

JOHN MASCARO'S PHOTO QUIZ

John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Green turf with brown turf surrounding
Turfgrass area: Research area on football practice field area
Location: Ames, Iowa
Grass Variety: Patriot Bermudagrass

Answer to John Mascaro's Photo Quiz on Page 33



Background illustration courtesy of istockphoto.com

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Answers from page 17

THE REASON WHY this turf area is green and the surrounding area is brown might surprise you. This part of Iowa was flooded last year in mid-August and this turf was under the floodwaters for about 48 hours. The Patriot Bermudagrass on this research area is located at the football practice fields at Iowa State University. The Patriot Bermudagrass appeared completely unaffected by the flood waters that devastated the stands of tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass that surrounded it. After the flood, the air temperatures were in the 90 degree range, stressing the bluegrass/fescue mix even further. Probably due to the lack of air exchange of the turf and its roots caused by the plants being under water was the final nail in the coffin for the cool season turf. Because the floods wiped out 100% of the tall fescue and about 80% of the bluegrass the Sports Turf Manager reseeded the entire area, with the exception of the Bermudagrass. The second photo is not really part of the same story, however after the winter frosts came, the Bermudagrass went dormant and the cool season grasses looked perfect, showing that no grass is suited to all areas of the country.

Photo submitted by Andrew Hoiberg, Ph.D. Student/Research Assistant at Iowa State University. Tim Vanloo is ISU's Athletic Field manager.



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. 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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