

# Athletic field extras for fabulous final touches

**After turf maintenance come field painting and other grooming chores.**

■ Proper maintenance and feeding of athletic turf are keys to making the field look its best from a turf health point of view. Then come the necessary extras like paint and field amendments.

Improvements have been made recently to industry striping equipment, to make striping easier and more weather resistant.

**Fox Valley Systems, Inc.** of Cary, Ill. has been actively promoting its Super Striper to the green industry. The newest



**Fox Valley's Super Striper cartridges cover about 200 lineal feet.**



**There's less refilling with Pioneer's Brite Striper 2000. It carries a 12-gallon tank.**



**Smithco's Top Liner can be fitted with an optional hose and spray gun kit for paint or weed control spraying.**

model lays down a sharp, 2- to 5-inch strip thanks to a new self-orienting spade tip. Fox Valley says the Super Striper is the only striping machine with a speed indicator and weighted windscreen. Height adjustments and a side striper attachment are other innovations.

**Pioneer Manufacturing** of Cleveland, Ohio markets Quik Stripe, which is described by the company as the brightest aerosol field marking paint available to athletic field managers. When used with the company's Quik Striper machine, the paint product makes a lasting, eye-catching line that holds up to heavy traffic and severe weather. The company also produces custom stencils.

**Smithco's Top Liner** field marker is a riding model that handles tight turns and requires low maintenance. The Top Liner carries a 30-gallon tank, enough to line three football fields, which can come in handy for managers with multiple field chores.

**Weather beaters**—Pioneer's Rain Check is an athletic field absorbent the company says is a fine alternative to clay absorbents.

According to the company, the product absorbs 500 percent more water than clay absorbents. One man working with Rain Check produces the same result as five men working with clay. Less material is used, which may be a plus when it comes

to available storage room.

The all-organic absorbent firms up muddy ground for better footing during game play. Unlike clay, the company says it leaves no detectable residue.

**Infield improvements**—Drag mats are popular tools for finishing off the infield grooming. **Newstripe, Inc.'s** Drag Lite features an adjustable scarifier blade that breaks up hard packed surfaces. The attached mat then grooms the surface to a game-ready condition. Both Drag Lite models are made from tough, recycled rubber products, and carry an 18-month warranty.

The **Kromer AFM** machine is a combination line painter, groomer and sprayer. It stripes four football fields with one tank of paint. And it has a heavy duty spring tooth harrow to loosen up the hardest fields.

The leveling blade fills holes and levels high spots, and a heavy nylon bristle broom smooths the surface and picks up loose weeds. A dragmat is carried in a bracket and can be used to break up hard lumps of dirt.

Additional attachments are available for the AFM, such as a 3-gang reel mower and pull-behind aerifier. Kromer Co. is located in Mound, Minn.

**Conditioned for safety**—One field amendment which caught our eye is the Turface MVP sports field conditioner, manufactured by Aimcor of Deerfield, Ill. Turface particles have flat sides, which the company says helps to reduce bad ball hops and eliminate compaction.

When properly applied during field renovation or construction Turface provides an even, firm moisture absorbent surface.

A second Aimcor product—Turface Quick Dry—is designed to absorb infield puddles.

## For more information:

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—Terry McIver