

# John Mascaro's Photo Quiz

John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

## Can you identify this sports turf problem?

**Problem:** Brown lines on field

**Turfgrass Area:** Football fields

**Location:** Central US

**Grass Variety:** Perennial ryegrass

**Answer to John Mascaro's Photo Quiz on Page 35**



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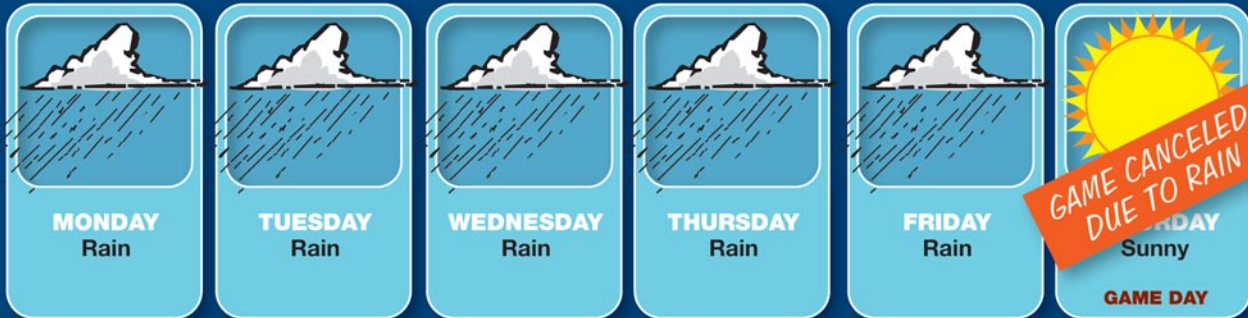
## » Answer: from page 17

The brown lines on these football fields are the result of mowing. The Sports Turf Manager at this facility several years ago was using a fairly new rotary mower with an offset cutting unit. The day before this photo was taken, the mower blades were removed, sharpened and replaced. When George Toma saw these stripes on the field the following day, he assumed that the mower blades were put on backwards. Upon initial inspection of the mower, everything appeared to be correct. The blades were nice and sharp and attached correctly. The cutting heights of the decks were also found to be correct. They called out a representative for the mower manufacturer and it was determined that when the mower blades were sharpened, they were sharpened at an incorrect angle. When the blades hit the turf, they were not cutting properly but instead, just beating the grass. To also aggravate things, the incident occurred on a hot summer day when the cool season grass was most susceptible to injury. The mower blades were again removed, re-sharpened with the correct angle and replaced. This solved the problem.

*Photo submitted by George P. Toma, natural and artificial turf consultant, Westwood, KS.*

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 call (850) 580-4026 or email to [john@turf-tec.com](mailto: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.

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