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MAIN EVENTS

14 TURF TRACK MAINTENANCE

In all of Canada there are only two horse racing facilities with turf race tracks and both are owned by the Ontario Jockey Club. Woodbine, site of the Rothman International, the country's most prestigious horse race, has three different turf tracks. During the six-month racing season, the tracks are gouged, trampled, and beaten by the hooves of thoroughbreds. It's the job of Ron Aspden and Bill Partridge to keep the turf and the ground below in racing condition. The pair share their daily maintenance regimen, which keeps the fans, the owners, and the horses happy at Woodbine.

19 UNDERSTANDING SPORTS TURF NUTRITION

Like an athlete, sports turf requires a special diet. Both must exert tremendous energy to achieve goals set for them, recover from injury, and remain durable. Fertilizers are the source of this energy, but they vary considerably in the nutrients they contain. An understanding of these nutrients can help you select fertilizers which best fit your maintenance program and budget. It can also assure you and those who use your facility that fertilization is beneficial, not harmful, to the environment.

24 SPRAYING SYSTEMS: PROPER PERFORMANCE CONSERVES CHEMICALS

Sprayers are a tool, which when used properly, allows you to apply just the right amount of pesticide or fertilizer necessary to the job with the least impact on your budget and the environment. The only way to be sure that the safe and effective rate of a chemical is being applied is to stay on top of the condition and calibration of the spray equipment. This article reveals how you can save 20 percent of your chemical budget by paying attention to sprayer performance by utilizing new devices on the market.

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COVER: Woodbine Race Track in Toronto, Ontario. Photo Courtesy:
O. M. Scott & Sons.