



ATRF Update 01/01/2020

Upon completion of another fiscal year, and amidst the COVID pandemic, the Alberta Turfgrass Research Foundation is pleased to report a positive outcome of operations in 2020, and a renewed focus on research goals for 2020/21. Your board of directors represent each sector of the turfgrass industry; sod growers, golf, municipalities, landscape designers and industry. In order to bring perspective and direction to the most urgent and relevant research projects, the board meets quarterly, bringing sector insights to the boardroom which in turn motivates projects for relevant funding. Check our website to share your project ideas! Submit it [HERE](#)

Current projects:

Industry Survey

Few projects presented during the 2019/2020 fiscal year, prompted your ATRF board to instigate the development of an industry survey to uncover new directions for research. Soon to be distributed, the survey hopes to quantify research directives addressing today's pressures within our turfgrass sectors. The survey will be distributed early in spring 2020 to all members.

Fall Fertility

The Fall Fertility project funded by The Canadian Turfgrass Research Foundation (CTRF) is now in its final stages. Its objective, is to measure ideal N/K fall application ratios to maximize fall hardiness. The complete Interim research update can be found here: [LINK](#), with conclusions soon to be published into ATRF's annual report this November.

Financial Outlook:

The Alberta Turfgrass Research Foundation contributes 100% of its profits towards turfgrass research. At the end of our 4th quarter of the 2019/2020 funding period, retained earnings of \$21K were higher than expected. This is due to the boards decision to accrue its annual contribution, carrying over the investment until more appropriate projects present themselves in 2021. Optimistic the industry survey will assist in generating project ideas, and PTRC is gearing up with additional proposal options for the coming months. All in all, this translates to a well positioned ATRF research contribution for 2021.

Upcoming Events

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, a decision among our ATRF board and partners at Sportsturf Canada and Western Canada Turfgrass Association, has regrettably cancelled the August Fall Field Research day at Olds College. With all college facilities in lockdown, and the research station operating under essential services only, this period of uncertainty represents too great a risk to proceed with its investment at this time. We are, however, gearing to offer this event in the summer of 2022.

Should anyone have any questions, please check the website for your sector representative, or reach out to Jason, jpick@oldscollege.ca, or 403-556-8243

