, produced new research and insights into using seashore paspalum for golf courses.

**Mark Allison**, the host superintendent of the event, shared with the group how his 36-hole course, grassed with SeaDwarf® tee-to-green, had recently experienced a 45% reduction in irrigation water, as mandated by the South Florida Water Management District. While nearby Bermudagrass courses suffered through the water restrictions, Allison said the reduction in water quantity had a "zero impact" on the turf quality at Turnberry. Allison irrigates his course with a 50/50 mix of fresh water and ocean water, he said.

**Harry Bowers** of Signature Design Services, who oversaw the rebuild and regrassing of Raymond Floyd's design at Turnberry, said SeaDwarf® is "very dense, very upright," and produces a "superior lie as far as the fairways go." Bowers suggested mowing paspalum rough at about 2-inches. "For the average golfer, I'm not so sure you need a deeper rough."

**Dr. Lee Berndt** of Edison College in Fort Myers, Florida, gave a presentation on research he conducted on saltwater irrigation on SeaDwarf®. Berndt said that as salinity increased, the width of the leaf blades got progressively finer, noting that salt can be used on paspalum as a growth regulator.



Mark Allison & Harry Bowers address the group at Perspectives on Paspalum



Mowing SeaDwarf at Turnberry Isle

## Industry Insights

**"The grass we use now is paspalum grass, which doesn't need fresh water so you are not using up high quality fresh water."**

Greg Norman quoted in a July 11, 2008, article in the Daily News Egypt, referring to how, as chairman of the Environmental Institute for Golf's Advisory Council, water conservation is the number one concern on the golf courses he builds.

**"It's a grass that's fairly easily overseeded."**

**"It adapts its morphology to mowing height."**

**"It grows an enormous root system."**

Dr. J. Bryan Unruh of the University of Florida talking about Seashore Paspalum at the Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association Spring Symposium workshop held Thursday, April 17, 2008, Naples, FL

**"The turfgrass root system is one of the best bio-filters you can find."**

**"Seashore Paspalums are the most salt tolerant grasses. We call them halophytes, because they do better under salty conditions."**

Ali Harivandi, Ph.D. of the University of California, at the Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association Spring Symposium workshop held Thursday, April 17, 2008, Naples, FL



## Industry Insights

**Stewart T. Bennett**, paspalum consultant with Saltscape Solutions, said soil and irrigation water tests are crucial to success in managing paspalum in a saline environment. Bennett said while leaching is important to managing salts, he recommended “applying amendments prior to leaching” and to “aerate before applying amendments.”

**Robert W. Higgins, P.E.**, a consultant with Higgins Engineering, said paspalum is a viable turf option for facilities in water management districts looking to use brackish and saline aquifers as a source of irrigation water.

**Steve Watkins**, director of agronomy at SeaDwarf® course Puerto Cancun in Mexico, offered several tips. During grow-in, Watkins said, “this grass loves to be cut low and it really moves fast if you do it that way.” He recommended “crimping rather than verticutting during grow-in.” The mulching blade is “the way to go for the rough if you want to mow SeaDwarf® roughs at 2-inches,” he said, and that “if you’re going low N, you shouldn’t get a lot of thatch.” Watkins also recommended calcium for sodium removal and advised that superintendents managing paspalum be aware of any soil amendments they might use that hold sodium.

**Terry Buchen, CGCS**, of Golf Agronomy International, recommended watering deep & infrequently, every three to six days once paspalum is grown in. Buchen advised applying 2-4 lbs. of potassium per 1,000 sq.ft. per month all year round. “It’s very mobile in the soil,” Buchen said. For disease prevention, he suggested using iron for color at a rate of 6-8 oz. per 1,000 sq.ft. every 1-2 weeks. “Yellow turf,” Buchen said, “has nothing to do with N. It’s a calcium imbalance in the soil.” He recommended using gypsum to stabilize the soil structure.

**Dr. Bruce Martin**, of South Carolina’s Clemson University, said that the list of diseases seen on paspalum is “not that different from what you might see on bermudagrass or even cool season grasses.” Dr. Martin offered some ideas for cultural practices that might be used to avoid Dollar Spot in seashore paspalum. Dr Martin said to “avoid extreme nitrogen deficiency” and to “maintain adequate phosphorus, potassium and calcium levels” as determined by soil tests. He suggested irrigating “during early morning hours to limit periods of high humidity.” If Dollar Spot is found, Dr. Martin suggested turf managers “remove clippings from infected areas” to prevent the disease from spreading.



