



What about solutions?

To the Editor,
I have some concerns about the Colorado Moss Symposium article by Kevin Ross (GCN April 2002). Specifically, I don't think it truly reflects the pertinent information that came out at the seminar — especially in terms of completed research.

The article also mentions Dawn for moss control as providing the most consistent results. This does not mention that Dawn is only a temporary fix and that moss nearly always comes back after Dawn applications. Dawn also discolors turf. Superintendents from eight states conducted a study that indicated these conclusions.

As far as research, Frank Rossi at Cornell has completed a study on the effectiveness of TerraCyte on bentgrass greens and Mark Mahady of Mahady and Associates in Carmel Valley, Calif., studied TerraCyte on Poa. Both studies came to the conclusion that TerraCyte in conjunction with cultural practices and following a program from BioSafe Systems does kill moss. These results were discussed at the seminar.

This article seems to only state the fact that moss is a problem and why courses get moss. It doesn't really offer any solutions.

Sincerely,
Neil Goldberg, marketing director
BioSafe Systems
Glastonberry, Conn.

SISIS lays claim to award

To the Editor,
I read Kevin Ross' report on new products from the GCSAA Show (GCN, March 2002) with great interest and enjoyment.

However, I would like to register our claim to one of Ross' awards, "Imitation is the best form of flattery," that he gave to the Graden de-thatcher/verticutter. That product is a worthy recipient of many accolades I am sure, but not this one.

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Sincerely,
Ian Camp, general manager
SISIS Inc.
Sandy Springs, S.C.

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Mower technology

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operator on course all day. According to Larry Jones, product manager for fairway and rotary mowers for Textron Golf Turf and Specialty Products, the electric market is unexploited and the company plans to add more on the electric end. He declined to specify what models are being considered for electric conversion.

AUTONOMOUS MOWERS

John Deere is also considering adapting its autonomous technology from its agricultural division to the golf and turf division.

"Autonomous mowing is interesting with the labor issues and rising costs for golf courses," Breningmeyer said. "We are investing in it and see the need, but we have to decide if it is feasible. We are using it in the agricultural business right now, but golf courses have more obstacles like trees and golfers."

Wright said Toro is evaluating autonomous mowers and hybrid and alternative fuel options, but that any new products are at least five to 10 years off.

"It will take time for the price of technology to come down," he said. "It is not like computers where more technology is cheaper. In our business, more technology means higher costs, and I am not sure superintendents are willing to pay for it yet."

— Andrew Overbeck

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