

The North American Green reinforcement mat solved an erosion problem in this sloped lawn.



Contech's TerraBond fabric assists drainage and keeps soil layers separate in golf greens.



In a landscape, the TerraBond fabric separates mulch from underlying soil.

# **GEOTEXTILES**

These durable fabrics reduce soil erosion, protect newly-seeded areas, separate soil layers and even stabilize sand bunkers.

Geotextiles channel water, separate soil layers and stabilize a variety of landscaped areas, including drainage systems, roadways and retaining walls and golf course bunkers and putting greens.

They're often overlooked as landscaping solutions, however, according to Tom Baas, manager of the Contech Construction Products' Allied Products Group, Middletown, Ohio.

Baas says Contech makes TerraBond geotextiles for a variety of turf applications, including: slope erosion control; mulch/soil separation; pathway construction; retaining wall filtration; brick patio construction; subsurface drainage; planter filtration and separation; play area construction; putting green construction and sand trap lining.

Akzo Nobel Geosynthetics Company's Enkaturf system offers a long-term, low-maintenance solution to heavily-trafficked athletic fields, says a company spokesman.

Enkaturf is a system in which Enkamat, soil and turf are combined in a specific manner to provide a vigorous and structurally superior turf surface.

Grass roots grow into and through the Enkamat, which provides a permanent fibrous matting that gives the sod structural strength.

You have to match the product to the site. Synthetic Industries of Chattanooga, Tenn., reports in its product literature that soil type, climate, site geometry, agronomic factors and hydraulic conditions all work to influence product choices. The company has an erosion control design diskette to calculate which products to use for a variety of channel and slope erosion control applications.

Tim Lancaster, technical services manager for North American Green, Evansville, Ind. reminds users that overlapping seams and stapling are common installation mistakes when using the company's turf reinforcement products.

"If the overlap is too thick, the turfgrass will not be able to grow through the mat," explains Lancaster. "If the staples aren't placed properly, a strong wind will lift the mat from the turf surface."

Beyond those mishaps, geotextiles are easy to use. Larger sites are the exception, but all companies publish installation guidelines which, if followed, will make any size job easier.

## GEOTEXTILES FOR THE GREEN INDUSTRY

## AKZO NOBEL Circle No. 305 (704) 665-5050

Enkaturf is a system in which Enkamat, soil and turf are combined in a specific manner to provide a vigorous and structurally superior turf surface. Enkamat is a tough, flexible soil reinforcement matting made from nylon monofilaments fused at their intersections. Ninety percent of the three-dimensional structure is open space. Grass roots grow through the Enkamat, which provides a permanent fibrous matting that gives the sod structural strength. Enkamat also produces an aerifying effect that reduces compaction and promotes the growth of each grass plant. For use on golf courses, athletic fields as well as playgrounds, parks, and all high traffic areas.

#### CONTECH Circle No. 306 (513) 425-2165

TerraBond geotextiles are made from 100 percent polyester fibers. needlepunched and engineered to meet your most demanding applications, such as subsurface drainage, erosion control and many other professional horticultural needs. On golf courses, TerraBond is used to separate trap sand from underlying rocks and soils; to stop shoreline erosion; provide drainage and filtration behind retaining walls and provide for longterm percolation rates on greens. In the landscape, use in residential developments, shopping centers, athletic fields and parks and schools.

## DEWITT CO. Circle No. 307 (800) 888-9669

Seed & Plant Guard from De-Witt is a white, spunbonded fabric for use in grass seeding of commercial and residential sites. The company says the product provides excellent microenvironment for seed

germination and seedling growth. De-Witt reports 90-95 percent average seed growth compared to a 60-65 percent average using hay or straw. Also helpful in protecting against sun scorching and cold weather, stopping wind and rain erosion and bird and insect deterrence. The company has many other products for landscape and nursery applications.

## FABRISCAPE Circle No. 308 (312) 436-0335

Landscape fabrics, frost protection and germination blankets, construction fabrics

and erosion control products comprise most of this company's geotextiles inventory. The company reports its landscape fabric stops approximately 95 percent of weed growth. A filter fabric product protects native soil and silt from clogging drainage septic systems. Professional Plus is a 3.5 oz. non-woven fabric that prevents aggregate, sand and mulches from intermixing with soil and prevents soil movement in erosion control applications.

## NORTH AMERICAN GREEN Circle No. 309 (812) 867-6632

The new C350 Three Phase Erosion Control/Turf Reinforcement Mat combines what the company describes as the superior erosion control effectiveness of a coconut fiber blanket with the permanent root reinforcement capabilities of a synthetic matting. No manual soil filling is required for short- or longterm erosion control/mulch projects. The company's Bio Net Series of 100 percent biodegradable erosion control blankets are made from lightweight, high strength jute yarn netting. The woven construction of the BioNet reduces the risk of wildlife entrapment.

#### PC CONSTRUCTION FABRICS Circle No. 310 (330) 335-3635

Nonwoven geotextile fabrics are used to prevent siltation of aggregate drains. Geogrids reinforce the stone base over poor soil in a large parking lot. The company makes woven and non-woven geotextile fabrics of various sizes and weights; drainage products; pavement joint repair systems and three kinds of erosion matting.

REEMAY Circle No. 311 (615) 847-7000

The Typar Tree Circle prevents



Landlok mats control erosion in larger, trouble-prone areas.

> weeds around existing or newlyplanted trees. The 36-inch, die-cut circle of fabric is placed on the ground around trees. The product is porous, and it resists tearing, punctures, rotting, chemicals, mildew and microorganisms.

## STABILIZER Circle No. 312 (602) 952-8009

TurfGrids fibers create durable surfaces for athletic fields and other high traffic natural turf surfaces when mixed into the soil base. These engineered fibers give additional strength and stability by reinforcing the base soil and root structure of natural turf playing fields, roadways and parking areas.

### SYNTHETIC INDUSTRIES Circle No. 313 (800) 621-0444

Landlok Turf Reinforcement Mats has been developed to complement and enhance the physical and biological capability of plants to protect soil from erosion. Turf reinforcement mats provide superior temporary erosion protection, rapid vegetation establishment and outstanding long-term erosion resistance to shear stresses associated with high water flow velocities in steep slopes and channels. **LM** 



DeWitt makes a wide variety of erosion/ weed control fabrics.