Dan Keefe, Assistant to the Mayor of City of Plantation, discusses SeaDwarf at Plantation Preserve



Turnberry Isle Resort & Club

**“Seashore Paspalum is making a huge change. It has extreme salt tolerance, so you can irrigate it with seawater. It looks nice and it plays very well, so it’s really catching on in the Southeast, primarily, and the Caribbean Islands and Mexico—anyplace that’s coastal where it doesn’t ever get too cold.”**

James T. Snow, USGA Green Section national director, as quoted in an article titled “How Green is Golf?” in the May 2008 issue of Golf Digest

**“Of all the Zoysia Japonicas, none of them are as dense as Ultimate.”**

**“Aloha® Seashore Paspalum has a faster establishment rate. It is certainly a desirable alternative for recuperation from wear for sports turf use.”**

**“Seashore Paspalum has equal or better wear tolerance than bermudagrass.”**

Dr. Kevin Kenworthy of the University of Florida, at the Florida Turfgrass Association annual conference held Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008, in Palm Beach Gardens, FL



Following the seminar, the group moved to Plantation Preserve, a municipal course in the City of Plantation that is grassed 100% with SeaDwarf®. **Dan Keefe**, Assistant to the Mayor of Plantation, discussed the water savings the course has experienced.

Afterward, attendees toured the facility and were treated to a BBQ steak dinner overlooking the golf course.

The event was sponsored by Environmental Turf in conjunction with Berentsen Jardineria & SeaDwarf® Holdings International, LLC. If you are interested in attending a similar paspalum event in 2009, please email us at [info@environmentalturf.com](mailto:info@environmentalturf.com).



Plantation Preserve

## SHOWCASE

### UltimateFlora® Zoysia Chosen 3rd Year Straight for Showcase Home

For the third year in a row, UltimateFlora® Zoysia grass was selected for the lawn at the showcase home open during the Southeast Builders Conference in Orlando. The environmentally friendly grass requires less water and less fertilizer than many common grass varieties. By using UltimateFlora® Zoysia at the 2008 Southern Showcase Home, the project achieved not only a beautiful, green lawn, but a “green” lawn in terms of its eco-friendly sustainability.

This year’s home, a two-story, 6,000-square-foot home called the “Fleur de Lis”, was built by James M. Krantz Construction, the same company that built the 2007 showcase home.

One of the main goals in building the home was “to be as environmentally friendly, or ‘green’ as possible, utilizing the latest advances in water conservation and solar energy, thereby making it energy efficient as well. This includes low-maintenance landscaping,” according to builder Jim Krantz.

The first grass to be eligible for ‘green home’ points through the Florida Green Building Coalition, UltimateFlora® Zoysia was developed by the University of Florida. The grass has built-in dormancy mechanisms to help it stand up to drought, it tolerates wear and resists the chinch bug insect that is known to destroy lawns graced with St. Augustine.

UltimateFlora® Zoysia is available through Environmental Turf and its network of licensed sod producers.



UltimateFlora® Zoysia lawn at 2008 Southern Showcase Home



2008 Southern Showcase Home

### Where To Buy SeaDwarf®

- California:** Am-Sod, Inc.
- Caribbean:** Lucks Sales Group
- Florida:** Emerald Island Turf
- Georgia:** Pike Creek Turf Inc., Phillip Jennings Turf Farms, Superior Turf
- Hawaii:** Ali’i Turf
- South Carolina:** Modern Turf
- Brazil:** Green Grass
- China:** Sino-Green Turf Co., Ltd.
- Mexico:** Berentsen Jardineria, SA de CV.
- Panama:** Jardines Urbanos, SA
- Turkey:** Cimser Cim Uretim San.

### Where to Buy UltimateFlora® Zoysia in Florida

- Avon Park:** Emerald Island Turf
- Arcadia:** Dynasty Turf
- Charlotte County:** Berry Turf
- Indiantown:** Indian Sun Turf
- Port St. Lucie:** Kennedy Groves
- Sebring:** Gulf Kist Sod
- Dade City:** Little Everglades Ranch
- Vero Beach:** Gulf Kist Sod



## AWARDS

### Environmental Turf Wins 9 National Awards

Environmental Turf won nine national marketing awards at the 19th Annual Turf & Ornamental Communicators Association (TOCA) conference held this past spring in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Environmental Turf won a total of four First-place awards and five Merit awards for the company's marketing, advertising and publicity campaigns. Of those, the company swept three categories winning both the Merit and First place trophies.

One contest judge called Environmental Turf's winning e-Turf Update e-newsletter "elegant & useful." Another judge remarked: "The e-Turf Update, with its signature design and color scheme, reflects an environmentally friendly mission. It offers a lot of news in an efficient format. No other newsletter looks like e-Turf Update."

Environmental Turf's design awards were won in conjunction with premier digital design and marketing firm, Krush Creative Group, of Irvine, California.

TOCA is comprised of editors, writers, publishers, photographers, public relations/advertising practitioners, industry association leaders and others involved in golf course maintenance and other green industry communications.



