

SMART BATTERY CHARGERS

Mary E. Yarick, professor and program coordinator for turf equipment management at Florida Gateway College in Lake City, Fla., has an idea for charging the 12-volt batteries on turf equipment that does not get used often and/or during the off-season when equipment is not being used and remains in a discharged state resulting in sulfated plates and eventual failure. A Schumacher SE-1-12S battery charger is available through R & R Products and costs about \$30. It is designed for equipment in storage with a 1.5-amp trickle charge and automatic operation and comes with a mounting plate (which slides underneath the battery), hardware and short 115-volt



power cord. Another option is to install a CTEK Multi US 3300 battery charger that ranges in price from \$50 to \$250. The unit puts the batteries through an eight-step reconditioning process that revives dead or borderline batteries by maintaining

them through cleaning, testing, discharge and recharge and fast and slow charging. CTEK also has connector options to allow the charger to be used on more than one machine. The mounting of either charger takes less than an hour.

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