



The Schmeiser tiller and bedder used at Compact sod farms to cultivate and firm the land area prior to seeding.

soil that was in the way of a subdivision for the City of Cambridge. They used 300 triaxle trucks for two months to haul 5,000 metres of soil onto a 70 acre area and spread it one foot deep. He wanted to mix the clay soil with an existing sandy loam. Quite a project!

Sponsor and Exhibitor Demonstrations

After touring several farms to see various aspects of the sod operation, we listened to and viewed demonstrations by George Bannerman, Vanden Bussche Irrigation, Turf Care Products Canada, Dol Turf Restoration Ltd., and G.C. Duke Equipment. George Bannerman demonstrated a new piece of equipment called a Uni-drill, a slicer-aerator which looks very promising. Andrew Gaydon and his staff had an excellent working irrigation demonstration so delegates could see a complete system. He showed what can be expected from different nozzle sizes and the ease in which they can be interchanged depending on your requirements and water pressure. He also explained pop-ups and how they retract so they are safe on sports fields. He had a pressure gauge on the system and a small controller. It was an excellent hands-on display.

Ed Robertson of Turf Care gave us a run down on three different sized Toro mowing units, as well as introduced himself as one of their newer staff members. Gord Dol had a sample on the back of his truck of his newly acquired "Sportgrass"

(article in June 1999 STM). He has about 60,000 yards of it in stock and mentioned it is excellent for soccer goal mouths and bare centre field areas. Maintenance is the same as for most sports fields. Paul Turner demonstrated a weedkiller unit which uses boiling water. It is manufactured in New Zealand. He sprayed and indicated that the area would be dead in 24 hours. Finally he showed the two latest mowers on the market from Jacobsen with many safety attributes and helpful diagnostic features to aid the mechanic. The day ended with transportation back to the Guelph Turfgrass Institute.

Field Day Evaluation

Overall impression from all evaluations was positive. Topics participants would like to see addressed at future field days include: naturalization, problems and concerns of sports field maintenance at the municipal level, and more information on various seed plants. A number of participants suggested a tour of the University of Guelph campus including gardens, sports fields, and the arboretum. ♦



Mark your calendar now for OTS 2000, January 4-6 at the Regal Constellation Hotel, Toronto. Early bird registration details are on the following page.

Thank-You!

Sponsors

- Bannerman
- Dol Turf Restoration Ltd.
- G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd.
- Mar-Co Clay Products Inc.
- Nu-Gro Corporation
- Plant Products Co. Ltd.
- The Scotts Company
- Turf Care Products Canada
- Vanden Bussche Irrigation & Equipment Ltd.

Exhibitors

- Bannerman
- Dol Turf Restoration Ltd.
- G.C. Duke Equipment Ltd.
- Mar-Co Clay Products Inc.
- Plant Products Co. Ltd.
- Rittenhouse Sprayers
- Turf Care Products Canada
- United Horticultural Supply
- Vanden Bussche Irrigation & Equipment Ltd.

Speaker Sponsorship

Ken Mrock, head groundskeeper for the Chicago Bears, was presented by PROFILE Products, LLC, Manufacturers of Turface, and PROFILE Soil Amendments & Plant Products Co. Ltd., Distributors.

The Sports Turf Association extends a sincere thank-you to all sponsors and exhibitors who assist in our mission of providing better, safer sports turf.