MAIN EVENTS

20 BASEBALL DIAMOND OF THE YEAR AWARD: PHILLIES RESTORE JACK RUSSELL STADIUM TO GLORY

Dale Long evaluates 88 minor league facilities east of the Mississippi River each year for the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues. When he saw the improvement in 33-year-old Jack Russell Stadium in Clearwater, FL, he was astounded. The Phillies took over maintenance of the stadium in 1985, placing Ron Timpanaro in charge of the grounds. The relatively inexperienced Timpanaro applied his eye for detail and sought the advice of experts to give the Phillies one of the best spring training facilities in the country. His efforts earned the 1989 Baseball Diamond of the Year Award in the professional category.

28 DROUGHT AND STRESS COMPLICATE PREEMERGENCE WEED CONTROL

Two years of drought and a combination of other stresses are raising questions about the effects of preemergence herbicides on weakened turf. While experts agree that competition from annual grassy and broadleaf weeds is the worst enemy of golf and sports turf, they recommend that the impact of herbicides on newly installed sod, overseeded turf and recently seeded sites be carefully considered. The solution rests in a complete understanding of the impact of all cultural practices on turf and an expanded knowledge of preemergence herbicides on the market.

35 SWING JOINTS—VITAL COMPONENTS OF VALVE-IN-HEAD IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

The increasing popularity of constantly pressurized, valve-in-head irrigation systems is placing new importance on the water- and energy-saving benefits of prefabricated swing joints. Small leaks in standard fittings between laterals and sprinkler heads can add up to significant losses in both water and energy over an entire pressurized irrigation system. Furthermore, swing joints protect heads and laterals from surface traffic and winter heaving. They also simplify the job of keeping heads at grade so they won't disrupt play or be damaged by maintenance equipment. Swing joints contribute to the overall integrity of today's irrigation systems on valuable golf courses and sports fields.

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COVER: Jack Russell Stadium in Clearwater, FL, spring training site for the Philadelphia Phillies and home field for its Class A Clearwater club.