

STA 16th Annual Field Day – Program at a Glance – September 17th

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AT SCARBOROUGH CAMPUS... LOOK FOR A BROCHURE WITH FULL DETAILS TO ARRIVE IN YOUR MAILBOX SHORTLY!

8:00 – 9:00 am Registration and Opening Remarks

9:00 – 10:00 am *Hosting Soccer Championships*, Larry Noon
Turf Manager, Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta

10:15 – 11:00 am *Partnering with Municipalities*, Dave Motley, Past President, Oakville Soccer Club

11:00 – 11:45 am *Central Irrigation Control: The Future is Now!*, Gary Supp, Turf Care Products Canada

11:45 – 1:15 pm Lunch and Meet with Outdoor Exhibitors

1:15 – 3:00 pm *Sports Turf Maintenance Practices*, Dr. Jack Eggens
Professor Emeritus, Univ. of Guelph

Sessions and Speakers

Hosting Soccer Championships

Larry Noon will discuss the preparations required to host an international soccer tournament. He will touch on the planning stages, pre-event, actual event and post event days. Noon has been with the City of Edmonton for the last 25 years in various positions.

Partnering with Municipalities

Can sports organizations and municipalities be partners? David Motley will overview the creation and maintenance of the relationship including exploring areas of mutual concern; developing a mutual understanding of each others needs; involvement in facility planning; and developing a model that works to each partners' mutual benefit. Motley has 40 years legal and development indus-

try experience and 20 years of involvement in community sports.

Central Irrigation Control

Do you want to know with certainty how much water you used for irrigation on your parks last night without having to leave your office? How much you used last week? Last year? See what your future looks like. Live demonstration also included. Gary Supp has been actively involved in the irrigation industry since 1971 and is presently Irrigation Sales Manager and Certified Irrigation Designer (CID) with Turf Care Products Canada.

Sports Turf Maintenance Practices

Join Jack out on the field for a hands-on review of sports turf maintenance practices. Eggens is co-founder of the popular Turf Managers Short Course.

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Cover Story Continued... The Necessity of Sprayer Calibration

DO IT RIGHT AND DO IT OFTEN! BY HELMUT SPIESER, OMAF, RIDGETOWN

... affect flowrate to a whole boom section. A plumbing fitting that is slightly smaller in internal diameter can cause up to a 20% reduction in flow for a whole wing section. Visually you cannot see this difference in nozzle output. When you calibrate your sprayer check each and every nozzle on your boom.

Many operators are adding rate controllers to any new sprayers purchased. Rate controllers don't calibrate your sprayer. Rate controllers, as their name implies, make adjustments to the sprayer to deliver a pre-selected application rate. This is a great technology that maintains the desired sprayer output as travel speed fluctuates.

Rate controllers deliver constant application rates with a high degree of accuracy. If, however, a hose were to plug or collapse, the rate controller would increase pressure to compensate for this restriction and deliver the intended application rate. The rate controller will make adjustments regardless of problems with the nozzles or the plumbing. So, even if your sprayer has a rate controller, you still need to calibrate it properly.

When to Calibrate

- at least once a year for each set of nozzles that you use

- every time water volumes are changed
- every time nozzles are replaced

Things to Do Before You Calibrate

- ensure that the sprayer has been cleaned thoroughly both inside and outside
- remove and clean all nozzles with a nozzle tip brush
- remove and clean all nozzle screens with a nozzle tip brush
- remove and clean all screens and strainers in the plumbing system
- gather all the equipment needed for the calibration technique that you plan to use
- enlist the aid of a friend or helper – with two people, one person can operate the stop watch while the other collects the liquid from the nozzles

Once you have checked all the nozzles, look at your nozzle output values that you recorded. Any nozzle outputs that differ significantly from other nozzles should be cleaned and rechecked. If the output from these nozzles did not change, move the nozzle to a different part of the boom. Recheck the nozzle output again. If the output problem went with the nozzle, it's

time to replace it. If the output problem stayed with the original nozzle location on the boom, you may have a plumbing problem at that nozzle location. As a general rule, any nozzle that varies more than 5% of the average nozzle output should



be replaced. While you are doing the calibration on your sprayer take note of the nozzle spray patterns. Each nozzle should have a uniform spray pattern without heavy streaks or skips. Nozzles with distorted spray patterns should be replaced.

Keep Notes

- of all calibration parameters
- nozzle make and size
- spray operating pressure
- gear and throttle settings
- application rate
- turf conditions and date ♦

Editor's Note: Try it! Visit the OMAF web site to utilize the *Sprayer Calibration Calculator* at www.gov.on.ca/OMAFRA/english/crops/sprayer/ep75.htm

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More News Clippings

SOCCER STADIUM IN THE WORKS FOR TORONTO • HEALTHY LAWN TIPS • NFL PLAYERS PREFER NATURAL GRASS

The Canadian Soccer Association, bankrolled by a grant of some \$625,000 from FIFA, has started work on plans for a 30,000-seat natural grass soccer stadium in central Toronto. The FIFA grant money will be used for "design, investigation, economic, business modelling, architectural plans and so on," Kevan Pipe, chief operating officer of the Canadian Soccer Association, said from Ottawa.

