

Typical Manager of School Landscape . . .

1. Carries the title of Superintendent of Buildings and Landscape.
2. Is responsible for more than six separate facilities.
3. Cares for an average of 153 acres.
4. Manages a staff of more than 20 persons.
5. Has a budget for landscape supplies of more than \$50,000.
6. Buys materials every month of the year.
7. Hires landscape contractors for specific tasks in 40 percent of the cases.
8. Has a natural turf stadium to manage.
9. Goes to his extension agent with problems first.
10. Has the authority to purchase landscape materials.

Private institutions are more likely to exceed basic maintenance than public ones.

On an average, fertilization, weed control, mowing and overseeding are performed by more than half of the schools responding. More than 80 percent fertilize and apply herbicides once per year. Overseeding is done in slightly

more than half of the schools due to foot traffic wear.

Athletic fields are aerified by more than half the respondents. Topdressing and disease control of athletic areas are performed by less than a third of the school landscape managers. Irrigation is also used by a third. Wetting agents are used by 6 percent of the group.

Turf Maintenance Practices Performed by Schools by Percentage of Total.

Practice	Athletic Areas	Non-Athletic Areas
Fertilization	82	82
Weed Control	78	82
Overseeding	66	58
Aerification	54	44
Disease Control	34	32
Irrigation	34	30
Topdressing	30	28
Wetting Agents	12	6

Forty-four of the school respondents have someone on staff who is certified to apply pesticides. This excludes the use of restricted use chemicals unless the application is performed by outside contractors for more than half of the schools in the country.

Nearly 75 percent have stadia to manage. Since sports events are often the only source of income to schools beside taxes or tuition, the attention to these areas is highly justified. More than ten percent of the respondents have an artificial playing surface for their stadium field.

When a school landscape manager has a problem he goes to his extension agent most of the time. Next to the extension agent, distributor representatives or trade publications are used to find a solution. More than a third belong to or ask support from local or national trade associations.

More than 75 percent of schools have a stadium to maintain.

The school landscape manager makes the buying decision in two thirds of the cases and recommends what to purchase in half the cases.

Public school property is occasionally maintained by the municipal or park landscape staff. Both parks and schools have cut labor in the past two years and looked for ways to increase efficiency. Parks and schools have been major users of chemical trim over mechanical trim. Ornamental plantings have been reduced to cut maintenance.

The future for schools, despite a likely drop in enrollment, is more intensive use of limited space. Management practices will have to improve to provide a safe recreational area for all seasons.

Despite tax-weary citizens, a well publicized and well explained need for landscape improvement of school areas can provide the means to meet wear levels. The following profiles give examples on how school and college landscape managers deal with economic pressures.

WTT



George Toma discusses the reasons why the Chiefs and the Royals are so gung ho on immaculate turf:

His comments will make every turf pro feel a sense of pride.

The Truman Sports Complex in Kansas City is unique in all the world. A 78,000-seat stadium specifically designed for football, and a 42,000-seat stadium specifically designed for baseball. Indeed there is not a bad seat in the house. Without exception, visiting media who have occasion to see every stadium in the land are universal in proclaiming it the *most beautiful sports complex in the world*.

Obviously the physical construction is a major factor in its charm. But surveys show that the landscaping on the perimeters and traffic islands plays an

important role in attracting attendance.

Turfmen of the world, take a bow!

But if immaculate turf and ornamentals help attract crowds, they also help sharpen the skills of the athletes. "The management of both the Chiefs and the Royals know that football and baseball are games of inches," says George Toma, groundskeeper of the complex, "and so they are concerned with even the smallest details that could have a bearing on victory . . . and they believe that environment has a psychological effect on professional athletes."

The role of turf

Toma goes on to say that the Chiefs know that football players have a deeper appreciation of perfection if they practice on immaculate turf, "and so we keep the practice field absolutely perfect."



