

Verticutting 101

Why

Verticutting is for thatch control and/or to prepare turf for overseeding. Thatch is an organic layer that develops between the soil surface and the turf canopy, mostly made up of non-decomposed stems. It indicates an imbalance in the turf management system simply because the soil microbial population cannot degrade the stems fast enough. Thatch is a haven for insects and fungal spores that can become problems during times of stress to turf.

How

Blades cut vertically into the turf canopy and sever lateral stems, thin grass and thatch. The tearing action can disrupt the playing surface similarly to core aeration. Thatch must be removed by raking blowing or sweeping. Leaving it on the turf will just add to the thatch layer.

Apply sufficient amounts of fertilizer and water after verticutting to promote rapid turf recovery.

You want to take advantage of the grass's recuperative potential.

When

Examine your thatch layer by removing a core; if it's definitely deeper than one-half inch, consider it time to dethatch. Do not however verticut before expected environmental stress. Warm-season turf the best time is late spring/early summer; when the turf-grass is actively growing; for cool-season spring is the best time and again late summer/early fall. You want to take advantage of the grass's recuperative potential. Consider verticutting 1x per "growing" season.

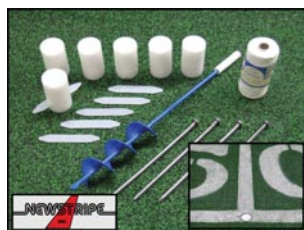
What

Heavy thatch producers include bermuda-grass (after verticutting Bermuda, take the many live stems and use as part of some planting material), zoysia, and Kentucky bluegrass. An aggressive fertilization/use of N and irrigation program makes this situation worse. Perennial ryegrass and tall fescue produce less thatch.



also features a hydrostatic drive with 25' hose for stencil work.

Newstripe



there are no exposed plugs, holes or hard materials that cleats can skid on. Once installed with the supplied auger, the 2.5" diameter markers make locating key field layout points a snap.

Newstripe



with an 18-hp Briggs and Stratton engine.

Redexim Charterhouse



ProCore SR series

Reduce soil compaction for healthier turf. The Toro Company's ProCore SR Series deep-tine aerators offer a variety of solutions to alleviate subsurface soil compaction on greens, fairways, sports fields, parks and many other areas. These durable and time-tested products are capable of withstanding the most extreme aeration conditions. The ProCore SR Series will get the job done!

The Toro Company



penetration. EasyChange tines reduce changeover time. A removable tine cover provides fast, easy access for changes and cleaning. Sealed, self-aligning tine shaft bearings keep maintenance to a minimum.

Turfco Manufacturing

New Turfco aerator

The TurnAer XT5 uses Turfco's patented steerable aerator technology with a new variable-speed and reversible hydrostatic drive system. The result is an aerator that's 50% more productive than traditional aerators. Operators can steer and reverse with tines in the ground eliminating need to stop, lift and turn with each pass, reducing fatigue, cutting job time and increasing productivity. A well-balanced machine, the XT5 places weight directly over the tines for better