



November 2001

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W. Indyk

President

Volume 1 •• No. 06

To sponsor the SFMANJ

newsletter

Ph & Fax 908-236-9118 or sfmanjchapter@netscape.net

Non-members \$175

Members \$150

Dr. Henry PROUD Turfgrass Agronomist SPONSOR urfcon Fax 732-247-8026 Specializing in Sports Fields and Golf Courses

SFMANJ BUSINESS

Next Board meeting-November 20, 3:30 pm at Rutgers University. Horticulture Farm 2, Geiger Conference Room, Ryders Lane, New Brunswick.

Election of the 2002 Board of Directors will be held at the annual meeting at the NJTA Expo educational session on Dec. 13. At that time members will have an opportunity to vote or choose an addition to the nominations.

If you are interested in helping with a committee, please E-mail us at sfmanichapter@netscape.net or call Larry George at 800-942-0134 or Jim Gavigan at 732-248-8979.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

STMA

January 7,8,9 - National Conference in Las Vegas. Contact STMA at 800-323-3875.

NJ TURF GRASS ASSOCIATION

December 11 to 13 - NJTA Expo Conference at The Tai Mahal in Atlantic City. Sports Turf Educational session is on Thursday, 13th. For information call Dr. Richard Caton at 856-853-5973.

RUTGERS Coming up:

January 7-11 & February 11-15 -Athletic Field Management School

February 26-28, 3-day short course-Athletic Field Construction and Maintenance

January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6 - Professional Parks Maintenance

MONTHLY FIELD TIP

"JUST GIVE IT WHAT IT NEEDS"

When discussing maintenance and management issues on sports turf there is no one application or procedure that is going to make the difference in the direction your field is headed.

Every result has a direct cause. Every negative cause has a negative result and every positive cause has a positive result.

Cost:

Even small changes in your program cumulatively make a big difference. Every situation is different. Some causes have a very noticeable effect such as the big game being played in the rain. Some causes have a less obvious effect such as adjusting the soil Ph from 5.9 to 6.5.

The more intense the playing schedule is on your field, the more intense and creative your management strategy needs to be. In order to have a winning program you should first accept a very basic principle of turf management. You can grow grass anywhere; "JUST GIVE IT WHAT IT NEEDS."

By accepting this statement as the most basic principle of sports turf management and also accepting the challenges that go alone with it, the sports field manager becomes a part of one of the most demanding and rewarding areas of the green industry.

The first step in giving your turf what it needs begins with fortifying your knowledge and getting a better understanding of what athletic fields are all about. Education is acquired by networking with other individuals like you, through a membership with SFMANJ. As a member you have the opportunity to become involved in the field days and seminars provided by the chapter and classes provided by Rutgers.

The NJTA Expo Sports Turf educational session held on December 13th, is planned and conducted by our organization. It is an exceptional opportunity for the sports field manager to attend classes dedicated to the profession and also see first hand, products and equipment on display at the trade show.

"Give it what it needs" has spawned an idea to begin a monthly series of articles addressing what your fields need. The information will come from the professionals in the field of Athletic Turf. Next month, "Begin At The Beginning, Soil Sampling."





FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY THE NEW STMA MEMBER REFERRAL PROGRAM!

That's right – beginning October 1st in conjunction with our New Member Sweepstakes Program -

In appreciation for referring any professional or commercial NEW STMA Member (not a non-voting student or additional commercial member), you will receive a \$10.00 coupon that may be used towards the purchase of STMA merchandise or books, or towards registration for the STMA Annual Conference &r Exhibition, or for your STMA membership dues. Of course there's no limit to the number of people you can invite to join you as an STMA member. There also is no limit to the number of coupons you can receive. In order to receive your coupons, your name MUST be listed on the "referred by" line of the membership application form. This program is scheduled to run for 24 months.

Plus

As part of our New Member Sweepstakes Program All New Members Joining Between October 1st and December 1, 2001, will be eligible for a drawing for a free registration to the STMA 13th Annual Conference & Exhibition, January 16-20, 2002 in Las Vegas, Nevada

BONUS - EVERYONE WINS

Join from October 1st to the end of the year - and get up to three months FREE!

That's Right! Sign up and your membership is in force through December 31, 2002.

Membership Application	
Member Information	Membership Category (please check one)
Name	Sports Turf Manager \$ 85
Title	Please note primary types of facilities within your program
Employer	() Professional Facilities
Type of Business	() Four-year Colleges & Universities Facilities
Address	() Other Schools Facilities
City/state/zip	() Parks & Rec. Facilities
Phone Fax	Commercial (US or International) \$ 295
E-mail Address	() Additional (from same Commercial Company) (non-voting) \$ 50
Signature	Student (w/valid ID) (non-voting) \$ 20
Referred by	International (other than commercial) \$ 85
,	(must be in U.S. dollars)
	Research, Teaching & Cooperative Extension Personnel \$ 85
Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products,	Chapter Dues (Call Headquarters for amount) \$
systems or services for your organization? () Yes () No	Contribution to SAFE Foundation Research &
	Scholarship Programs \$
	Total amount enclosed \$
Please enclose payment in U.S. dollars	Name on Card:
(Check, Money Order, Purchase Order #, or Credit Card Information)	
and send to:	Card #: Exp:
Sports Turf Managers Association	Purchase Order #:
PO Box 3480, Omaha, NE 68103-0480	

For more information, contact STMA Headquarters at

phone: 800/323-3875, 712/366-2669, fax: 800/366-0391, 712/366-9119 or e-mail: SportsTMgr@aol.com

NEW JERSEY'S FIRST

Congratulations to Jim Gavigan on becoming New Jersey's first Certified Sports Field Manager. Jim is a Facility Manager for Lesco, Inc. in Edison New Jersey, and also their northeast athletic field specialist. He is one of the founders of the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey and currently resides on the Board of Directors.

