

## Dodger Stadium goes with 'Prescription' turf

The Los Angeles Dodgers will begin the 1996 baseball season at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles on the most advanced natural athletic turf system in operation today, according to The Motz Group, which owns the license on Prescription Athletic Turf (PAT).

The installation, which began in November, was due to be completed this month.

"The entire field has not been replaced since Dodger Stadium opened," notes Doug Duennes, director of operations for Dodger Stadium. "The new technology is extraordinary and we believe that it is time to make a change...that will be pleasing to both our fans and ballplayers."

On the surface, the new PAT system provides a level, bermudagrass playing field that is grown on pure sand. Below the surface, the system has a vacuum chamber connected to a drain line matrix that is laid over a water-tight plastic barrier. During heavy rains, water is forcibly extracted from the field profile. A computer controller and moisture gauges automatically track water levels and transmit data to a microprocessor that initiates drainage.

The system can also subirrigate the field when moisture readings drop below optimal levels.

"Given the arid climate of southern California, the system's water conservation technology is a very important asset for the Dodgers," says Joe Motz, president of The Motz Group, which also recently installed PAT systems at Joe Robbie Stadium in Miami and at the University of Virginia's new David A. Harrison III Field. □

## Expo 96 has ideas to 'grow your business'

The International Lawn, Garden and Power Equipment Expo (Expo 96) will feature a series of Professional Landscape Seminars, including an "Ask the Pros" panel, "Growing People Who Grow Your Business" and "Technology You Can Use to Grow Your Business." Total cost for the seminars is \$25.

The event will be in downtown Louisville, Ky. at the Commonwealth Convention Center. Free shuttle service will be provided from most Louisville hotels.

The annual trade show, scheduled for July 28-30th at the

## RISE gets new state government manager

Fred Langley has joined RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) as manager of state government relations.

He works on a consultant basis to monitor and analyze state legislative and regulatory activities, testify on behalf of RISE, build coalitions and provide regular updates to members.

Langley was eastern region government relations manager for DowElanco and is an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. He is now available to address state pesticide issues of concern to green industry professionals: 17 Tidewater Farm Rd., Greenland, NH 03840; phone (603) 430-8907; fax (603) 430-8906; e-mail [langleyf@ix.netcom.com](mailto:langleyf@ix.netcom.com). □

## Trend toward total renovation on golf courses

The next few years will see many historic, established cool-season golf courses renovate their greens to the new elite creeping bentgrasses now entering the marketplace, believes Lofts Seed turfgrass breeder Dr. Richard Hurley.

Two cases in point are The Desert Inn in Las Vegas and Wilmington (Del.) Country Club. The Desert Inn course, which used Crenshaw bentgrass on greens and washed sod, wanted something to hold up to 250 rounds a day and the city's extreme heat. Dan Pierson at Wilmington renovated 18 greens by sterilizing the soil surface in early September, 1994, then sowing bentgrass seeds in the middle of the month.

Superintendents are discovering that they do not have to continue to put up with older greens that do not hold up as well against disease problems as the new, improved varieties, says Hurley. □

Kentucky Exposition Center, is free to pre-registrants.

New country music superstar Martina McBride will sing at the Expo's annual dinner/concert on Monday, July 29th. The Drifters—whose song "Under the Boardwalk" was one of the great hits of the early 60's—will also perform.

"With a bargain ticket price of just \$35 for the concert and buffet dinner, this is an outstanding opportunity to enjoy an industry event," says Dennis Dix, president and CEO of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute, Inc.

To receive a free copy of the Expo 96 registration brochure, call (800) 558-8767—(502) 562-1962 in Kentucky. Fax number is (502) 562-1970. **LM**