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March 2014 - Expires August 2014 - RS1403

- 1 What is your company's primary business?** (check **ONLY ONE**)
 F Sports Complex G Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
 T School, College or University P Park
 H 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 E 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**
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the renovation of the baseball, softball, and soccer complex while I was a student. As a student I also went on an internship in San Francisco working for the Giants. I was hired full time the next year and I spent 3 seasons as an assistant groundskeeper for the Giants. I then spent a summer at Comerica Park working for the Detroit Tigers as a member of the grounds crew and returned to MSU to be the groundskeeper for baseball, softball, and soccer in 2012. I just became a CSFM in January 2014.

ST: What practices do you use to keep your infield skin in peak condition?

Fouty: We feel it is key to start with a good base, which we add plenty of conditioner preseason and nail drag, mat drag, roll, repeat a couple times. We then add conditioner as needed throughout the season. We try to keep it about 70% calcined clay, 30% vitrified clay for a great surface. Whenever we have an event i.e., practice, game, or camp we nail drag, mat drag and water first thing in the morning, and depending on time we may mat drag and water again right before the event. After the event we nail drag to again to get all the clear marks and get us back

to level as best we can, followed again by mat drag and water. We also leaf rake edges after every event and broom every other and completely blow out edges with water two times a year. Usually right after the MSU baseball season and right before the fall ball season starts.

ST: What changes if any are you considering or implementing for the winning field in 2014?

Fouty: We are always striving to get a more consistent playing surface and we will continue to try new things if we think we can save some time or become more efficient in the way we manage and implement our management practices

ST: How do you see the Sports Turf Manager's job changing in the future?

Fouty: The job has, and will continue to, become more scientific and more professional. I would like to think that there will be a return to natural grass playing surfaces as field management gets better and construction of fields continues to get better. ■