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MAIN EVENTS

16 BERMUDAGRASS SOLUTIONS FOR LOW-BUDGET TRANSITION ZONE FIELDS

Trying to grow cool-season grasses in transitional climates with limited resources can frustrate managers of football and soccer fields. Usually the only time available to repair thin or damaged turf is from mid-May to mid-August, a time when cool-season grasses are difficult to establish. However, summer is the best time to establish or renovate bermudagrass. Dr. David Minner, University of Missouri turf specialist, explains why bermudagrass is an economical alternative to cool-season grasses for managers of low-budget fields. He outlines the renovation process, the types of bermudagrasses available, and how to deal with the threat of winterkill.

22 PRODUCTIVITY, AGRONOMICS RANK HIGHEST IN MOWER SELECTION

The ultimate goal of golf course superintendents and sports turf managers today is to achieve a combination of quality and playability that fits each particular area under their care. As a result, no single mower or mowing program can be expected to meet all their needs. Realizing this, manufacturers are unveiling new models each year designed for specific uses. To help you make sense out of the many changes in mowers today, we spoke to agronomists, manufacturers, and turf managers. Besides productivity, turf managers should consider agronomic aspects of mower selection. One thing is made quite clear: Mowing frequency improves turf quality. Greater productivity permits increased mowing frequency. By utilizing the right combination of mowing equipment, all turf managers can come closer to their goal of quality turf.

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COVER: A Midiron bermudagrass football field in Kansas City, MO, overseeded in the summer with Guymon bermudagrass and perennial ryegrass. Photo courtesy: Dr. David Minner.