

PRESS RELEASE



Hydroturf International and Toro host Dr. Joseph M. Vargas

Dr. Joseph Vargas, Professor of Botany and Plant Pathology at Michigan State University, will be speaking on the environmental impact of golf courses in the region as well as addressing the need to protect and beautify the environment

Dubai, UAE, 20 April 2010: Dr. Vargas will be making his first appearance in the Middle East thanks to Hydroturf International and Toro, the regional leaders in the golf, turfcare and landscaping industry who are bringing out this notable scientist to assist the UAE's golfing industry.

Dr. Joseph Vargas has been a professor at Michigan State University for over three decades, specializing in Botany and Plant Pathology. Dr. Vargas has published many papers and completed research studies on the topic of improving the quality of turf on golf courses and reducing the impact to the environment.

Golf courses are a big business; their impact is evident in the travel and hospitality industry and the business and the leisure markets. For a country such as the United Arab Emirates where golf courses are of the highest quality and yet fresh water supplies are at a premium and in scarce supply, new findings in the field of turfgrass science are key.

Recently several revolutionary grasses have been developed for golf course use, one of the newest on the market is SeaDwarf; a variety of paspalum grass which is an environmentally friendly turfgrass; immune to salt water, requires 50 per cent less irrigation, 75 per cent less fertilizer and chemicals, has a natural resistance to pests and is tolerant to a wide range of mowing heights.

At a seminar held at Jumeirah Golf Estates today, golf course superintendents and general managers were invited by Hydroturf and TORO to listen to Dr. Vargas present his recent findings in these new varieties of grasses and hear his thoughts on the future of golf courses not just in the region but throughout the world.

Brian Goudie, General Manager, Turfcare Machinery Division, Hydroturf said; "We were delighted to confirm Dr. Vargas as our guest speaker, his research has contributed greatly to the field of turfgrass science, which has had a direct impact on the game of golf.

"Environmental issues are at the forefront of today's minds, such is the amount of water that goes into taking care of a golf course we are thrilled to be taking this step forward and being able to educate the golf course superintendents and general managers about the environmental alternatives available" concluded Goudie.