

Please fill out this form in its entirety

Yes, please start/continue my **FREE subscription to Sportsturf**

FOR FASTER SERVICE visit our web site at <http://www.submag.com/sub/tf> or fax to 847-763-9569

No, thank you.

Which version would you like to receive?

Print Print/Digital

Signature: (required) _____ Date: _____

Name: (please print) _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: (required) _____

October 2011 - Expires March 2012 - RS1110

1 What is your company's primary business? (check ONLY ONE)
 Sports Complex Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
 School, College or University Park
 Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check ONLY ONE)
 A EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
 B MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
 C GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
 D SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
 F COACH Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?
 Y Yes N No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)
 F Over \$1 million C \$50,001 - \$100,000
 E \$500,001 - \$1 million B \$25,001 - \$50,000
 D \$100,001 - \$500,000 A \$25,000 and under

5 Please also send a free subscription to the following people at the same location
 Name _____ Title _____
 Name _____ Title _____

SportsTurf ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Advertiser	Page #	Web Address
Barenbrug USA	48	www.barusa.com
Beam Clay	44	www.beamclay.com
Covermaster	17	www.covermaster.com
CoverSports USA	11	www.coversports.com/ST
Cub Cadet Commercial	47	www.cubcadet.com/sportsturf
Diamond Pro	2	www.diamondpro.com
Ecolawn	44	www.ecolawnapplicator.com
Ewing Irrigation	9	www.ewing1.com
Field Away	33	www.turfmuncher.com
Hydraway Drainage Systems	19	www.hydraway.net
John Deere	5	www.johndeere.com/SportsTurf
Kochek Co., Inc.	44	www.kochek.com
Kubota Tractor	3	www.kubota.com
Pro's Choice Sports Field Products	21	www.proschoice1.com
Southern Athletic Fields	13	www.mulemix.com
Sports Turf Managers Association	37	www.stma.org
Sports Turf Managers Association	41	www.stma.org
Stabilizer Solutions	15	www.StabilizerSolutions.com
TifSport Growers Association	25	www.tifsport.com
TurfTime Equipment, LLC	44	www.TurfTimeEq.com
World Class Athletic Surfaces	13	www.worldclasspaints.com

ciently. "Without the relief angle, you potentially increase drag on the reels or increase the likelihood of metal-to-metal contact," Sides said. "This puts more strain on the entire tractor and generates more heat in the hydraulic or electrical systems."

In addition to adding wear to the unit as a whole, this additional strain can also start to have a negative impact on fuel economy.

"Drag, wear and heat are minimized with a relief angle and proper bedknife clearances," Sides said.

The proper angles for reels can generally be found in manufacturer's manuals.

How often to grind is another question Sides is frequently asked. While there

is no hard and fast rule, this is a major factor that a lot of folks overlook.

"How often and how heavy you topdress will dictate how often you'll need to grind," he said. "The more sand that goes down, the more frequently you'll have to grind."

One way to extend reel life and still aggressively topdress is to make sure the sand gets worked in well before mowing. Brushing or dragging will help keep the sand down at the root level where it belongs and not up eroding the reels on your mowers.

LAY OUT A GRINDING SCHEDULE

Finally, Sides recommends setting up a

grinding schedule. This will help ensure that units get taken care of regularly as well as allow turf managers to plan enough time to get the job done.

"Too often, we see reels get overlooked because there's just no time to grind," Sides said.

This schedule should be flexible, however, to deal with changing conditions. For example, a change in the topdressing program should lead to a review of the grinding schedule.

"Most people go too long between grinds," Sides said. "Having an established timeline helps keep reels in optimum mowing condition." ■