

JOHN MASCARO'S PHOTO QUIZ

John Mascaro is President of Turf-Tec International

Can you identify this sports turf problem?

Problem: Brown turf

Turfgrass area: Stadium baseball field

Location: Burlington, Iowa

Grass Variety: Kentucky bluegrass

Answer to John Mascaro's Photo Quiz on Page 33



Background illustration courtesy of istockphoto.com

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wrote **Chip Baker**, Asst. Baseball Coach,
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Answers from page 17

ALTHOUGH you might have guessed tarp damage, the reason why the turf turned brown under the tarp might surprise you. The brown turf is not the result of the turf getting too hot; it's a result of the turf getting too cold. On an April evening, the Sports Turf Manager covered this infield after a late night game as the temperatures quickly dropped and the wind blew strong all night long. The next morning, part of the tarp had even blown off the infield and when the crew uncovered the turf, they discovered ice had formed under the tarp. Apparently the micro-climate under the tarp produced ice and the action of the wind whipping under and on top of the tarp damaged the grass just like if you were to walk on heavily frosted grass. To add insult to injury, the next night during the 8th or 9th inning, another frost set in causing footprint damage as the teams continued to play. Luckily the temperatures warmed up quickly and the Bluegrass greened up again for spring.

Photo submitted by TJ Brewer, CSFM, Head Groundskeeper for the Burlington (IA) Bees, the Class A minor league of the Oakland Athletics.



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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