The Royals on the other hand are primarily concerned about the turf on the slopes beyond the centerfield wall adjacent to the scoreboard. It's against this backdrop that the Royals hold batting practice, and they don't even want a gum wrapper on the grass, let alone an extraneous weed that would affect the concentration of the hitter.

Remember, we're talking about batters who have such remarkable eyesight that they can count the seams on a base-



ball coming at them at 90 miles per hour. You better believe they could see a weed in that turf beyond centerfield... and you also better believe there better not be any weeds out there.

Toma's secret weapon

How does Toma keep the TrumanSportsComplex immaculate and still find the time to have prepared the playing fields for all 16 Super Bowls and all 16 Pro Bowls that have been played?

"Well, for one thing, we plan on doing everything right the first time," grins Toma, "and Trimec is our secret weapon for controlling weeds totally, completely, in one fell swoop. Trimec does it right the first time. Over the years we've experimented with virtually every herbicide on the market, and nothing works like Trimec... nor is any other herbicide so economical when you consider all factors."

"On the outside perimeters of the parking area we've got about 35 acres of non-irrigated turf," continues Toma. "Heaven only knows what variety of weeds it can harbor and blow in to the area we manicure. But we've never found a weed that Trimec won't control."

At the Chiefs' summer camp in Liberty, Missouri, and on the Arrowhead practice field at the sports complex where Toma can use a boom sprayer, he uses professional Trimec. But in smaller, manicured areas he uses Acme® Weed-No-More®, which is a *homeowner* formulation of Trimec.

The truth about Trimec® that every Pro should know

Trimec is a patented herbicide manufactured by PBI/GORDON Corporation (Patent Number 3,284,186).

It is a Complex of chemicals in which the constituents have been reacted under precise laboratory control, so they have become more intimately associated than the components of a simple mixture. The result-

ing Trimec product has unparalleled strength and breadth of spectrum, caused by the synergism that occurs from uniting acids into a Complex.

Cost per acre of weed-free turf is low because the synergistic Trimec Complex is fully effective with small amounts of chemical which translocates to the root system, resulting in a high degree of kill.



Watch for the coming of the Trimec seal

The Trimec Complex is available in many different formulations for many different purposes. You'll find it in granular weed-and-feed products; in herbicides designed to be mixed with liquid fertilizer; in both professional and homeowner weed control products; and in professional agricultural and homeowner brush-control products.

Trimec Complexes have the name Trimec on the label and, beginning next year, they will carry this seal. Be sure to look for it on any broadleaf herbicide or brush killer you buy. It is your guarantee of professional quality.

TRIMEC® is a registered trademark of PBI/GORDON Corporation, U.S. Patent No. 3,284,186.



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THE CRIMSON LANDSCAPE SERVES AS SYMBOL OF REPUTATION FOR HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Harvard Yard, is wired off each spring in preparation for commencement.

When it comes to maintaining its appearance, Harvard, the wealthiest private university in the country is hardly tight fisted. Superintendent of Grounds Benard Keohan survived 1981 on a budget of \$1,851,023, which breaks down to a rough figure of \$5550 per acre.

But his job is not as simple as it sounds. The population of a city of 100,000, in addition to a university community of 29,000, traversing back and forth over college grounds make keeping Harvard's appearance up to its reputation a hefty task. Far from the secluded

ivy covered haven the name brings to mind, Harvard University is actually situated in the center of a

Commencement is our main concern when we double our workforce with temporary workers in the spring.

busy urban area. The 333 acres of the University are interspersed throughout the City of Cambridge, MA in such a way that the bounda-

ries are lost and the college properties are used by all.

