

BY KEVIN VOS, CSFM

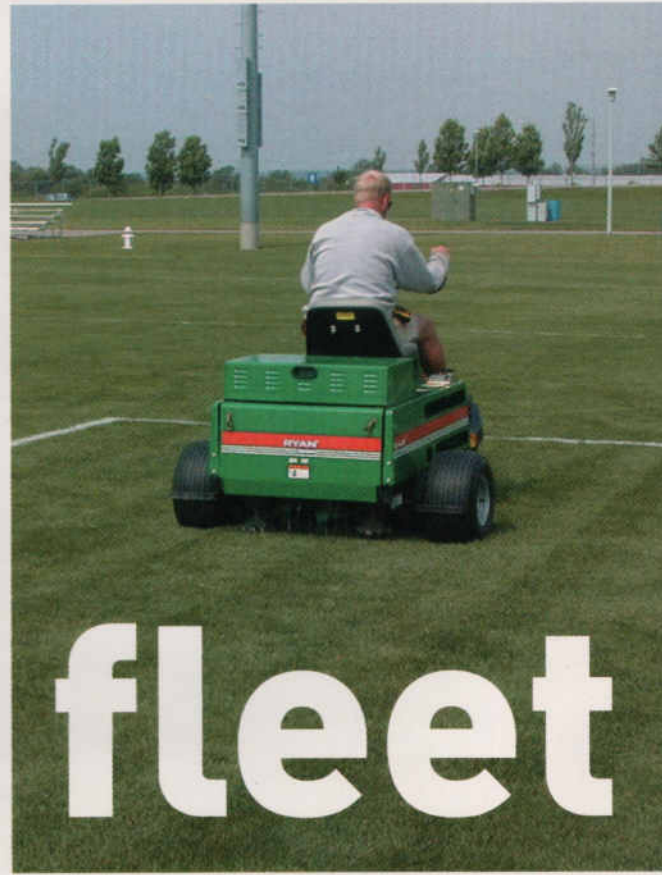
At the Muscatine Soccer Complex, Muscatine, IA, the number one goal is to maintain a safe, consistent, dense turf every day of the season. The following are just a few very important pieces of equipment in our arsenal to achieve this goal:

One of the most important pieces of equipment we use is our aerifier. We own or borrow four different types of aerifiers. Depending on what we're trying to accomplish during the season, we will use the Ryan GA30 aerifier with 1/2-inch hollow or 1/4-inch solid tines in the high use areas all season long. Solid tine aerification is used during the heavy amounts of usage to allow some additional oxygen to the roots without disruption of the surface. The Ryan Renovaire with 3/4-inch core tines is used on each field a minimum of two times per season.

Another important piece of equipment is the Land Pride overseeder. It is used extensively throughout the season to slice in heavy amounts of perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass seed. At many times of the year, we overseed with core aerification to break up cores and give some good hiding places for the seed to pop.

One of our more recent purchases has been very valuable to the overall turf management program. The John Deere TC125 collector system is used to pick up aerification cores, loose debris after the games, and for leaf pickup. It has enhanced our core removal with the sand topdressing program over the 22 acres of soccer fields.

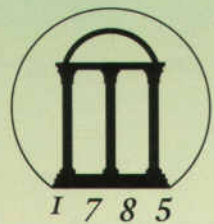
The Jacobsen AR2500 rotary enviro decks mower is valuable for its efficient mowing time and the ability to stripe



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for aesthetics. The quality of cut is excellent and it lifts the grass upright. The soccer fields are mowed a minimum of three times per week, although during the peak growing season they are mowed almost daily. Working with a money-pinching municipal budget, our mowing hours have to be efficient.

Our three Cushman Trucksters are workhorses with a sharp turning radius, heavy cargo bed payload, and good towing capacity. They are used for spraying, running the

topdresser, hauling heavy payloads, moving materials and staff to job sites, and pulling equipment.

These are just a few of the many pieces of equipment our staff uses to maintain the playing surface of our soccer fields. **ST**

Kevin Vos, CSFM, is supervisor/athletic facilities, for the City of Muscatine, IA, Parks & Recreation department.



OVERSEEDER/ DETHATCHER

Jacobsen's Mataway overseeder and dethatcher is a 35.5-in. machine that allows you to dethatch or dethatch and overseed in one pass. The 4-cycle Kohler engine delivers 11 hp at 3,600 rpm. The unit itself has a spring loaded belt tightener for an easy clutch while the primary drive comes with a 4-L section V-belt to the front wheels connected by gear box and sealed roller chain. This combined with the triple 3-V section V-belts from engine to reel give the mower better handling.