To become certified the sports field manager must show exemplary knowledge in four main areas:

- 1. Agronomics
- 2. Pest Management
- 3. Administration
- 4. Sports specific field management.

The National Sports Turf Managers Association developed the certification program. The purpose of the program is to:

- Increase professionalism
- Promote better and safer sports turf areas
- Establish credentials to signify a specific level of expertise
- Increase career opportunities and promote the sports turf manager and the profession
- Provide recognition for attaining a level of expertise and performance

Jim's dedication to the sports turf industry is a testament to the profession of Sports Field Management and title of Certified Sports Field Manager

If you are interested in receiving more information on the certification program contact the National Sports Turf Managers Association at 1-800-323-3875

ATHLETIC FIELD RENOVATION PROJECT Rutgers, The State University of NJ

And

The Bridgewater-Raritan School District

Rutgers University, Center for Turfgrass Science – Athletic Field Working Group has established an athletic field renovation maintenance project with the Bridgewater – Raritan School District in Somerset County, New Jersey. The Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey provides support in this project.

The goal of this project is to educate and demonstrate to sports field managers, administrators, coaches and players the basic requirements necessary to provide good quality turfgrass, enhancing the playability for athletes.

This project focuses on the following concepts:

- Cost/benefit agronomic principles related to athletic field turfgrass management.
- Athletic field turfgrass education programs provided by Rutgers University, and various New Jersey and national trade associations such as the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey.
- "Team work" requirements by the various stakeholders involved in athletic field turfgrass maintenance and play.

In order to expand the outreach mission of this project, additional school systems, recreation departments, etc. will be invited to participate.

Contact: Dr. John Grande

Director – Rutgers, The State University Snyder Research & Extension Farm Phone: 908-730-9419 Email: grande@aesop.rutgers.edu

On October 18,2001 a field day was held by the Rutgers Athletic Field Working Group at Adamsville Elementary School, the location of the renovation maintenance project. Vendors who had donated materials and or equipment to the project and people who represented school systems interested in the project attended the gathering.

Demonstrations and explanations of the various equipment used in the project were given. Pictures were provided which took the viewers thru the renovation process.

Dean Marzocca, treasurer of SFMANJ, represented the Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey and was able to stand up and say a few words in behalf of the association.

"SFMANJ Update" will include a monthly news column entitled "Rutgers Corner". This column will help to keep the readers abreast of Rutgers athletic turf outreach program and also other educational programs offered by Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

CLASSIFIEDS

BUYING OR SELLING, HIRING? \$10/5-LINE AD FOR MEMBER . \$15 FOR NON- MEMBER

FOR SALE:

Jrco

Electronic speed control broadcast spreader 130 lb. capacity. One year old. \$550 or best offer. Call Jim at (908) 236-9118

Murphy's Law

Dr. James Murphy is an Associate Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Management for Rutgers, department of Plant science. Ask Dr. Murphy your questions: E-mail us at <u>sfmanjchapter@netscape.net</u>

Question:

Iron has been around for years in many forms. I see it in many standard fertilizer formulations and I have had it promoted to me by contractors, included with my weed control applications. All I know is that it is supposed to make the grass green. How does it work? Is there more than just aesthetic value to this product?

Answer:

There is some controversy regarding the use of iron in turf management when thre are optimum conditions for iron availability in the soil. Some scientists contend that the dark colored spray used in many iron applications is reason for the immediate "dark" greening response often observed. The small dark spots that form on the leaf after the spray application give the darkening appearance. There is tittle research to support any benefits or iron application beyond aesthetics when iron supply is adequate in the soil.

Under conditions of deficiency, however, iron applications will certainly improve the color and health of turf because iron is necessary for chlorophyll formation (photosynthesis) in leaves and other plant processes. Iron deficiencies are most prevalent in high pH soils. Deficiencies of iron become more prevalent as the soil pH increases above 7 (neutral). Iron deficiencies may also be associated with high soil temperatures that cause a severe loss of roots or declining root viability. A limited root system can restrict the supply of any nutrient that must be taken-up from the soil.

Under these conditions, applications of iron would be very beneficial. In high pH soils, a chelated form of iron is necessary to avoid having the iron rapidly converted to an unavailable form. Acidifying materials could also be useful in improving iron availability. Foliar applications are often used to avoid the problem of iron becoming unavailable in the soil.

KILMER N. J. P&OC 11/02/01 17:46 MLB/188#2



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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