

## **RENOVATION OF NOTRE DAME STADIUM**

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The renovation of Notre Dame Football Field consists of three phases. They are:

1. Planning and Design
2. Material Selection
3. Construction

The planning and design phase consisted of writing specifications based upon budget, agronomic research, and research of recent field renovations at the professional and inter-collegiate levels. This phase also included choosing a turf consultant and construction company based upon competitive bids.

The material selection phase included decision making on seed/sod selection, sod farm, peat source, and sand and gravel sources. Also included were numerous soil and material testing and analysis. Once final sand and peat sources were chosen and correct mixtures were determined, the blending process began. A total of 4,000 tons of rootzone mix was blended. Prior to blending, 1,000 tons piles of sand were separated and tested for particle size. Then each pile was blended with the proper amount of peat and tested again for blending accuracy.

The construction phase began in June of 1996 with the replacement of our asphalt warning track and tie-ins of new irrigation mains, drainage lines, and convenience sleeves. We played the 1996 football season on the old field and began the remainder of the construction on November 25th, 1996. First, we removed 18" - 24" of soil from the field and demolished the old irrigation and drainage systems. We then installed new irrigation and drainage and put down a 4" gravel blanket and 10" of rootzone mix. Final grading and sod installation will occur as soon as weather permits in the spring of 1997.