Jacobsen/888-922-8873

For information, circle 106 or see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-106>



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BLEC's Ground Breaker and Sandmaster attachment can help your drainage problem. The machine effectively drains an area of ground allowing water to pass into a mains system or dyke. The Sandmaster attachment achieves this by creating a series of sand bands 10 in. apart and to a variable depth of 8 in. in a matrix format, thereby allowing uniform and complete drainage and decompaction of the area.

BLEC USA/888-325-BLEC

For information, circle 102 or see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-102>



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turf maintenance equipment



PROCORE AERATOR

The Toro ProCore 660 aerator, with 60-in. width, covers up to 1.5 acres an hour with 5-in. hole spacing. Designed for large areas, the ProCore 880 aerator has 80 in. aerating width for up to 2 acres per hour performance. Both units are tractor mounted and feature a triple belt design for durability and performance in tough soil conditions.

The Toro Company/800-348-2424

For information, circle 107 or see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-107>

TRENCH-FILLER ATTACHMENT

Turfco has available a trench-filler attachment for its WideSpin 1530 tow-behind topdresser. The 1530 can top-dress as light as a fertilizer spreader up 30 ft. wide, or uniformly apply more material up to 15 ft. wide. Now the attachment can help fill washed-out areas, irrigation ditches, and more.

Turfco Manufacturing/763-785-1000

For information, circle 103 or see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-103>



GROOM INFILL FIELDS

The Synthetic Sports Turf Groomer and Spring Tine Rake allow fast, efficient, grooming of all infill synthetic sports fields in both wet and dry conditions. The brush design moves infill material three different directions for every three feet of forward movement,

working the infill into low spots and depressions left after play. The Groomer lifts the turf fibers leaving them in a plush, upright position. There are 14 super duty blue brushes on the Groomer made of synthetic material that retain their original shape, resist wear, and will not rot.

The Spring Tine Rake combs through the infill, relieving compaction, releasing trapped turf fibers, and assuring a level playing surface. Because the Synthetic Sports Turf Groomer is perfectly balanced, bounce is eliminated while towing, providing the optimum groomed surface.

GreensGroomer WorldWide/888-298-8852

For information, circle 100 or see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-100>



VERTI-CUTTER

The VC-60 Verti-cutter is for continuous heavy-duty use in all types of turf. The unit's patented swing hitch allows you to verti-cut around objects while turning, without tearing established turf. Pivot points allow unit to float over uneven terrain. Cutting depth adjustable in the field without tools.

First Products/800-363-8780

For information, circle 108 or

see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-108>

BETTER SEEDING

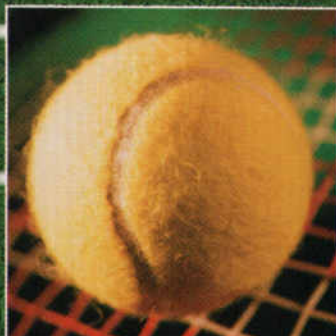
The SE-60 Seeda-Vator has the flexibility of primary seeding or overseeding with the same machine.

Patented vibrating tines extensively fracture soil without destroying existing turf. Machine has swing hitch that allows you to turn around objects without tearing turf. Available with either ground driven or electric drive seed hopper.

First Products/800-363-8780

For information, circle 101 or

see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-101>



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POWER WHEELBARROW

Haulz-All has added the Über Mover 200 2-wheeled power wheelbarrow to its family. Combining the maneuverability of a singled-wheel wheelbarrow with the stability of a 4-wheeled wagon, the unit will move heavy, bulky loads. It features an 8-cuft poly tub and will handle loads up 500 lbs. Units are completely electric running off twin 12-volt rechargeable batteries. Emits no fumes and run silently.

Haulz-All/866-428-5925

For information, circle 104 or

see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-104>

GROUNDHOGS NOW FOLD

AerWay is introducing an all-new folding design, available in 12- and 15-ft. widths, as part of its Groundhog family. Folded width is within 90 in., allowing for easy transport through gates and along pathways. Made for those with multiple field complexes, the machines can aerate more than 10 acres an hour and it can be fitted with any type of AerWay tines.

AerWay/800-457-8310

For information, circle 099 or

see <http://www.oners.ims.ca/4569-099>



72-INCH VERTI-CUT

Turf Specialties has a 6-ft. model of its Thatch Master verti-cut unit. It uses the same technology proven over the past 13 years but is 20 percent wider and so reduces labor costs by 20 percent. An NFL turf manager says, "The Thatch Master is a primary piece of equipment we use to renovate our field after a game."

Turf Specialties/800-201-1031



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