

REBOUND

LETTERS FROM READERS

CORRECTION

In the Chalkboard page in the January/February issue, we reported incorrectly that 10 ounces per 1,000 square feet of PBI Gordon's Ferramec was applied to the Rose Bowl the day before the game. The total amount applied was five ounces, applied twice at half rate. Ten ounces would be excessive and cause discoloration of the turf.

I concur 100 percent with your comment on "The Need for Demonstration Fields" expressed in the March 1986 issue of **sportsTURF**.

We have repeatedly watched the selling power of getting one good field in a competitive football league lead to several good fields. People generally have to see a product before they will buy it.

In this regard, any publicity you can give us for our planned June 18 Wakefield Test Demonstration will be greatly appreciated. It should attract many athletic field managers in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Keep up the good work you are doing with **sportsTURF** magazine.

*J. R. Hall, III, extension agronomist
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Blacksburg, VA*

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Congratulations on your excellent publication **sportsTURF**! When my first issue arrived some months ago, I first thought, "Great, another useless trade magazine to help fill up my garbage can."

How wrong I was. I've found it to be both useful and interesting, without even considering that two of your contributing editors, Ron Garl and Steve Batten, are both good friends of mine.

The latest issue was especially significant to me. I am soon to be involved in the construction and subsequent maintenance of a professional baseball facility in Buffalo, NY.

I look forward to my new challenge and appreciate my employer's confidence in my abilities, but I welcome assistance to produce the results that are expected and deserved.

*Mark Jerrell, CGCS
Palm Beach National Golf and Country Club
Lake Worth, FL*

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I think you have the start of a good magazine. Keep up the good work.

*Adolph Bertucci, Superintendent
Lake Shore Country Club, Glencoe, IL*

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Congratulations on the publication of your turf magazine. Being a sales representative in the turf industry, I find the articles in your magazine very interesting and packed with helpful information. I have shown your magazine to many of my customers who have commented enthusiastically toward **sportsTURF**.

*Christopher Sammelwitz, Territory Manager
Mid-Atlantic Equipment Corp., Collegeville, PA*

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In some way **sportsTURF** needs to be identified more closely with the areas that appeal to the masses. Too often, there is too much emphasis on the "Rose Bowls," the rarefied atmosphere of the opulent country club, big money winners and the like. **sportsTURF**, the National Sports Turf Council, the Sports Turf Managers Association and other leaders must emphasize the 'commons' where the neighborhood meets after work and where the playing surface may not be Kansas City Royals quality, but it is available at low cost. The opulent installations have a challenge to help upgrade turf quality on the commons.

Turfgrass and agriculture are in a stress situation. Funds for extension are being cut which affects both turfgrass and agriculture. Farm values are depressed, crop prices are low and foreclosures threaten man. Opulence must be soft pedaled, leaving the limelight to the 'commons.'

NSTC seems to be in the right place at the right time to give voice to the trends and to coordinate sports activities for efficiency so that the common man is served.

Golf has an opportunity to render its image more palatable to the common man who uses the 'commons' for relaxation. Two methods have been suggested and both are being pursued to a limited extent.

- 1) Fund-raising events.
- 2) Endorsing volunteer participation by the turf-wise superintendent in Safer Sports Turf programs.

To date, the Musser International Turf Foundation, parent of NSTC, has sponsored fund-raising tournaments in five states and Canada. Two chapters of the GCSAA have endorsed voluntary assistance to extension turf specialists for upgrading public turfgrass playing surfaces. Others will follow.

It may be an act of providence that NSTC is in a position to accept tax-exempt donations and to use them effectively and efficiently to begin to meet the challenge of

improving abused and neglected turf. The bigger challenge is selection of personnel broad enough to administer this multi-level program involving a number of disciplines.

The machine has been built, the gears mesh and the wheels have begun to turn. It will take money to keep the wheels from squeaking.

*Fred V. Grau, President
Musser International Turfgrass Foundation
College Park, MD*

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Congratulations on your **sportsTURF** magazine. Looks like great things are ahead.

We at Myopia Hunt Club are involved with turf from golf to polo and are pleased to see the consolidation of turfgrass interests in your magazine. Good luck to you.

*Henry J. Stelline, Superintendent
Myopia Hunt Club, South Hamilton, MA*

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I enjoyed Denne Goldstein's comments in the Jan/Feb issue, particularly the last three paragraphs concerning water. Water is the essential nutrient from which all other good cultural practices spring. The fact is there is more damage done to the vitality of our landscape plant materials from too much water than too little. After spending thousands of dollars on turf and plant materials, to kill them off by not managing irrigation properly, is akin to running the crankcase dry on your new \$50,000 care.

In a recent conversation with an irrigation consultant, who was evaluating a golf course in a water-short area, he stated the course was using six acre feet of water per acre to irrigate (drown?) cool season turfgrass!

During Irrrometer Company's 35 years in business, we have witnessed some great success stories in irrigation from working with educated, informed and properly motivated professionals. During the past few years irrigation equipment has made a quantum leap in its efficiency and reliability. Professional irrigation design, such as that done by members of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants, has made a high level of efficiency possible. The missing ingredient? Management of course!

*William Pogue, President
Irrrometer Company, Inc.
Riverside, CA*