Stacie Zinn & Rich Redles with TOCA awards



## ABOUT US

### Who We Are, What We Do at Environmental Turf

Environmental Turf is an award-winning firm dedicated to the research, development, marketing and distribution of environmentally friendly warm-season turfgrasses.

#### Research, Development & Education

Environmental Turf funds research at universities and with private researchers all over the world to find and develop environmentally friendly grasses for use on lawns, golf courses and sports fields. Drought tolerance, the ability to be irrigated with non-potable water and low maintenance needs are some of the characteristics we look for in a new

(Continued...)



Research test trays at University of Florida in Belle Glade

## Benefits of Natural Turfgrass

- Releases oxygen and cools the air.
- Controls pollution and reduces soil erosion.
- Purifies and replenishes our water supply.
- Turfgrass traps and removes dust and dirt from the air.
- 2,500 square feet of lawn absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, and releases enough oxygen for a family of four to breathe.
- On a hot summer day, lawns will be 30 degrees cooler than asphalt and 14 degrees cooler than bare soil.
- The front lawns of eight houses have the cooling effect of about 70 tons of air conditioning. That's amazing when the average home has an air conditioner with just a three or four ton capacity.
- The cooling effect of irrigated turf reduces the amount of fuel that must be burned to provide the electricity which powers the air conditioners.
- Watered when the grass plant needs it, turfgrass will very efficiently and effectively use almost every drop.
- Turfgrass acts as a natural filter, reducing pollution by purifying the water passing through its root zone.
- A healthy sodded lawn absorbs rainfall six times more effectively than a wheat field and four times better than a hay field.
- Turfgrass provides a natural, comfortable, and safe setting for fun and games.



turf variety. Currently, Environmental Turf owns and/or has marketing rights to six turfgrass varieties that meet our strict environmentally friendly criteria.

The research doesn't stop in the development stage. Environmental Turf supports continuing research on our existing varieties. We also work to educate the industry and consumers about our grasses. Environmental Turf hosts educational seminars, offers speakers for interested groups and associations, as well as creates educational manuals and materials, such as our book, "Suggestions for the Care of Seashore Paspalum," that make using our grasses easier and more accessible.

### Licensed Producers

Environmental Turf is not a sod farm. Rather, Environmental Turf licenses experienced, high quality sod farms all over the world to grow our proprietary turfgrasses. We support our licensees with agronomic expertise and marketing programs that help them to succeed.

### Marketing

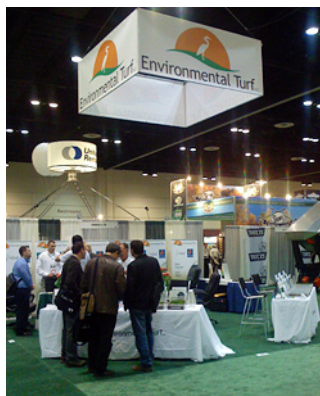
Environmental Turf creates extensive marketing, advertising and publicity campaigns that educate and inform the industry and consumers about our environmentally friendly grasses. We attend numerous conventions and trade shows all over the world in order to meet with friends, colleagues and future customers face-to-face to spread the word about Our Mission.

### Our Mission

We do all of this to make a positive impact on the planet. We bring turfgrasses to the marketplace that will help sustain the environment, reduce the amount of water used for turfgrass irrigation, and curb the amount of chemicals and fertilizers released into the ecosystem while also creating an esthetically pleasing landscape. We're proud of our company, our licensed producers and our wide network of friends who we've helped or who have helped us along the way. We operate as a team, a family. If you'd like to join us as a licensed grower, please contact us via email: [info@environmentalturf.com](mailto:info@environmentalturf.com)



Palettes of UltimateFlora Zoysia on a licensed farm



Environmental Turf exhibit booth at the Golf Industry Show



Aloha tee boxes blend in with nature at Fripp Island, South Carolina

### Did You Know?

**Irrigation systems that use Smart Controllers equipped with soil moisture sensors are not only more efficient than irrigation systems without soil moisture sensors, but they can result in up to a 72% savings in water use!**

According to research presented by Dr. Michael Dukes of the University of Florida, at a public symposium called "Water Resources and the Future of Florida Landscapes" hosted Thursday, October 23, 2008, by the University of Florida/IFAS Osceola County Extension in Kissimmee, FL

### Lawn Grasses from Environmental Turf

#### UltimateFlora<sup>®</sup> Zoysia

- Less Water
- Less Fertilizer
- Chinch Bug Resistant
- Soft Underfoot
- Luxurious Look & Feel

#### Hammock<sup>®</sup> Centipede

- Extremely Low Maintenance
- Less Mowing
- Less Fertilizer
- Less Water

#### DeltaShade<sup>®</sup> St. Augustine

- Shade Tolerant
- Cold Tolerant
- Semi-Dwarf

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