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**From:** K-State turf information [K-STATE\_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU] on behalf of Megan Kennelly [kennelly@K-STATE.EDU]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 25, 2009 6:33 PM  
**To:** K-STATE\_TURF@LISTSERV.KSU.EDU  
**Subject:** [K-STATE\_TURF] fall lawn renovations, and black walnut decline  
**Attachments:** black-walnut.JPG; lawn\_renovation.JPG

Hello,

Two jpg's are attached with some pics of lawn renovations as well as info on a new disease of walnuts in Colorado. I was in Denver yesterday with colleagues from Kansas and elsewhere to learn about a new disease that could threaten black walnuts here.

Complete this joke and win a prize:

"What happens when 3 plant pathologists, 3 foresters, and an entomologist drive 900 miles together across the high plains in a Suburban in 2.5 days?"

## Fall lawn renovations:

Many of you are underway with fall lawn renovations for cool-season grasses. There is some detailed information about fall renovations here (former post by Rodney St. John):

[http://www.ksuturf.com/LISTServArchive/2008\\_09\\_10\\_Overseeding\\_and\\_Fall\\_Questions.pdf](http://www.ksuturf.com/LISTServArchive/2008_09_10_Overseeding_and_Fall_Questions.pdf)

as well as *within* several publications at:

<http://www.ksuturf.com/Homeowners.html>

### ***Guess who is the "celebrity guest lawn renovator."***

Last Sunday, our celebrity mystery guest used a power rake, then overseeded and fertilized, and irrigated. Guess who, and maybe you'll get a prize! (*no, Mr. or Ms. Mystery, you don't get a prize if you vote for yourself!*)



Power raking provided better seed-to-soil contact



Debris from power raking



Fertilizer



Irrigation

### **More info on tree and shrub diseases from last week:**

I had a couple of follow-up emails last time for more info on some of the leaf spots from last week. We have summaries of several of them (ash leaf spot, rose black spot, etc) here:

<http://www.hfrr.ksu.edu/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=586>

## New disease on black walnut in Colorado

Dutch elm disease, chestnut blight, emerald ash borer, Asian longhorn beetle, sudden oak death... You might have heard of some of these tree diseases and insect pests. There are always new problems arising to threaten our tree resources.

There is a new insect-fungus complex killing lots of black walnut trees in Colorado. Plant pathologist Ned Tisserat (formerly at K-State, now at Colorado State) and entomologist Whitney Cranshaw (Colorado State) have been working on this disease, and yesterday representatives from other states in the region were in Denver to see the disease first-hand, learn about the biology and current research, and practice diagnosing it in the field.

There was a contingent of 7 from Kansas (yours truly and one more from KSU, three from the KS Forest Service, and two from the Kansas Department of Agriculture) who attended. The Colorado team showed us black walnuts in various stages of decline, then at two sites we had the opportunity to cut into several felled trees to look for the tiny beetles (adults and larvae were present), the canker symptoms, and the fungus. There's nothing better than field experience to really learn about a new disease or insect.

Black walnut is not native in Colorado. It is only in landscape plantings. Here in Kansas we have both landscape and native black walnut, and we also have an important walnut timber industry. Regional plans are evolving to try to prevent spread of the disease, and to deal with the disease if it does appear in new states.

For more information about this disease, you can visit this website:

[http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/0812\\_alert.pdf](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/0812_alert.pdf)



Beetle holes in branch (top), and tiny beetles in a tube.



Dark fungal cankers under the bark



Turf always involves bending and stooping. Trees involve gazing up.