"Will it get a shovel put in the ground? No, of course not. You're talking a multi, multimillion-dollar facility. But what it will do is provide all the legwork, rationale and analyses we are going to be putting together... to eventually see the construction of this facility."

There are still plenty of hurdles. The CSA still needs to arrange funding from

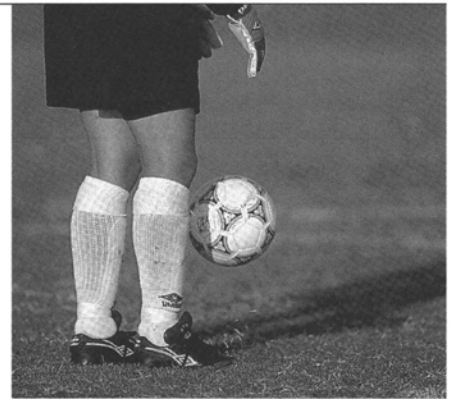
three levels of government, plus the private sector and other organizations interested in using the facility. Still the grant is a step forward in the process.

"I'm delighted to hear it," Canadian men's coach Holger Osieck said. "It definitely gives us a good prospectus for the future, that's for sure."

Osieck has long campaigned for a new stadium in Canada's largest city. "If we don't have it here, where else should we have it?" he asked.

The lack of a suitable facility outside of Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium has long frustrated Canadian soccer officials. Toronto has been virtually shut out of international soccer since Varsity Stadium went under the wrecker's ball.

The CSA, in announcing its intention to go after the 2007 Women's World Cup,



said a new soccer stadium was part of the bid.

The grant was issued under the world governing body of soccer's Goal Program, which benefits soccer associations around the world. It marks Canada's first participation in the program.

— *Canadian Press, The Record, Nov. 7/02*

→ page 14



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Healthy Lawn Tips Distributed

Pesticides are regulated carefully in Canada by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) through a program of pre-market scientific assessment of new pesticides and re-evaluation of registered pesticides. Only products which have value and pose no unacceptable risks to health and the environment are registered by PMRA.

In recent years however, pesticide use in urban areas has become an issue for the public. Many citizens have expressed an interest in reducing their use of pest control products. PMRA, in partnership with provincial and territorial governments, is helping to address these concerns through the *Healthy Lawns Strategy for Urban Pesticide Risk Reduction*.

The strategy will help homeowners to reduce reliance on pesticide use for lawn care. The strategy emphasizes Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches such as pest prevention, application of pesticides when necessary and use of reduced risk products where possible.

In support of this initiative, PMRA is distributing copies of its *Healthy Lawn Tips* folder to members of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The folders will provide homeowners with the basis for making informed choices about managing their lawns and gardens. The folder is also available on the Healthy Lawns web site at www.healthylawns.net.

NFL Players Continue to Prefer Real Grass

WASHINGTON, D.C. Nearly 89% of NFL players greatly prefer grass fields over artificial surfaces. That's the result of the fifth NFL Player's Association



(NFLPA) field survey conducted during the 2002 NFL season. More than 1,300 players, greater than three-quarters of active NFL players, responded.

"This survey clearly demonstrates the increasingly strong preference of NFL players for top-quality natural grass playing surfaces," said Gene Upshaw, NFLPA executive director. "However, with five grass fields ranked among the League's ten worst, this year's survey demonstrates that a grass surface alone is no guarantee of excellence."

More than 95% of players also believe artificial surfaces are more likely to contribute to injury (up from 91% when NFLPA conducted this survey in 2000).♦

— Released January 30, 2003, taken from www.landscapemanagement.net

Add www.landscapemanagement.net to your internet bookmarks. It is a good resource for the landscape & turf industries.

2002 TEN "BEST" FIELDS FOR PLAYERS

1. Tampa Bay Buccaneers, *Raymond James Stadium*
2. Arizona Cardinals, *Sun Devil Stadium*
3. Seattle Seahawks, *Seahawk Stadium*
4. Carolina Panthers, *Ericsson Stadium*
5. Jacksonville Jaguars, *Alltel Stadium*
6. Tennessee Titans, *Coliseum*
7. Houston Texans, *Reliant Stadium*
8. Denver Broncos, *Invesco Field at Mile High*
9. Washington Redskins, *Fedex Field*
10. Baltimore Ravens, *Ravens Stadium*

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New Web Feature...

