



MLSN newsletter #29

A modern method for soil test interpretation

Hello,

The big story in this newsletter is the long-awaited update to PACE Turf. The website is completely rebuilt, the weather alerts and weekly updates are completely rebuilt, and we are adding new features to the service on a regular basis.

I just checked, and at the time I write this, a [search for "MLSN"](#) returns 171 items, including 15 images. There's so much information on the site that we made sure the update had an amazing search function. You can even misspell some words and get results. A [search for "MSLN"](#) returns 172 items! You can find a lot more than MLSN, obviously, and it's now easier for you to find the answers you need, and easier for us to share them.

[Maggie Reiter](#) has joined PACE Turf as the CTO, and she rebuilt the platform for our relaunch.

I know many of you reading this are already [PACE Turf members](#). For those of you who aren't members yet, I encourage you to join. With a membership, you get full access to all the PACE Turf tools that help you to solve turfgrass problems and make sure you are doing the right work at the right time.

Two new soil nutrient posts

I wrote about [soil volume and P](#). When grass has no root system, the plant is gathering nutrients from an effective soil volume of nothing. That, along with the relative immobility of P in soil, explains why establishing turf will often respond to P fertilizer.

I also shared [an article about biological products](#) and soil fertility by Brian Arnall. He has tested products for years, and he concludes that:

The impact of adding these products on crop yields is very consistently inconsistent. I've had many show a significant positive response, once. I have struggled to ever get repeated successes.



MLSN, turf stress, and roots

I worked at the Women's PGA Championship at Hazeltine National GC in June and at the KBC Augusta Tournament at Keya GC in August. Both of these courses have been using MLSN for multiple seasons. When the turf is maintained for a tournament, the growth is restricted, and by definition the grass is under stress. I happened to see roots out the bottom of the cup cutter at both events, and I posted about that on the [@micahwoodsturf](#) Instagram.

Talking about MLSN

I made some presentations and had conversations about MLSN while I was in Australia in July and August. See the [Country Conference](#) page for my publicly available slides. I explained MLSN in the simplest way I know.

We want to make sure the grass has enough of each element. We don't want to apply too much, and we definitely don't want to run out of any element.

MLSN is a method that works to ensure the grass is supplied with enough of each element while avoiding unnecessary applications.

I explained the beer analogy, again, as a way to easily grasp the concept of MLSN.

I also have a couple recent podcast episodes dealing with soil tests and turfgrass nutrition.

1. [Stressed turf and nutrient supply](#)
2. [When the soil report is not really about extractable vs. available nutrients](#)

Upcoming events

Check out the [conference speaking schedule](#) page for a list of upcoming events.

Thanks for reading.

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