Problem: Blue/gray area on turf
Turfgrass area: Professional stadium field
Location: Denver, CO
Grass Variety: Perennial ryegrass

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

As you can see by the pile of flooring in the photo, there has been a concert on this field or in this case an ongoing construction project as the blue and grey area is in the shape of a ladder. The obvious guess would be that a summer concert caused heat burn stress on the Ryegrass turf; however this actually happened in early April in Denver. There was an ongoing construction project installing new, larger video boards with two cranes. The construction company left the small aluminum ladder on the grass just outside of where the field covers reach on what would be a record cold night with a single digit low of 6 degrees F. The ladder imprint is the result of direct low temperature injury to the young ryegrass turf. The extra cold transferred by the ladder from the air to the turf put this grass over the cold temperature injury threshold. Luckily, the marks were turf canopy damage only and the area was allowed to grow and the damage was simply mowed off.

Photo submitted by Ross Kurcab, CSFM, Denver Broncos Football Club, Sports Authority Field at Mile High Stadium.

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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