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MAIN EVENTS

11 FERTIGATION: GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR BUDGET AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM

If you are planning to upgrade your irrigation system, you should consider including a fertigation system. By injecting fertilizers into irrigation water, you can eliminate peaks and valleys in turf nutrition while easing labor, equipment, chemical, and storage costs. Many turf managers have found fertigation useful in stretching tight budgets to meet greater amounts of play and higher turf standards. Experts reveal that fertigation is the least likely of all nitrogen sources to leach and the best to prevent groundwater contamination.

18 AERATION AND TOPDRESSING: APPLYING TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE DISRUPTION

Aeration and topdressing are two of the most disruptive cultural practices in turf management. Manufacturers and contractors are working on ways to speed up or reduce this disruption. New technology combined with the development of diagnostic tools now enables turf managers to determine the frequency and timing of aeration and topdressing. As a result, they can better balance the disturbance with the benefits.

25 IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT RESTORES CONTROL AT USC

Rather than undertake a massive overhaul of its extensive irrigation system, the University of Southern California in Los Angeles created an irrigation department to develop and carry out a renovation program. By addressing the problems of water conservation and system performance, the irrigation department directed by Jim Peralta at USC has control over its long-term maintenance costs without sacrificing the quality of the campus landscape.

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COVER: Oak Pointe Golf Course in Brighton, MI. Photo courtesy: Reinhold and Vidosh, Inc.