

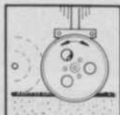
TURFCO EDGE-R-RITE

MULTI-PURPOSE TURF EDGER

Just like a small sod cutter, the Blade does not spin, the oscillating motion does not throw debris.

Self-propelled and push models available.

Rugged design for commercial use.



Disc Blade



V-Blade

Optional Blades:

Disc Blade for cutting straight edge along sidewalks and driveways.

Right Angle Blade for golf course sand traps, and flower beds.

"V" Blade for removing a strip of turf along a sidewalk.



Right Angle Blade

Write or call
for detailed
literature

TurfcO Mfg., Inc.
3456 N. Washington Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55412-2688
Ph. 612/588-0741
Telex 5106013762

TURFCO

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TurfcO's light and rugged Turf Cutter

- Self-Propelled
- Low Initial Cost
- Easy to Operate
- Less Service



Only 140 lbs. but rugged enough for all types of turf. Cuts 12" wide, 3/4" to 1 1/4" thick at up to 75 fpm. The lowest cost turf cutter in its class features a high speed oscillating blade that keeps vibration at a minimum; ease of handling; one-lever, no-adjustment operation; and minimal maintenance.

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zona acreage in 1989 and 1990.

Doyle Jacklin, director of marketing, said the new division will enable the company to do extensive research and grow seed of the improved warm-season varieties.

"Our capability of growing zoysiagrass from seed, rather than the old slow method using plugs or sprigging, broadens the market for zoysia markedly," Jacklin said.

The facilities will also enable the company to grow and develop its new Bermudagrass varieties which are more cold tolerant. "The new varieties will replace common types of Bermuda in areas which have previously experienced winter damage," said Jacklin. □

AGRONOMY

Shatter aerate or hollow tines?

The biggest aeration controversy involves the comparative effectiveness of hollow tine coring vs. solid, or shatter-coring.

Instead of removing a core of soil, the solid tine pushes it further down. The general consensus is that solid tine coring is not very effective, and might do more harm than good.

"Whenever you drive a solid tine into the ground, you're displacing a good deal of soil," says Doug Chapman of Dow Gardens, "and there may be a potential for damage, or further compaction. Basically, there's evidence that drier soil, or greens with high sand content, benefit most from shattering effects."

Robert Morris says a general feeling exists among superiors that shatter-core aeration doesn't create enough disturbance within the turf to make it worthwhile.

Jerry Faubel, superintendent at Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club, prefers hollow tine coring.

"It benefits the soil in two ways: core removal

helps the soil internally, and the cores left on the surface work well toward thatch control."

Faubel says solid tine coring is very difficult to use for several reasons. "Soil moisture conditions must be very specific. If the soil is too moist you lose the shattering effect. Second, the solid tine has the tendency to lift the surface. When you punch something in there, the space has to go somewhere. You either destroy air space or lift the soil.

"As far as greens are concerned," continues Faubel, "we might aerate occasionally. We're on a sand top dressing program, so we don't need to aerate the greens annually." □

BUSINESS

Hidden costs boost hourly pay

LANSING, Mich. — Employee benefits are the unseen labor costs that turn \$6 per hour employees into \$9 or \$15 per hour workers.

Tim Doppel of Atwood Lawn Spray, Sterling Heights, Mich., points out that an employee might question a \$6 per hour wage after writing out the bills and seeing the totals on the gross receipts. But Doppel reminds that there are many factors that make up what might be called a hidden labor rate.

Beyond the base hourly rate, contributions to FICA—Social Security—can be about 7.5 percent per employee, matched by the employer.

In the insurance category, the biggest deduction is unemployment insurance. "Whether or not there are claims," said Doppel, employers pay state and federal unemployment tax; and depending on your experience ratio, you could pay as little as 2 percent, or up to 10 percent of the first



T. Doppel