Cover Story

14 Preparing Fields for Football and Soccer Season
It's never too early to start thinking about the fall sports season. Jim Puhalla shares some maintenance practices that will help ensure that your turf survives the stress of football and soccer this year.

Main Events

28 Reducing Field Compaction
Dr. Coleman Ward's formula for successfully defeating compaction emphasizes informed field assessment and prevention, and offers solutions to existing problems.

32 Budgeting Nitrogen for Cool-Season Turf
Former editor Jim Williams returns to the pages of sportsTURF to examine the role timing plays in nitrogen application.

36 Applicator's Log: Humates in Sports Turf Management
Michael DePew presents Humates as an organic alternative to chemical applications.

40 Field Focus: Joy Christian Athletic Complex
STMA honors the Joy facility of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, TN, with its 1997 Softball Field of the Year Award.

Line-Up

Front Office ........................................... 6
Tip o' the Month ........................................ 6
Calendar .................................................. 8
STMA Message .......................................... 8
Rookies .................................................... 34
STMA in Action ......................................... 46
In the News .............................................. 49
Reader Services ......................................... 50
Classifieds ............................................... 50
Advertisers' Index ...................................... 51
Q & A ....................................................... 52

On the Cover:

The summer sun may be beating down, but the fall sports season is just around the corner. Are your fields ready?