Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Garnet paint on turf
Turfgrass area: Stadium End zone
Location: Tallahassee, FL
Grass Variety: 419 Bermudagrass

Answer to John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz on Page 43
John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

We’ve Been Thinking About Saving Water. Have You?

Research has shown that using AXIS® calcined diatomaceous earth can reduce your overall water usage by as much as 30%. AXIS® has the largest pore size of any mineral soil amendment, allowing for maximum delivery of water directly to the root zone. Deeper, stronger, and healthier roots are the result. Isn’t it time to think about saving water on your field?

AXIS®
Naturally Irrigating Soil Amendment
www.epminerals.com • 800.366.7607
inquiry.minerals@eaglepicher.com

Fill in 117 on reader service form or visit http://oners.hotims.com/14686-117
The garnet colored paint on the turf in this stadium end zone is not a result of using too much paint in one area or even the result of spilling excess paint on the turf. The reason why this paint is still visible is because the turf growth has slowed in this circular area. The explanation as to why the turf growth has slowed is because the mascot for the FSU football team is a horse. This is the problem with football teams having large animals as mascots, the fact that they need to relieve themselves from time to time on your turf. Typically the area where the horse makes his mark is on the non painted areas leaving a brown spot in the days following the game. These brown spots are either plugged out or allowed to re-grow if adequate time is allowed between games. On this occasion, Renegade the horse chose a painted area to get some relief. At least it wasn't a pile of horse chips or that may have given a whole new meaning to goal line stance!

Thank you to Brian Donaway, grounds supervisor at Florida State University, for allowing me to take these pictures.

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