Phoenix, Arizona — Seed Research of Oregon representatives met with officials and researchers from the Karsten Laboratory Turfgrass Research Facility at the University of Arizona during the STMA conference and trade show in Phoenix, Arizona recently to deliver royalty checks in the amount of $29,855.25 for their turfgrass research program. This directed research award goes directly to fund numerous ongoing turfgrass studies at the university that benefit the entire professional turf industry. This marks the 17th consecutive payment of the University of Arizona by Seed Research of Oregon, which has sold over two million pounds of the creeping bentgrasses and delivered royalties totalling $225,524.33 to the university. The royalty check represented almost 285,000 pounds of SR 1020 and Brighton Creeping Bentgrass seed sold worldwide by Seed Research of Oregon. Both of these are high quality Certified Creeping Bentgrass varieties, used on many new and existing golf courses around the world. “We are proud to be supporters of the University Of Arizona College Of Agriculture's important turfgrass research projects,” said Bill Dunn, General Manager of Seed Research of Oregon. “SR 1020 continues to be extremely popular in many areas and will continue to generate future royalties, to fuel additional turfgrass research at the University of Arizona,” commented Leah Brilman, Director of Research & Technical Services for SRO.

“These research projects include studies on growing turf with effluent water, an increasing concern of desert superintendents worldwide.”

SR1020 Creeping Bentgrass was released to Seed Research of Oregon in 1986 by retired turfgrass breeder Dr. Bob Kneebone, who developed the variety from materials collected while at the University of Arizona. The bentgrass clones collected by Dr. Kneebone were selected for heat and drought tolerance and were further screened for salt tolerance, superior putting green quality and seed yield as an improved variety. This highly heat and stress tolerant creeping bentgrass variety has proven itself on top golf courses throughout the world, where these characteristics are required by golf architects and managers. Brighton Creeping Bentgrass is a more recently released variety, developed by Dr. Brilman, using some parent material from SR 1020. Brighton has excellent heat and stress tolerance, along with improved disease tolerance, superior putting characteristics and excellent winter color. It is rapidly becoming a favourite with professional turf managers and architects throughout the warmer regions of the world where a stress tolerant, superior bentgrass variety is critical. Seed Research of Oregon is one of the leading bentgrass breeding, production and distribution companies worldwide, with many different varieties available to match specific climate, soil and management conditions. For more information, please call 1-800-253-5766 or visit our website at www.sroseed.com
(Left to Right) Jeff Gilbert, Leah Brilman and Dr Kopec. Jeff Gilbert and Dr. Kopec represent the University of Arizona Turf Program.