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**To sponsor the SFMANJ  
newsletter**

Call 908-735-5999 or

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Cost: Members \$150

Non-members \$175

## SFMANJ BUSINESS

### SFMANJ

September 18, 3:30 pm – Next Board meeting will be held at Rutgers University.

Sports Field Managers Association of NJ in conjunction with NJ Turf Grass Association will host an Athletic Field Educational session at the NJ Turf Grass Expo on Dec. 13 from 9 am to 4 pm. A business meeting for SFMANJ members will be held after lunch. Watch for more information coming to you soon.

December 11 to 13 – Expo Conference at The Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. For information call Dick Caton at 856-853-5973.

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

### STMA

January 16 to 20. National Conference in Las Vegas - Jan. 16 and 20<sup>th</sup> are filled with optional events: seminar on wheels tour, golf tournament, sights tour, etc. The educational sessions are the 17, 18, and 19 – with the trade show on the 18 and 19. The Chapter Officers Training Session is from 1 PM to 6 PM on Jan. 15.

The SAFE Scholarship committee will be allocating up to \$15,000 for the 2001 scholarships and related travel to the STMA Conference in Las Vegas. Contact STMA at 800-323-3875.

Email – [SportsTMgr@aol.com](mailto:SportsTMgr@aol.com)

Website – [www.sportsturfmanager.com](http://www.sportsturfmanager.com)

PLEASE, SEND US YOUR STORIES,  
QUESTIONS OR REMARKS.

## MONTHLY FIELD TIPS

When discussing your fertilizer program consider the source, nitrogen source that is. Fall is the time to strengthen your turf. Once Phosphorous and Potassium are balanced in the soil and the PH is correct, providing a steady supply of Nitrogen in the fall is one of the most important things you can do for your turf until the ground freezes. 2/3 – 3/4 of the turf's yearly nitrogen supply should be applied in the fall. The timing of your applications should not be spread out longer than the residual effects of your nitrogen source. Although fast acting nitrogen can be cheaper than slow release nitrogen (SRN), it has to be applied more often and at reduced application rates to be as effective. Fertilizer cost should always be compared against labor cost and results.

**Here is an easy way to remember standard fertilizer components and what they do.**

Example: 10-6-4, "10" is the percentage of Nitrogen – "6" is the percentage of Phosphorus - "4" is the percentage of Potassium. Remember their function this way. "UP"- "DOWN"- "ALL AROUND"

"UP" (nitrogen) is for top growth, "DOWN" (Phosphorus) is for root development, "ALL AROUND" (Potassium) is for all around heartiness and stress tolerance, such as disease, insect, or drought.

A good starter fertilizer for use when seeding could be something like a 15-25-12 or a 5-10-10, always higher in Phosphorus than nitrogen for root development. A good maintenance type fertilizer could be something like a 20-5-10 or a 26-6-12, higher in Nitrogen for top growth along with some phosphorous, and Potassium for heartiness

*Note: Always rely on a yearly soil test for proper fertilizer formulation. If soil tests show Potassium and Phosphorus are up then why add more nutrients? By doing so you are increasing the cost with no benefit to the plant and you increase the potential of ground/water contamination with surface run off. If Potassium and Phosphorus are adequate use only Nitrogen. Use a controlled release Nitrogen source rather than a soluble*