

## Pest Control

Sports turf, because of the stressful conditions under which it is grown, and the weakening effect of these conditions, requires frequent use of pesticides. Proper timing of treatments and use of most effective pesticides for local conditions is important.

The necessity for monitoring weed development and scheduling pre and postemergence applications of herbicides is a fact of life. Seldom are sports turfgrasses sufficiently vigorous to crowd out weeds without the help of herbicides. The same chemical formulations that work well on local lawns will also be effective on sports turf.

## Grooming

Sports turf requires mechanical mowing and grooming, not only to produce as healthy a turf as possible, but also to provide aesthetic appeal for spectators. Mowing height and frequency are determined by the type of grass and the use of the turf on the field. Cool season grasses are generally cut at from 1 1/2 to 2 inches. Warm season grasses are closer cut—3/4 to 1 inch. Grass should be cut frequently and clippings may be removed or left on the field, depending on how well the field is groomed.

In addition to mowing, fields may be combed, raked, dragged or thinned in order to maintain the degree of vigour and growth compatible with development of highest quality ground cover.

## Summary

The lawn care professional has an excellent opportunity to be of service in the management of sports turf. This opportunity is perhaps better in some parts of the country than in others. An appreciation for the value of fine turf and its use in the enhancement of playground and sports field safety is important.

As an entry into this area of specialized turf management, get to know the condition of the grounds you are interested in. Learn who the decision makers are and what it will take to initiate a successful program. In doing this, use technical information available to you from a wide variety of sources. For a start, you may wish to obtain copies of the following materials:

*Athletic Fields — Specification Outline, Construction and Maintenance*; 30 pages; \$1.50., Cooperative Extension Service, The Pennsylvania State University University Park, PA 16802

*Athletic Field Construction and Maintenance [AG-BU 3105]* 16 pages; \$1.00., Cooperative Extension Service, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108

*Construction and Maintenance of Natural Grass Athletic Fields*; [PNW 0240]; 27 pages; \$1.50., Cooperative Extension Service, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331

by **Eliot C. Roberts**  
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Pleasant Hill, Tennessee  
and Executive Committee Member  
National Sports Turf Council

## We Get Letters...

Dear Mike:

Would you please indicate the names of some magazines that might be useful to our members and how they may be obtained.

Jim Galbraith  
University of Western Ontario

Dear Jim:

The following is a list of publications that usually have articles on Sports Turf. Most are free of charge. Thanks for the suggestions.

The Editor.

Southern Turf Management  
345W Hancock Avenue  
Athens, Georgia 30601  
U.S.A.

Pro Turf Magazine  
14111 Scottslawn Road  
Marysville, Ohio 43041  
U.S.A.

Grounds Maintenance  
P.O. Box 12901  
Overland Park, Kansas 66212  
U.S.A.

Park Maintenance  
P.O. Box 1936  
Appleton, Wisconsin 54913  
U.S.A.

Landscape Management  
7500 Old Oak Boulevard  
Cleveland, Ohio 44130  
U.S.A.

Golf & Sportsturf  
P.O. Box 156  
Encino, California 91426  
U.S.A.

The Lawn Institute  
P.O. Box 108  
Pleasant Hill, Tn. 38578  
U.S.A.

Lawn & Landscape Magazine  
4012 Bridge Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
U.S.A.

Lesco News  
20005 Lake Road  
Rocky River, Ohio 44116  
U.S.A.

Turf & Recreation Magazine  
103-1520 Rand Avenue  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
V6P 3G2

"Green's Maintenance Book"—\$13.00  
Lawn Bowls Canada Boulingrin  
708-1600 James Naismith Drive  
Gloucester, Ontario  
K1B 5N4