



## FUNDING TURF ADVANCEMENTS #13: Silent Auctions are a Sweet Fundraising Success!



Bidding on a handmade necklace at the New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation's (NJTF) silent auction is romantically sweet. Offering a price for the chance to take a cooking class with the chef of Fiddler's Elbow Country Club is appetizingly sweet. The John Deere Electric Gator ride-on toy is a heartwarmingly sweet prize.

At first glance, a case of Lexicon Fungicide seems far from appealing, but that one item alone raised over one thousand dollars during the NJTF's silent auction at this year's Golf Classic event! Now that is a sweet fundraising success.

The New Jersey Turfgrass Foundation is proud to support the Rutgers Center for Turfgrass Science by providing funding for research endeavors, student scholarships, staff salaries, needed equipment, building/farm repairs, and much more. One way the non-profit organization raises money is through these silent auctions.

Together the two 2019 silent auctions, held at the annual Golf Classic and Research Field Days, collected over \$29,500!

"We've been doing that well for about three years now," said Jeff Weld, of Bayer Crop Science, who serves along with Matt Lindner as a co-chairman of the NJTF's silent auction committee. "We've vastly increased the number of items being auctioned."



In addition to jewelry and culinary classes, the NJTF auctioned off over 100 items including: a wine tasting and vineyard tour, sports memorabilia, tickets to a New York Yankees game, grandstand seats at Monmouth Racetrack, and foursomes at TPC Jasna Polana, Galloway National Golf Course, Stone Harbor Golf Club, Atlantic City Golf Club, Neshanic Valley, and other local courses. They also auctioned off turf products, such as fungicides, monitors, trimmers, insecticides, sprinklers, seeds, and much more.

Individuals, companies, and golf courses from throughout the state and the country donated these items. "It is amazing how generous the turfgrass community can be,"

said Weld. “The entire industry really comes together strongly to support these auctions and Rutgers.”

All of the proceeds from the NJTF silent auctions go directly to the Scarlet Knight’s bottom line. Although the auction is silent, the profits speak volumes about how much the greens industry values the turfgrass research conducted by Rutgers.



**FUNDING TURF ADVANCEMENTS is Brought to You By:  
YOU & ALL Members of the NJTA**

The New Jersey Turfgrass Association (NJTA) exists solely to promote the turfgrass industry in the Garden State through education, professionalism, and leadership. Thanks to the support of members like you, the NJTA is able to subsidize some of the research needs of the Rutgers University Center for Turfgrass Science.

If you would like to support these efforts further, you are welcome to [Donate to the NJTA Foundation](#) anytime!



**NJ Green Expo**

December 10-12, 2019

2019 Green Expo: Engage, Experience, Excel  
The Borgata Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ

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