

USGA Observations

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Innovative Management Practices

I have noticed that many courses with old layered greens are double aerifying in the spring using a combination of standard hollow core and deep tine machines. This has worked exceptionally well to remove thatch, relieve compaction, and create deep channels in the soil profile without impacting the time necessary for recovery. The more holes you can get in those layered greens the better your chances with deep root development and leaching salts during the summer. Another surprising program observed was double deep tine aeration. This was done by first aerifying with the Floyd McKay deep drill followed by debris removing and heavy sand topdressing. Then a solid tine Vertidrain was used to make additional

deep channels and help work the sand into the holes. The results were very positive, and full recovery was evident within 14-21 days. I have to admit, I thought this was overkill at first, but the results speak for themselves.

Well, that's it in a nutshell. If you

haven't experienced any of these problems, consider yourself lucky. Best wishes for a successful and trouble free summer season - heaven knows we've already had our share of problems early in the year.



Naumann's Norcal News

Joel Ahern is the new superintendent at San Jose Country Club in San Jose. Joel was the assistant prior to his promotion. He is replacing Skip McCaslin.

John Jorgensen is the new superintendent at Ruby Hill Golf Course in Pleasanton. John was at Brighton Crest Golf Course in Fresno before moving to the Bay Area.

The previous superintendent, Todd Norton is returning to Scottsdale, Arizona to build a new course and then stay on as superintendent.

Curtis Black, superintendent at Sunnyvale Muni has, after a few years, moved out of his temporary mobile facilities into a new state-of-the-art corporation yard recently completed at the Sunnyvale Muni Golf Course.

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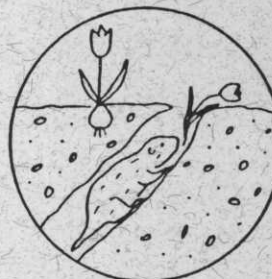


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