



The following data was collected in a survey of participants attending the Turfgrass Stakeholder Summit II. Participants were asked to identify the top issues facing Turfgrass. The survey data was grouped into categories of issues that emerged.

#### Labor

- Labor availability
- Labor and future workforce
- Labor (x2)
- Qualified workers (ie graduate students)
- Job losses in private turfgrass industry sector
- Understanding labor challenges and their impact on technology implementation

#### Water/Salinity

- Water management (x2)
- Water Conservation
- Water use
- Drought (x3)
- Drought tolerance
- Managing water demand associated with turfgrass
- Barriers to adoption of advanced water management technology
- Water
- Nutrient impairment (water quality)
- Water access
- Irrigation (water quantity)
- Water availability
- Water (not enough/too much/poor quality) and how to optimize agronomics with water issues
- The Need for Drought Tolerant Grasses
- Overwatering
- Irrigation water availability/quality
- Salinity

- Salty Irrigation
- Salt tolerance

#### Reducing Inputs

- Need for reduced input turf grasses
- Lowering inputs (fertilizer, water)
- Input reduction
- Need for low-input varieties
- Low Maintenance Sustainability
- Lack of regionally adapted cultivars suitable for minimal input turf

#### Funding

- COVID Economic Impacts
- Reduced funding for research at public universities
- Funding to support a talented workforce
- Funding for research (x5)
- Resource constraints
- Funding for high quality research

#### Breeding/Development

- Winter greenness
- Resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses
- Increase winter hardiness
- Turfgrass Adaptation
- Heat tolerance
- Durable persistent native cover
- Lack of distinctness among available commercial cultivars

#### Pesticides/Herbicides

- Anti-pesticide ordinances
- Pesticide resistance
- Breeding for pest (diseases and insects) resistant cultivars
- Sustainable pest management
- Increase pest resistance
- Loss of pest control products
- Weed resistance
- Herbicide Resistance
- The need for effective biocontrol options
- Pesticide & environmental toxicity runoff

#### Public or Consumer Education/Value of Turfgrass and Benefits

- Access to information average person , Many buying 25-30 year old varieties
- Educating consumers about turfgrass management
- Education on value of greenspaces

- Concerted education to educate average turf managers and new workers
- Consumer acceptance
- Public perceptions of turfgrasses as a poor use of resources
- Lack of cohesive messaging
- Public perception on water/irrigation
- Turf tear-out programs
- Greenspace equity and access
- Anti-nutrient ordinances
- Imprecise benefit of research based interventions
- Balance between using turf and using shrubs, etc.
- Removal of natural turfgrass from the landscape and sports fields

#### Adoption of Best Practices/New Technologies

- Limited use or adoption of new technologies in turfgrass industry: drone/sensory technology, turfgrass DNA sequencing technology and big data analytics
- Adoption of new approaches
- Identification and understanding of equipment/technology features that add value for end users
- Encouraging adoption of BMP & IPM protocols
- Lack of adherence to university recommendations
- Shrinking of research-extension-teaching efforts at public universities
- Translating turfgrass management to broad scales

#### BMP/IPM

- BMPs for chemical use reduction related to natural areas
- IPM Benefits of native plantings
- Regulatory costs
- Pollinator Habitat
- Lack of diagnostic services
- BMPs (mowing/fertility/weed control) for new cultivars to reach optimum performance
- Soil health

#### Sustainability/Conservation

- Sustainability (x2)
- Natural resource conservation
- Quantifying ecosystem services benefits
- Environmental challenges

#### Climate Change

- Climate change is affecting ability of grasses to tolerate extremes in temps
- Climate change will affect turfgrass production and management

#### Shade (x2)

### Sod/Seed Production

- Seed production (x2)
- Getting improved cultivars into market from production issues to demand
- Poor margins

### Disease/Pests/Invasive Species

- Disease
- Disease Pressure
- Disease & Nematode Control
- Insect pests
- Goose grass is becoming a huge problem

### Student Recruitment

- Lack of students
- Fewer students aware of/ interested in Turfgrass Science
- Student recruiting

### Miscellaneous

- Useful collaboration among a broad geographic range
- no central information repository
- Matching up utility needs with customer desires for landscapes
- Turfgrass production and management that meets industry, consumer, and environmental needs
- High Traffic Low Maintenance
- Balancing expectations and resource use