



cover story

College/University Football Field of the Year

08 Bart Prather and Scott Field of Mississippi State University earned STMA 2003 Football Field of the Year honors in the College/University division.

features

IN & ON THE GROUND

12 Can you impact your soil microbiology?

Turfgrass managers, especially sports turf managers, are inundated with products that are marketed to improve turf and increase stress tolerance. Researchers do not have the resources to scientifically test the merits of all products.

14 OSU's stabilized turf a Buckeye exclusive

Football power's field is now a mixture of perennial ryegrass grown through a synthetic grid and stabilized by a sand base.

SPORTSTURF MACHINES

20 Juggling user groups

Growing grass is the easy part; the headaches start when you interact with the many users of your facilities. Here's some help.

21 Inspect and calibrate to save money

22 Topdressing tips

AROUND THE GROUNDS

28 Caring for plants in summer heat

Like some people, plants don't enjoy hot temps, and so they need some extra care as the season begins to heat up.

departments

06 From the Sidelines

07 STMA President's Message

31 STMA Chapter News

33 STMA in Action

34 Marketplace

37 Used Equipment

38 Q&A

ON THE COVER: Scott Field of Mississippi State University

SPORTSTURF (ISSN 1061-687X) (USPS 000-292) (Reg. U.S. Pat. & T.M. Off.) is published monthly by Adams Business Media at 833 W. Jackson, 7th Floor, Chicago, IL 60607. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Sportsturf, P.O. Box 2120, Skokie IL 60076-7820. For subscription information and requests, call Subscription Services at (847) 763-9565. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$40 US & Poss.; 2 years, \$65 US & Poss.; 1 year, \$85 Canada/Foreign Surface, 1 year, \$130 Airmail. All subscriptions are payable in advance in US funds. Send payments to Sportsturf, P.O. Box 2120, Skokie, IL 60076-7820. Phone: (847) 763-9565. Fax: (847) 763-9569. Single copies or back issues, \$6 each US/Canada; \$9 Foreign. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, IL, and other mailing offices. **COPYRIGHT** 2003, Sportsturf. Material may not be reproduced or photocopied in any form without the written permission of the publisher.