

# SYMBIO SEMINAR

## SOIL BIOLOGY AND GREENKEEPING SEMINARS

Diseases, fungal dry patch, fairy rings, the speed of thatch reduction, nematode attacks, percolation rates and even the grasses you grow are all determined by the biology in your rootzone. This seminar will help you understand how to improve your rootzone biology to solve the most pressing turf management problems.

- **WHEN:** 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014
- **WHERE:** Wycombe Wanderers Football Club/Wasps RFC Adam Park, Hillbottom Rd, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP12 4HJ
- **COST:** Attendance (including lunch) is **FREE**
- **CONTACT:** Polly Gearing 01428 685762 [polly@symbio.co.uk](mailto:polly@symbio.co.uk) to book your place

*The day starts at 9.30 with teas / coffees on arrival and is designed to help Head and Deputy Greenkeepers, Groundsmen, Club Secretaries and Managers understand **how playing conditions can be improved and savings can be made** and by working with soil biology instead of fighting against it.*

9.30 - 9.45	Coffee and registration
9.45 - 11.15	<b>Dr Su Hodgson</b> - An Introduction to soil biology for sports turf and how it works and effects which grasses you grow, diseases you get, fertilisers you need, root depth and drainage qualities of the rootzone
11.15 - 11.45	<b>Organic matter - most of it is good!!</b> Organic matter includes roots, organic fertilisers, soil microbes, partially degraded humic compounds all of which benefit the grass. How to use organic matter, even thatch, to improve drainage, grow perennial grasses, fight disease and reduce nutrient inputs.
11.45 - 12.15	<b>Is hollow coring and heavy top dressing necessary?</b> How soil biology improves friability, drainage and air space, reduce your maintenance bill, reduce physical disruption, reduce poa invasion and keep your customers smiling.
12.15 - 13.00	Lunch
13.00 - 13.30	<b>Dr Su Hodgson</b> - An Introduction to Microscopy - A quick introduction to viewing the microbes essential for healthy plants and soil.
13.30 - 14.00	<b>Early starts and late finish</b> - how to extend the growing season and beat your neighbours to a great playing surface every spring.
14.00 - 14.30	<b>Disease -Train your grass to fight back</b> - learn about phytoalexins, competitive exclusion, natural toxin production, predation, dynamic barriers - get nature's armoury on your side to reduce disease and fungicide costs.
14.30 - 15.00	Questions and close

**4 CPD POINTS WILL BE AWARDED**

### YOUR HOSTS

**Dr Su Hodgson** who completed her degree and PhD under the guidance of Prof. Alan Gange at Royal Holloway, University of London. Dr Su's research field was in fungal endophytes in plants but she brings a wealth of experience in all the microbial components of the soil food web for grass and plant root zones.

**Phil Garrod BSc (hons)** Phil is one of three R&A scholars on the team and completed his final dissertation for his turf science degree while working for Symbio. Phil supports customers from North London to Norfolk.



Symbio, Unit 8, Coopers Place, Combe Lane, Wormley Surrey, GU8 5SZ  
Tel: 44 (0) 01428 685762 Fax: 44 (0) 1428 685702  
[www.symbio.co.uk](http://www.symbio.co.uk) [fineturf@symbio.co.uk](mailto:fineturf@symbio.co.uk)