"Corn Gluten Meal in Ontario"

Log-on to our new site at www.sportsturfassociation.com to check out the latest feature article by Dr. Ken Carey of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. Articles are updated quarterly and archived for your convenience.



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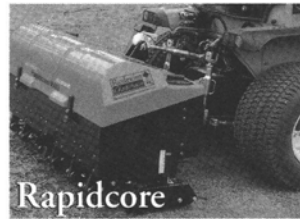
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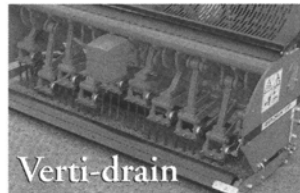
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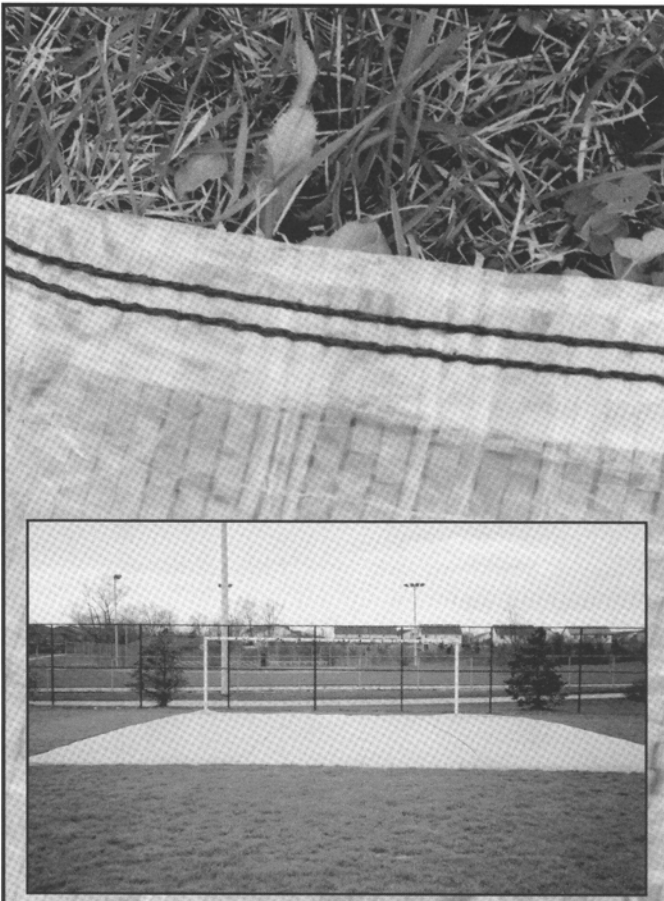
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In brief point form, this article will explore the development of the City of Brampton's pesticide policy.

Why Develop a Pesticide Policy?

- It is a consistent informational tool for your council, staff and the public.
- It is a road map for present and future activities
- Pesticide use is a very sensitive issue that requires you to take a position.
- To defend your position on pesticide use.

Pre-Policy Issues

- Current pesticide use practices.
- Determine what your pesticide use practices will be in 5 to 10 years. Include issues such as new products, environmental and health issues and public acceptance. Work back to create milestones.
- How much information have you provided to your council in the past and what is their understanding of the issues.
- Most important – what does the public want as mirrored by your elected officials.

Development of the Policy Document Requirements

- Corporate template
- Benchmarking with your peers. Don't reinvent the wheel.
- Public and professional satisfaction. Develop thresholds you can live with.
- The use of public surveys and polls
- Public meetings vs. city council
- Building the communication plan

Dealing With People Who Oppose the Use of Pesticides

There are two types – individual residents and activists. Never disregard a member of your public because they appear to be an activist. *They* are the customer.

- Have concerned citizens and advocacy groups opposing pesticide use already approached your department or your council?

- Determine their objective through initial contact via phone, e-mail or the media. Is it 1) a complete ban, including agriculture (not likely); 2) cosmetic only; 3) synthetic only; or 4) antagonism?

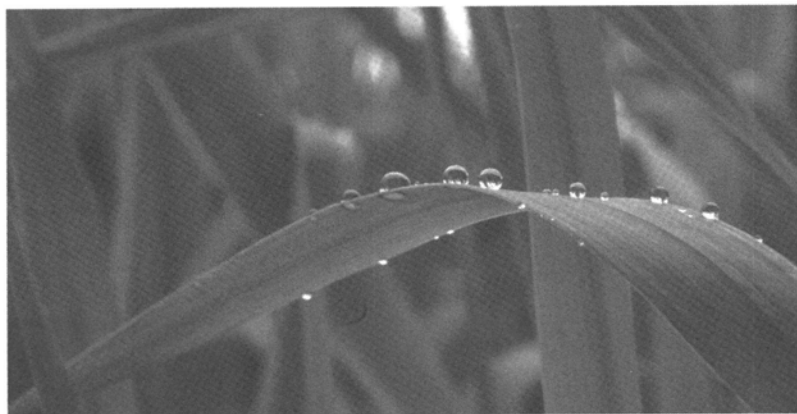
- Plan your response and the use of the "cool off period."

