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JULY 1995

MAIN EVENTS

10 The Beam Clay 1995 Football Field of the Year: Demaree Stadium, Merrillville, IN

Demaree Stadium is part of a 70-acre athletic complex at Merrillville High School. "Turf is a living, dynamic thing," says Superintendent Don Wirick. "With nearly 100 acres of sports turf fields, we have to be flexible." Bob Tracinski profiles the 1995 Football Field of the Year and the man who keeps the grass green.

14 Get a Grip on Your Irrigation Program

Precise water management begins with an irrigation audit. Auditing a system means a better understanding of the pressure, soil, water and infiltration rate relationships of sports fields. Engineers at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo have developed an auditing program that provides the tools needed to tune up your sprinkler system.

18 Establishing or Improving Turf with Hydraulic Seeding

Hydraulic seeding is perhaps the most efficient way to establish turf for a new field or to overseed a previously established field. It's easier than mechanical seeding and less expensive than sodding. Whether you do the job yourself or contract it out to a specialist, hydraulic planting offers the turf manager both control and convenience.

21 Field Playability: Measuring Performance

The World Soccer Federation wanted consistent playing conditions at all World Cup venues. Steve Cockerham of the University of California at Riverside and John Kiesling, agricultural operations shop manager at UC-Riverside, combined to develop a unique tool to measure the playability of a soccer field so that a standard could be defined and matched at all venues. Cockerham details the development of the UCR Fieldgauge and describes the field-testing process.

24 Turf of the Month: Creeping Red Fescue

Creeping red fescue is one of the few turfgrass varieties that is actively avoided by turf managers. It is very rarely used on athletic fields and then only as part of a bluegrass/ryegrass mixture. However, its shade tolerance and low maintenance requirements make creeping red fescue useful for very specific applications, such as under permanent bleachers, where shade tolerance and low-maintenance needs are important qualities for a turfgrass.

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On the Cover:

The UCR Fieldgauge was used to measure field-playability conditions at all nine World Cup Soccer venues in the United States. Photo courtesy: Rudy Khan, UC-Riverside.