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MAIN EVENTS

14 RYEGRASS: THE CHOICE TURF FOR WINTER SPORTS

Improved varieties of perennial ryegrass combined with the tremendous increase in the use of dormant sports turf during the winter have made overseeding in the South as important as irrigation, fertilizing and aerifying. Sports turf managers from Fort Lauderdale, FL, to Palm Desert, CA, reveal their overseeding methods. They provide important tips on achieving high germination rates in the fall and encouraging the warm-season grasses to return in the spring. University turf researchers and turfgrass breeders report some of their latest discoveries. More sports turf managers have been able to justify overseeding where dormant warm-season turf is used heavily during the winter.

26 THE LIVING SOIL — ABSORBING SHOCK THE NATURAL WAY

Two experienced turf specialists state why they feel sports turf managers need to pay more attention to the organisms living in the soil. The Lawn Institute's Eliot Roberts and The National Sports Turf Council's Fred Grau build a case for including clay and humus in sports turf root zones. They also describe how maintenance practices can encourage organisms living within the soil to keep it soft and resilient for both the health of the turf and the athletes playing on it. This story is a look below the surface for a better understanding of how soil impacts turf management.

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COVER: Overseeded peninsula green at Innisbrook Golf and Country Club, in Tarpon Springs, FL. The fairways are not overseeded.