- Schedule your council presentation to coincide with their delegation. Be focused.

- Determine their level of sophistication.

- Use of experts. 1) What are their information sources? 2) Are they credible? And 3) How much support do they have in your community?

- Presentations and delegations to committees of council should contain: quality, *applicable* information, studies, etc.; the use of experts and their areas of expertise; determining the origin of the group and their tactics; the use of media; and compromise.



Legitimate Alternatives to Pesticides: More Tools for the Toolbox

- Where is the industry heading? IPM Accreditation
- Pesticide free zones
- Upgraded cultural practices on sportfields and high exposure areas
- Sand in playgrounds
- Mulching programs
- Aquacide weeds
- Biological controls
- Weed mats
- Increase mowing frequency
- Install more irrigation systems

Presentation of the Finished Document Should Include

- Policy Statement: How and when pesticides will be used.
- Purpose: Guidance to council, staff and the public.
- Procedure: Determining when and when not to use pesticides.
- Accountability: Who in the corporation is ultimately responsible?
- Administration: Department that maintains the program.
- Contacts: Names of staff members within the department.
- Information Sessions: With staff, council and the public.
- Annual Review: of policy and implementation of milestones. ♦

WANT TO KNOW MORE...

A number of related articles are posted on our website at www.sportsturfassociation.com. Click on the "Integrated Pest Management" link.



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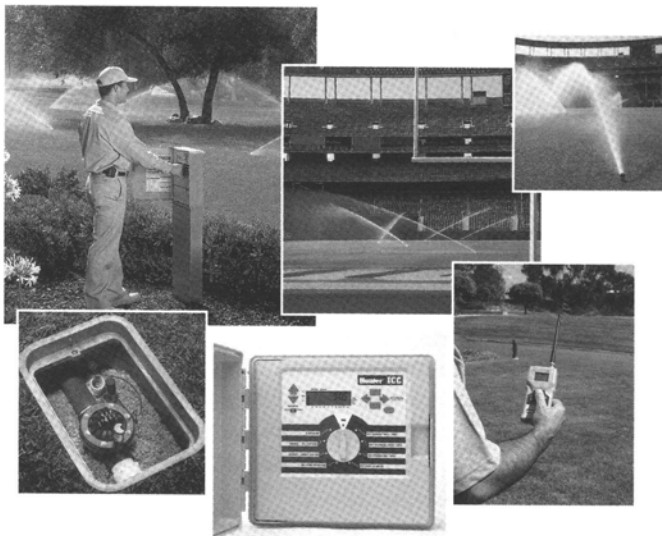
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Weather Watches, Warnings & Advisories

FROM THE ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

A *Weather Watch* alerts you that conditions are favourable for the development of severe weather. A *Weather Advisory* means actual or expected weather conditions may cause general inconvenience or concern, but don't pose a serious enough threat to warrant a weather warning. An advisory may also be used when conditions show signs of becoming favourable for severe weather when the situation is not definite enough or too far in the future to justify a warning.

A *Weather Warning* alerts you that severe weather is occurring or that hazardous weather is highly probable. Severe thunderstorm or tornado warnings may be issued less than one hour in advance. Other weather warnings may be issued six to twelve hours in advance.

The following are some of the more common seasonal weather watches, warnings and advisories issued by Environment Canada during the summer.

Heavy Rain Warning

Issued when heavy or prolonged rainfall is sufficient to cause local/widespread flooding. Expect 50 mm of rain over 12 hours or less, or 80 mm of rain in less than 24 hours.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch

Conditions are favourable for the development of severe thunderstorms with large hail, heavy rain, intense lightning or damaging winds within the areas and times specified in the watch.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning

A severe storm has developed, producing one or more of the following conditions: heavy rain, damaging winds, hail of at least 20 mm in diameter or intense lightning. Severe thunderstorms may also produce tornadoes. The storm's expected motion and developments will be given in the warning. If you are in the area specified, take shelter indoors.

Tornado Watch

Conditions are favourable for the development of tornadoes within the areas and times specified in the watch. Be prepared to take shelter, preferably in the lower level of a sturdy building.

Tornado Warning

One or more tornadoes are occurring in the area specified. The expected motion, development and duration will be given in the warning. If you are in the path of a tornado, take emergency precautions immediately. If you are near the area specified in the warning, be alert for the development of additional tornadoes or severe thunderstorms. ♦

To receive weather information when, where and how you want it, sign up for Environment Canada's free service e-Weather at: www.weatheroffice.pyr.ec.gc.ca/e-weather/default_e.html



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