Tools for Fall Clean-up and Cultivation

S uperintendents face many challenges going into the Fall season. The first major challenge is debris clean-up from falling leaves, pine cones, pine needles, etc. Cool season grasses need to be aerified, verticut, etc. And some Superintendents use this time of the year to mow native areas before going into the winter months. Wiedenmann manufactures several pieces of equipment to aid in these processes.

For aerification, Wiedenmann manufactures several models of Terra Spike deep tine aerifiers. These deep tine aerifiers will obtain the depths needed to break through any black layer, thereby reducing compaction that increases water, air, and nutrient exchange to the roots. As a result, root depth will increase causing healthier leaf production and improved resistance during stress conditions. The full range of Terra Spikes by Wiedenmann accomplishes these goals while offering the user the correct size, depth, and speed of machine to meet their specific needs. A variety of tine options, both solid and coring, are available as well as multi-tine blocks for tighter hole spacing. Wiedenmann has worked for decades to develop the technology to offer the fastest deep tine machines on the market. The Terra Spikes are very durable and user friendly, offering a variety of features such as the Quickset adjustment of the entry angle and of the depth, the VibraStop and PowerPack antivibration and absorption systems, the Quickfit tine mounting and extraction system, the ATC (Advanced Tine Control) system offered on the GXi HD, Turf Retainers, Safety Guards, Rear Rollers, Tight Hole Spacing, Ballast Weights, Windrows, etc.

For debris clean-up, Wiedenmann offers several tools, including the **Mega Twister** blower which swivels 270° on the ground while producing 14,000 cfms of airflow while creating very little noise. Another tool for debris clean-up is the new **Super 120 M** turf sweeper which is a selfcontained sweeper that efficiently collects leaves, debris, aeration cores, etc. Due to its compact size, it can be maneuvered on and around greens and tees as well around other tight areas. It is also ideal for cart paths and hard surfaces. The Super 120 M has a 48" working width and a 2.1 cubic vard capacity. It is powered by a Honda GX 240 gasoline engine and can be pulled by most vehicles. Once collected, the debris is easily removed with a manual discharge lever. The bigger brothers to the Super 120M are the Super 500 and Super 600. The Super 500 can be equipped with a brush head, like the Super 120M, or with the multi-purpose sweeper/flail/ verticutting head that is also used on the Super 600. Not only do the Super 500 and Super 600 do a superb job with wet and dry debris cleanup, they also perform some mulching of material while sweeping and collecting. The airflow is so great that the multi-purpose sweeper head does not come in contact with the surface. Once collected, debris can then be deposited into a dump truck or other container by using the high dump feature allowing dumping up to 83" off the ground.

For mowing native areas, the **Super 500** and **Super 600** with flail blades are the ultimate tools for mowing native areas and collecting the clippings in one pass. The flotation axles and robust design of the Super 500 and Super 600 allow for operation in difficult areas. Debris can be dumped in a container or dump truck by using the high lift feature of the Super 500 and the Super 600.

For removing excess thatch by verticutting, the tools of choice are the **Super 500** and the **Super 600**. The Super 500 and Super 600 will verticut and collect the thatch in one pass, which allows for verticutting without making a mess. Verticutting becomes a one-man, one tractor operation. Most golf courses are required to close while using a typical verticutter due to excessive mess and the necessity of using many resources for clean-up. With the Super 500 and Super 600, one can verticut during play with optional spacing of $\frac{3}{4}^n$, 1 $\frac{1}{2}^n$, or 2 $\frac{1}{4}^n$. In addition, both the Super 500 and Super 600 have a high dump hopper that will lift up to 83" high.

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