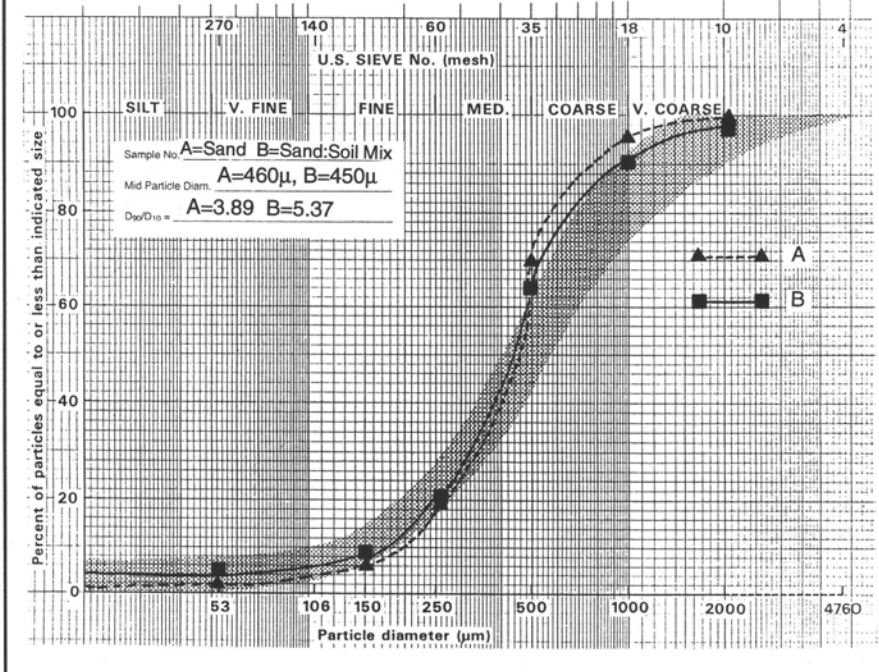


**Figure 3.** The particle size distribution of the sand and sand:soil mix used in the root zone.



the texture of the farm's soil to avoid having a sharp change in particle size between the soil associated with the sod and the root zone mix. To this end soil from several sod farms was analyzed for particle size. Fortunately sod was being produced in the immediate vicinity of the property from which the soil for the root zone mix was obtained.

The sod was laid using the wide roll system to reduce the number of seams and to reduce the labour required for installing a large area of sod in a short period of time. Sodding began on July 08 when the first

section of the track had been fine graded. The final rolls were laid only three weeks before the first race. At race time, any differences due to seams or in general appearance were not visible.

The success of this operation was due to the cooperation of the design architect, the general contractor and his sub trades, and the turf specialists working in conjunction with the OJC maintenance staff. As a result few racing days were lost and a superb facility awaits the running of the International Breeders Cup for the first time in Canada in 1996.

### WELCOME EVERETT NIEUWKOOP STA DIRECTOR

The Sports Turf Association is pleased to announce that Mr. Everett Nieuwkoop has joined the Board of Directors. Everett has been a long time member and supporter of the STA.

Everett has long established roots (no pun intended) in agriculture and horticulture from being born and raised on a farm in the Kingston area, and working for local greenhouse operators. He attended Niagara College, graduating from the Horticulture Technician program with some distinction as he received 2 Horticulture Awards.

He possesses a wealth of knowledge about the horticulture industry from his employment in interior landscaping, operating a garden centre, consultant, and a

sales rep for the Golf and Sports Turf Industry. While at Ontario Seed Company in Waterloo Everett established an annual turf field which included trial plots of many varieties of grass.

Currently, Everett is employed with McCracken Golf Supplies Inc. in Brampton and is very positive about the future of the turf and sports industry. He is married to a very special and supportive wife Joyce, and they have a wonderful daughter named Sasha. In his spare time Everett enjoys gardening, camping and coaching hockey.

Already Everett has started assisting us with planning the upcoming Field Day this July in Hamilton, and hopefully will take an active role in membership recruitment due to his contacts and respect within the turf industry.

Welcome aboard Everett. We look forward to your assistance as a Director of the Association.

### Michael Bladon STA Director 1987 - 1994

At the recent General Meeting of the Sports Turf Association on Jan. 5, 1995, Michael Bladon stepped down as a Director, completing eight years of distinguished and meritorious service to the STA. This dedication to the Association and commitment to improving athletic fields is truly outstanding and deserves special recognition. On that occasion the President, Chris Mark, presented Mike with a framed Letter of Appreciation.

Mike was a founding member of the Association and has seen the STA grow from its infancy in 1987 to present where it is recognized as a leading organization in the turf industry. While we are most appreciative and respectful of what others have done for the Association in its development, I believe there is no doubt that Mike has put forth the greatest personnel commitment towards our Association. Mike has been at the forefront in striving to achieve the mandate, goals and objectives of the Association.

He has held a string of offices with the Association which includes President, Past-President, Newsletter Editor, and Director. In addition, Mike has participated on numerous Committees which included several Field Day Committees and the Toward 2000 Committee. Major accomplishments of the Association such as the *Athletic Field Manager's Guide* and the series of Turfgrass Videotapes have benefited from Mike's contribution. In many respects, there are very few accomplishments of the Association which Mike has not assisted on in one form or another.

We hope that Mike's retirement from the Board does not signify the end of his involvement with the Association and that he will always be available to assist on special projects that would benefit from his expertise and knowledge of sports turf.

Our sincerest thanks for the many years of effort and commitment to the Sports Turf Association and by improving athletic fields through promoting **better, safer, sports turf**, Mike's motto for our Association.

We wish Mike only the best in all future endeavours.

