

water infiltration into the soil and helps reduce runoff. Aeration facilitates root uptake by the turf and creates a more habitable environment for the soil organisms.

Cool and warm season turfgrasses each have periods of growth and dormancy. Plan your nutrient program around the nutritional requirements of your turf stand and optimum growth periods for your particular species. A cool season turfgrass best management practice is to overseed with improved cultivars. You can select cultivars with genetic characteristics such as darker color and better disease resistance that require fewer nutrient inputs and add biodiversity to your turf stand. Lists of improved cultivars suitable for your geographic area are available from the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) on the web at www.ntep.org.

Mowing is the most common cultural practice that occurs on sports fields at all levels. Follow the best management practices for

mowing with sharp blades at an acceptable mowing height that is specific for the turf species, following the 1/3 mowing height rule. The question of whether or not you will leave clippings will factor into your nutrient management program, as the clippings when left return a residual amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium to the soil to be broken down by microorganisms and used by the turf.

Nutrient management is about good stewardship and working smarter. When our mission is to produce safe, playable, and attractive sports fields, it helps to deliver great results. It is good for us individually and as an industry to do our part to help our environment become healthier through careful planning and responsible actions. ■

Don Savard, CSFM, CGM is also a Delaware Certified Nutrient Consultant and manages the athletic facilities and grounds at the Salesianum School in Wilmington.

Common quick release water soluble fertilizers

Urea	45-0-0
Ammonium nitrate	34-0-0
Ammonium sulfate	18-0-0
Monoammonium phosphate	12-61-0
Diammonium phosphate	18-46-0
Superphosphate	0-20-0
Triple superphosphate	0-48-0
Muriate of potash	0-0-60
Sulfate of potash	0-0-50

John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

Can you identify this sports turf problem?



Problem: Brown spots on soccer field

Turfgrass Area: Soccer Field

Location: South Portland, Maine

Grass Variety: Kentucky Bluegrass

**Answer to
John Mascaro's Photo
Quiz on Page 51**

*John Mascaro is President
of Turf-Tec International*



asking for more responsibilities - increases your value within the organization. Asking for additional work shows an interest and desire to help your department and company to succeed. It also puts a spotlight on your value to the business.

3. Volunteer for boards. If you have your career set on something beyond what you are doing in your present position, seek out opportunities to volunteer or serve on advisory boards, where you can build a reputation as someone who is passionate and dedicated to your particular industry.

4. Sharpen your people skills. Strong interpersonal skills play a crucial role in gaining the respect of your boss and coworkers; they will also attract the notice of outside influencers who might open new doors of opportunity for you. Be friendly, outgoing, and personable. Listen carefully to people, and practice being a clear and effective communicator.

5. Be innovative. Never be afraid to

think outside of the box and put your business acumen to work. Stay on the lookout for creative solutions to problems that will make you - and your boss - look good.

6. Find a mentor. Develop mentoring relationships, either inside or outside the company. Recent studies have shown that a mentor higher up in the company influences four out of five promotions. Mentors are also great sources of information and career guidance.

7. Sell yourself. Learn the fine art of self-promotion. If you have had major accomplishments or created successful programs, make sure people know about it - especially those in influential positions who could help you advance professionally. Let it be known that you are seeking a promotion or the next step up in your career.

8. Keep learning. A proven way to advance in your career is to be continually acquiring new knowledge. Stay on top of trends or developments in your field and make sure that

your current résumé reflects those needed skills.

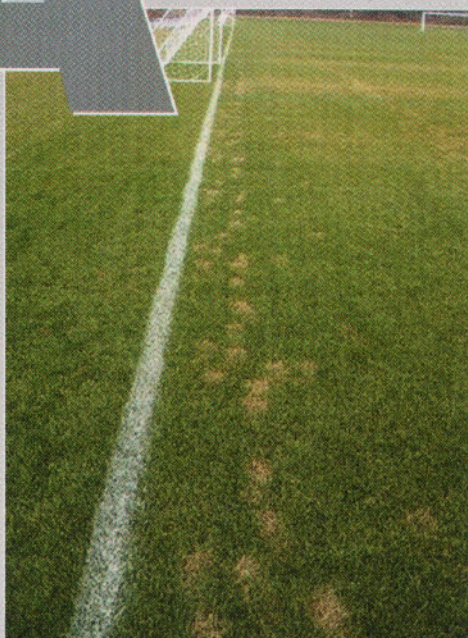
9. Network. Strengthen your personal network and join professional organizations, attend industry conferences, or even volunteer. The more people who are aware of your strengths and abilities, the better your chances of hearing about any new opportunities that might arise.

10. Build your reputation. In business, your reputation is the most valuable thing you own. Be known for being dependable, professional, and cooperative. Act and look the part by dressing professionally. Make a name for yourself by attending conferences, delivering speeches, or writing articles. ■

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**Answer:
from page 14**



John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

The brown spots on this soccer field are a result of foot traffic on a day when light frost occurred. It was too tempting to show this photo during the heat of summer; however it should be used as a reminder to athletes and coaches about the effects of walking on turf while frost is still on the plant.

Many athletes do not realize that when a light frost is on the grass blades the water inside the leaves is also frozen solid. Since water is the main component of grass tissue, when the water inside the turf is frozen, traffic causes the ice crystals in the grass cells to puncture through the cell walls, killing the leaf tissue and causing the resulting brown turf.

With a heavy freeze, the growing point or crown of the turf is also frozen which, if injured through foot traffic or vehicular traffic, will cause the entire plant to die. It is still hard to believe that since frost was evident, the perpetrators still managed to walk inside the sideline directly on the field's playing surface. ■

Photo submitted by Rick Perruzzi, CSFM, sports turf manager of the City Of South Portland Parks and Recreation Dept., South Portland, ME.

If you would like to submit a photograph for John Mascaro's Photo Quiz please send it to Turf-Tec International, John Mascaro, 1471 Capital Circle NW, Suite # 13, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or email to john@turf-tec.com. If your photograph is selected, you will receive full credit. All photos submitted become property of SportsTurf Magazine.