Partnerships
NMSU’s Turfgrass Extension and Research program has developed partnerships with the University of Padua in Italy, with stakeholders in the state, and with various national associations and agencies.

- Industry Partners:
  - National Turfgrass Evaluation Program
  - United States Golf Association
  - The Toro Co.
  - Barenbrug Corp., Helena Chemical, Seeds West Inc.
- Rio Grande Basin Initiative
- Southwest Turfgrass Association, Rio Grande Golf Course Superintendents Association

Multidisciplinary research/extension projects with scientist from:
- University of California, Riverside
- University of Arkansas
- University of Padova, Italy

The NMSU Extension Turfgrass Program in collaboration with the University of Padova in Italy is training students in turfgrass research as well as providing an overseas experience for students from Italy.

From left to right: Marco Schiavon (Ph.D. student NMSU, internship at NMSU in 2008), Stefano Macolino (Asst. professor, University of Padova), Bernd Leinauer, Riccardo Franchin (internship at NMSU in 2009), Prof. Umberto Zilliotto (Department Head, University of Padova), Matteo Serena (Ph.D. student NMSU; internship at NMSU in 2007, 2008), Filippo Rimi (Ph.D. student, Padova), Elena Sevostianova (Ph.D. student, NMSU).

Photo was taken after NMSU’s turf group gave guest lectures at University of Padova in April 2010.
Program

NMSU’s Turfgrass Research and Extension program offers educational seminars and conducts applied research programs to inform, educate, and assist the citizens and the turfgrass industry in New Mexico in learning about and applying strategies for the sustainable management of turfgrass areas, particularly in conserving potable water for irrigating turf and lawns.

Current Programs

**Educational presentations:**
- Annual Southwest Turfgrass Conference
- Master Gardener Training
- Ornamental and Turfgrass Workshops
- Regional, national, and international presentations

**Applied Research:**
- National variety trials to investigate turfgrasses’ climatic adaptation and salinity tolerance
- Minimum irrigation requirement of turf areas in the Southwest
- Investigate the feasibility of subsurface irrigation systems for turfgrass water conservation
- Non-potable saline irrigation effects on soil and turfgrass quality
- Fertilization programs, soil surfactants, and plant growth regulators to minimize water use of turf

Accomplishments and Impacts

- Three graduate students awarded first prize for presentations at National Agronomy Meetings
- Approximately 1.5 million dollars for turfgrass research and extension programs
- 18 national and international invited presentations on turfgrass water conservation
- Clientele are assisted in developing cost effective and sustainable turf management programs.
- 96% of the attendees at educational programs indicate training enriched their understanding of turf selection and maintenance to a great extent.
- 93% of the attendees believed the training provided worthwhile information.

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