To withstand the constant wear and tear and keep the grounds up to standard, the campus is divided into seven sections according to the intensity of use, each manned by a crew chief, driver and three maintenance workers. The buildings in each section contribute to the maintenance budget of the area in proportion to the number of square feet of space each occupies. The total budget for the sections takes care of the basic maintenance costs

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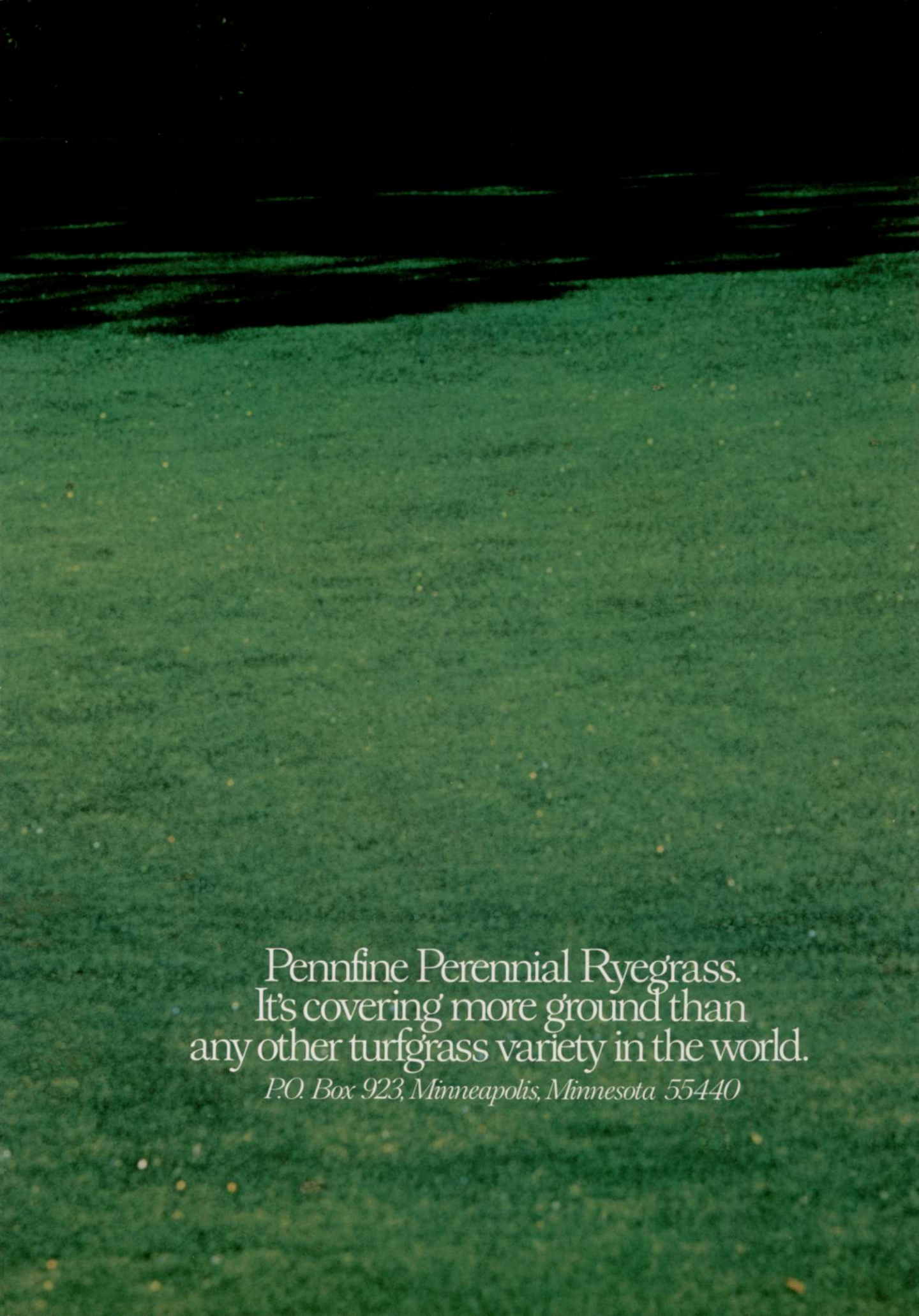












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