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Turf-Tec Digest For Golf Course Superintendents and Sports Turf Managers

By: John Mascaro Volume 10 Number 2 – July 2004

Diagnostic tests and you.

There are a lot of Infiltrometers out there that you people have purchased and let's face it; some of you are letting them get dusty. I have a vision I would like to share with you. Diagnostic tools are not for the superintendent. They are designed for the assistant superintendent. They are a learning tool for the assistant and a way to find out the soil health for the superintendent. The ideas behind the tools are to give the superintendent real number to base cultural as well as financial decision upon.

The superintendent should have a schedule of diagnostic tasks that the assistant superintendent should do and then create a report to give to the superintendent.

A sample schedule would be as follows:

Daily: Moisture Sensor Readings – to be done by the irrigation technician and readings presented to assistant superintendent. The moisture sensor readings should be done at the one, two, three and four inch level in three different areas on each turfgrass area. In addition if any discolored areas are seen, they should be checked and recorded. These reports should be reviewed by the assistant and a summary given to the superintendent.

Monthly: Infiltrometer readings – These tests should be performed by the assistant superintendent and the final report should be given to the superintendent.

Monthly: Penetrometer readings – These tests should also be performed by the assistant superintendent and the final report should be given to the superintendent.

I have created an Excel Spreadsheet that contains all the necessary information to fill out. The file can be downloaded and the pages printed out, taken into the field on a clipboard, filled out by the assistant and then the data can be entered into the computer. The program will automatically calculate the average of all areas tested.

To view the page about the spreadsheets, go to

<http://www.turf-tec.com/Download.html>

To directly download the Excel spreadsheets, go to

For Golf Course Superintendents:
<http://www.turf-tec.com/Excel/Golf-Tests.xls>

For Sports Turf Managers:
<http://www.turf-tec.com/Excel/Sports-Tests.xls> ♦

Rutgers October Sports Turf Workshop 2004

By Brad Park, Rutgers University
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Rutgers University will be hosting a Sports Turf Workshop in cooperation with Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey on **Thursday, October 7, 2004 at Hort. Farm II in North Brunswick, NJ.** Highlights of the day will include field tours of

turfgrass traffic tolerance research and variety trials and the opportunity to receive pesticide credits. Lunch will be included with registration.

Keep an eye out for a promotional flyer in the mail and a schedule of events including a start time in the next newsletter.