Can you identify this sports turf problem?

**Problem:** White objects growing in turf  
**Turfgrass area:** Six month old municipal field  
**Location:** Pompano Beach, FL  
**Grass Variety:** 419 Bermudagrass

Answer to John Mascaro’s Photo Quiz on Page 33
Answers from page 17

This athletic field had been completely renovated 6 months before this photo being taken. The area had previously been a parking lot for the city’s former spring training site. New soil for the athletic fields had to be transported in for the construction project which was a mixture of 80% sand and 20% organic matter. The source of the organic matter was not clear as it was a low bid contract. After construction, it was determined that the organic matter was municipal compost which apparently had not been properly sterilized. After 2 weeks of wet South Florida weather, the maintenance crew went out to mow the fields and found them full of these nice white mushrooms. After the area was mowed, the mushrooms disappeared and have not re- turned since.

Photo submitted by Tom Curran, Sports Turf Manager at the City of Pompano Beach and the official SAFE Foundation auctioneer for STMA.

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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