

New and Traditional Aeration Methods

Tim Vanini, Dr. John N. Rogers, III, and Dr. James R. Crum
 Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the difference in two cultivation methods on a putting green surface. Even though core cultivation will disrupt the putting surface, the benefits of this practice has obviously been well documented, both in terms of soil physical properties and turf quality. However, the Gradin cultivation machine is a fairly new product with little to no documented research. Briefly, it operates similar to a verticutting machine, but is able to penetrate down into the soil profile as deep as 1.5". The Gradin has the potential to improve soil and turf characteristics with the added benefit of not having to remove soil cores from the green surface. Many parameters will be evaluated but two primary ones will include organic matter content and infiltration rates.

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A		E		C
B		C		A
C		B		E
D		D		B
E		A		D

- A – Control
- B – Aerify 1X
- C – Aerify 2X
- D – Gradin 1X
- E – Gradin 2X