



Lawn sweepers find a new home on sports turf

By Robin Pendergrast

The advent of the original lawn sweeper took place more than 100 years ago. Throughout the country and worldwide, sports turf managers are continuing to use this steadfast piece of lawn equipment.

While the original sweepers were introduced in the early 1900s by Parker Sweeper (currently Minuteman Parker), the evolution and the re-design of the multi-

tasking equipment has almost been static. And that's up to today's standard, knowing that the original design was ideal and progressive from the start.

The application of the simple, yet productive, lawn sweeper can be summarized in its simplicity by providing an effortless ability to swiftly brush turf into a standing position even after the most competitive athletic contests.

Even the large divots that are often a by-product of soccer, football and other competitive events do not require much heavier cumbersome vacuums. The only requirement is the use of a quick swathe of a two- or three-gang lawn sweeper system.

Turf managers can use, in most cases, the multiple-height capabilities of lawn sweepers. The mowed grass or impacted grass can be cut off better once it is serviced with the lawn

MINUTEMAN PARKER WEBINAR

A Stadium Demonstration

Minuteman Parker is pleased to participate in and help inaugurate the new Webinar product demonstration program in concert with *SportsTurf* magazine.

The online presentation of the Minuteman Parker Lawn Sweeper system is an exciting and new venue for educating sports turf professionals about the value of this extremely well established product concept.

The Minuteman Parker Lawn Sweeper system is presented in the Webinar as well as in a PowerPoint presentation that details the benefits of the various product line components and many other aspects that provide a thorough, yet simplistic, way to help manage sports turf facilities.

The Minuteman Parker Lawn Sweeper system, considered by many to be an original, offers an exciting, new opportunity at a relatively inexpensive cost to handle some of the most difficult lawn-care challenges provided on sports turfs.

In addition to the Minuteman Parker website, www.parker-sweeper.com, the sports turf Webinar is yet another venue to help assist today's sports turf professionals in maintaining optimum surfaces.

To view the demo, go to <http://oners.hotims.com/9094-300>



sweeper system by standing the grass up to its optimum cutting position.

In some sports turf venues it is common to use the sweeper 15 to 20 times during a particular season, whether it is a combination of football games, soccer, or lacrosse. The ability to eliminate the need of heavier, more cumbersome and damaging equipment is also minimized with the availability and use of a combined lawn sweeper system.

In hotter climates where bermudagrass is the dominant or grass of choice, overseeding is a logical and productive extension of the lawn sweeper system that incorporates various tiers of bristles from the lawn sweepers to "open up" the grass.

The lawn sweeper handles the conventional picking up of leaves and grass and other types of debris that sometimes finds its way onto a stadium turf. In addition, the productivity and viability of the fertilization and cutting processes are maintained more effectively with the use of a lawn sweeper's single swathe over the course of an athletic arena.

Very simply the grass is cut off better, it stands up better, and it spreads out better, without the necessity to operate with less efficient, heavy-duty vacuums.

A remarkable aspect of this simple piece of equipment is that it has been operational for nearly 100 years. They really haven't changed much in design since their introduction in the early 1900's. And that's up to standard, knowing that the original design was ideal from the start.

Editor's note: In the first-of-a-kind offering from this magazine, an online demonstration of Parker Minuteman's lawn sweeper product is now available on the website, <http://oners.hotims.com/9094-300>. We hope to collaborate with other manufacturers in the future to provide more "virtual" product demonstrations.

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