

# Q&A

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dressing sand can be applied before deep coring with a vertidrain.

On native soils I typically use straight sand since it is effective, easy and inexpensive. Aggressive coring will help mix the sand with the native soil. The most effective modification (greatest change in physical properties with the least amount of added sand) has been obtained from sands in the very coarse to coarse size range. Select a uniform coarse sand (80 percent of the particles between 1.0 and 0.5 mm and 95 percent between 2.0 and 0.5 mm) to maximize large pore space when modifying native soil fields high in silt and clay. Other beneficial materials such as city compost or inorganic amendments (Turface, Axis, Zeopro, etc.) can simply be topdressed and incorporated into the profile with coring and dragging.

The best time to smooth out the bumps and depressions in the field is at the end of a playing season when the grass is worn and some of the soil may be exposed. Slow dragging with a leveling bar or drag will cut the topdressing off of the high areas and deposit it in the low areas. Combine this with seeding and the repeated process over a three-year period will result in a much smoother field.

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