

Painting fields

Tips from your peers on technique and equipment



"The Tru Mark E100 is very simple to operate, very efficient, and very easy to use. It's lightweight, making it easy to handle and easy to push. The design is simple which makes it a low maintenance product," says Darrell Carlson, maintenance supervisor, Fremont High School, Fremont, NE.

Tru Mark says it has solved the time-consuming task of applying hash marks, blocked lettering and boundary marking without using stencils. The Marker E-100 with its optional paint boom now provides sports turf and grounds maintenance staff a means to quickly applying a 24 x 4 hash mark, boundary stripes and lettering. The two nozzles paint boom with painting box ensures a quick and professional looking wide line for striping football fields, sidelines, end lines, end zones and coaches/player boxes.



The grounds maintenance staff at Lewis Palmer High School, Monument, CO extensively uses the spray boom for their herbicide applications with great results, reports Tru Mark. The optional spray boom on their RS-500 Rider can function as a field marker (end zone marking), herbicide sprayer, and fertilizer applicator for large sport fields.

Recent upgrades to the two 3.3 gallon per minute 12 volt electric pumps ensure speed and pressure. The spray wand with 20 feet of hose comes standard for spot spraying in restricted areas. See www.athleticfieldmarker.com.



A crew member (left) marks a one-piece, 6 mil poly stencil's color-coded half moon cutouts. When the stencil is removed, the crew (right) connects the dots and fills in with the proper color spray paint.

Partac/Beam Clay produces one-piece stencils designed by the same art department that handles many NFL logos; custom cut from your specifications. A 30 x 160-ft. endzone stencil typically weighs about 70 lbs. and can be used for years with proper care.



Bench tarp exceeds expectations

There's a new bench tarp material on the market called EnkamatPlus and according to its manufacturer, Colbond, it is capable of withstanding continuous pounding from the feet of athletes, coaches and spectators while protecting natural grass.

Ross Kurcab, Turf Manager of the Denver Broncos, was one of the first to put the new tarps to the test and declared that the decision to purchase the tarps proved to be the right one.

"When compared to the geo-blanket, which we installed side by side with these bench tarps, the difference was significant, with less damage to the grass under the tarps. They honestly exceeded my expectations. After a game, when we rolled them up, we saw the grass in much better shape than the grass outside the tarped area where a lot of foot traffic

occurred. We were very impressed with the condition of the grass."

EnkamatPlus consists of durable Enkamat bonded to polyester geotextile. Enkamat is a geomatrix matting that provides an air space underneath the cover, which results in a reusable cover that preserves natural grass.

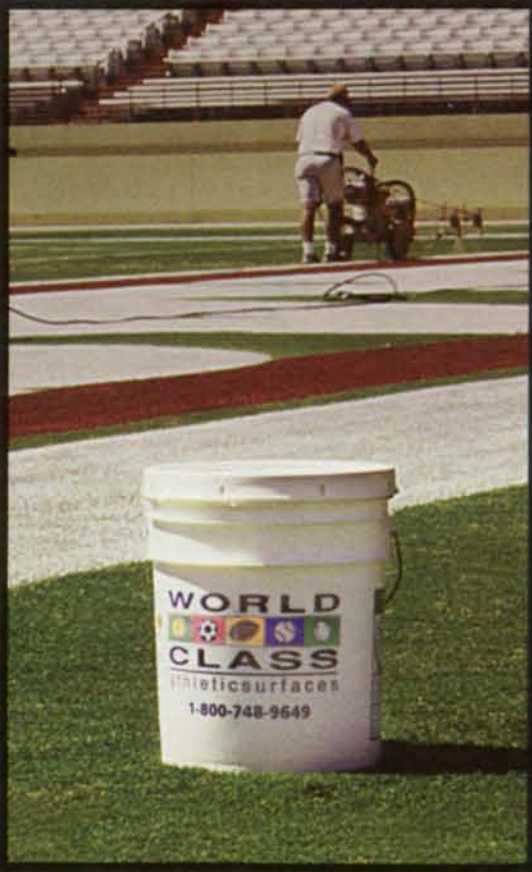
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"We're very confident that EnkamatPlus will play a dominant role in a groundskeeper's quest for natural turf protection, particularly at the player's bench," says Bob Curry, president of Covermaster Inc., exclusive marketer of the product in North America.

The product is available in 16 feet width, in rolls up to 150 feet in length. It is also highly recommended as a concert cover suitable for seating, stage and sound set-ups. For more information call Covermaster at 800-387-5808.

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