Sports Turf Presence Increasing STMA IT ACTIO at State and Regional Turfgrass Conferences

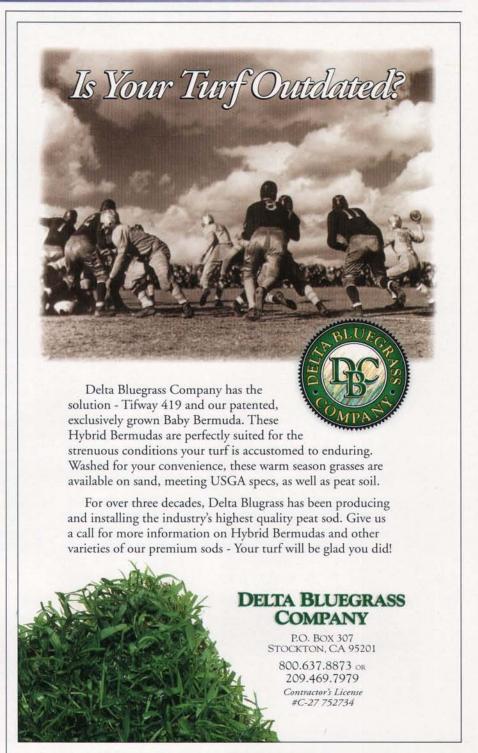
STMA Annual Conference and Exhibition is our industry's BIG SHOW. This year's conference, held Jan. 12-16 in St. Louis, is a great example of the growth in sports turf management—in STMA membership, in participation, and in the interest and attention focused on sports turf management throughout the green industry.

The sports turf presence also is spreading across state and regional turfgrass conferences. In some cases, this is evident by one or two educational sessions covering specific aspects of sports turf management. In other cases, there is one full day of educational sessions focusing on sports turf management. Some turfgrass conferences have made the big step, offering a sports turf management "track" that extends for all the breakout sessions of the conference.

Many of these state and regional events have been included in the Chapter News segments previously and several more are included in this listing. The sports turf educational focus has covered educational sessions, workshops and round-table discussions. Trade show exhibitors have included the specialized needs of sports turf managers in their displays.

Some STMA Chapters have scheduled their annual meetings and election or installation of officers and board members in conjunction with their state or regional conference.

The point is, sports turf management has stepped up to the plate in its rightful role as one of the heavy hitin the green industry. Congratulations to all of you who have played a role in making this happen. Whether you have been the Chapter representative on the turfgrass organization board or part of the program planning committee, served as a speaker, provided input for a speaker, coordinated pre-conference details or assisted with logistics at the conference, THANK YOU. The more visible



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the presence of sports turf management in such events, the greater the recognition of its importance in the green industry

Chapter news

Northern-California: The Northern-California Chapter of STMA will be cosponsoring a sports turf program in conjunction with the Northern California Turf and Landscape Conference from 9 a.m.- noon on Friday, Jan. 21 at the Santa Clara Convention Center.

Bob Milano, University California, Berkeley, will open the program with an overview of the STMA and introductions. Included in the program are: Jay Beals, of The Beals Group, presenting, "How Clients, Users and Funding Determine a Product Outcome;" Jim Mendenfall, of SporTech, Inc., presenting, "Field Turf, A New Generation of Synthetic Surfaces;" Skip Stevens, of Valley Crest Landscape, presenting, "Pac Bell Park, the Excitement Is Building Toward Opening Day;" and John Donhauser, of Enviable Greens, pre-



STMA members participate in a round table discussion.



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