

UPDATE

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Sports Field
Managers Association of New Jersey



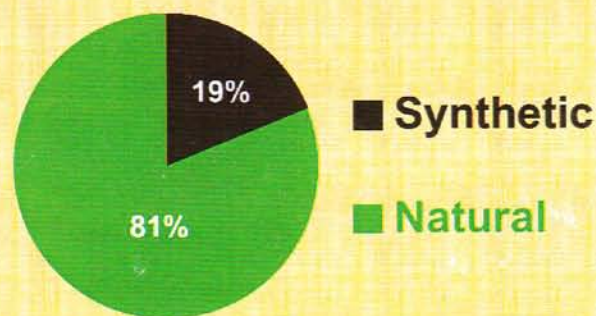
WHAT DO LACROSSE PARENTS THINK ABOUT SPORTS FIELDS?

BY: Brad Park and Dr. John Grande

Do lacrosse parents have opinions about the playing surfaces on which their sons and daughters compete? A survey developed in cooperation with the Rutgers University Snyder Research & Extension Farm, Pittstown, NJ determined lacrosse parent stakeholders' views on issues including field quality expectations, pesticide applications, increased budgeting for sports field improvement, and synthetic infill fields.

In late summer 2007, the Rutgers Snyder Research & Extension Farm established seven acres of a tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass turf for the purpose of demonstrating how farming principles can be used to

WOULD YOU PREFER TO SEE YOUR CHILD PLAY ON A SYNTHETIC OR NATURAL TURF PLAYING SURFACE?*



*Survey conducted at Rutgers Snyder Research & Extension Farm lacrosse event on July 10, 2008; 47 lacrosse parents answered this question.

At a summer 2008 lacrosse event held at the Rutgers Snyder Research & Extension Farm, parent stakeholders were asked their opinions on a range of sports field issues, including synthetic turf.

develop "utility" sports fields. In many rural and suburban areas of New Jersey where land selection is still feasible, "utility" sports fields can potentially be developed on land that is naturally suited for sports fields - and subsequently reduce the high cost of major construction activity.

These principles included first choosing a naturally crowned site with good quality agricultural soils that did not require extensive earthmoving as part of the site preparation process and had adequate internal drainage and moderate rock issues. Lime and pre-plant fertilizers were applied based on soil test results and incorporated using a disc harrow.

A land leveler was then used to create a

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Lacrosse students enjoyed seven acres of tall fescue turf at the Rutgers Snyder Research & Extension Farm in July 2008. The turfgrass was established for the purpose of demonstrating how "utility" sports fields can be constructed using farming principles.