It's easy to spot reel quality

Tear off a corner of this page. Now, use a scissors to cut off the other corner. Notice a difference? It's the same difference you'll spot when comparing turf cut by reel versus rotary mowers.

Reel mowers cut grass like a scissors cuts paper. Cleanly. There's less bruising of the grass plant so your turf looks better.

John Deere has four new reel mowers that give your fine turf this lush look. All four are hydraulically driven to deliver better quality cuts in long grass, wet conditions, or over contoured terrain. Places where ground-driven reels fall short.

The 303 and 305 are 3- and 5-gang pull-behind units. Both feature 30-inch floating cutting heads that mow down to ⅜-inch and are available in 4-, 6-, 8-, and 10-blade versions.

The 756 and 856 mount the same 30-inch reels on hydrostatic-drive John Deere traction units. Individual control of left, right and rear reels makes them perfect for areas where mowing around obstacles is a must. And, by simply removing the rear reel, both high-torque traction units can power other implements if needed.

For the name of your nearest dealer, or a free folder on all of John Deere's Golf and Turf Equipment call 800/447-9126 toll free (800/322-6796 in Illinois) or write John Deere, Dept. 956, Moline, IL 61265.

The 20-hp 756 and 24-hp 856 Turf Mowers deliver a quality 86-inch cut with individually controlled left, right, and rear reels.

Like all John Deere reel mowers, the 305 Gang Mower uses hydraulically-driven reels that work better in long grass, wet conditions, or over contoured terrain.

Nothing Runs Like a Deere®

JOHN DEERE 1837-1987 150

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COMMISSION ON OUTDOORS ASKS FOR $1 BILLION ANNUALLY FOR NATION'S PARKS

The President's Commission on Americans Outdoors has submitted a comprehensive report to President Reagan on the protection and improvement of the natural resources Americans use for recreation. The recommendation of the foundation is to develop a federal trust fund that would produce at least $1 billion annually to buy, improve and restore park and recreation lands.

A similar fund, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, is due to expire in 1989. During Reagan's presidency he has only once authorized more than $100 million for the fund although the original recommendation for that fund was $900 million per year.

The chief use of funds produced by the new report would be for recreational "greenways" along rivers and abandoned railroad and utility rights-of-way.

The committee revealed in its report that 46 states want more participation by the federal government in planning for recreational resources. Nearly half the states said cooperation between local recreational agencies and independent school authorities was crucial to make the most out of current facilities. Two-thirds of the states indicated that they need additional land to meet current or anticipated recreation levels. Basically, the committee believes the federal government can best act to build cooperation between existing agencies with recreational facilities.

The National Recreation and Park Association played a major role in assisting the committee headed by former Tennessee governor Lamar Alexander.

UNIVERSITIES TO HOST SUMMER OLYMPIC EVENTS

With the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, Korea, just one year away, competition is heating up this summer at universities across the U.S. Two major events of the season are the U.S. Olympic Festival to be held in Raleigh-Durham, NC, and the Tenth Pan American Games in Indianapolis, IN.

Hosting these events are a number of colleges and univerities. Most of the outdoor events for the U.S. Olympic Festival will be held at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, Duke University in Durham, and the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. More than 3,000 of America's top athletes will compete in 34 events July 13-26. More than 300,000 spectators are expected to attend the Festival.

The University of Indianapolis and the University of Indiana, Indianapolis campus will be used for many of the events during the Tenth Pan American games. Thousands of athletes from North and South America will compete August 7-23. The Pan American Games are held every four years.

Washington University in St. Louis, MO, will host the Senior Olympics this summer. The university's Francis Field, used during the 1904 Olympics, has been renovated and expanded in preparation for the event.

Sports turf managers interested in attending any of these major sporting events can contact the U.S. Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909-5760.

OHIO STATE STUDENT WINS FIRST GILL SCHOLARSHIP

Harry Gill (center) receives plaque describing the scholarship in his name from Jim Long of Holy Cross during the STMA banquet in Phoenix.

David Mellor, a turf student at Ohio State University, was selected by the Sports Turf Managers Association to receive the first Harry Gill Scholarship Award. Mellor, a senior at OSU, received the cash gift during the STMA banquet in Phoenix, AZ.

Mellor originally intended to pursue a career as a pitcher in professional baseball, but his knees were permanently damaged when he was struck by an out-of-control car during his senior year in high school in Piqua, OH. After two years of rehabilitation, he decided to stay in sports by becoming a turf manager.

Mellor met Gill, superintendent of grounds for the Milwaukee Brewers, while serving a summer internship at Milwaukee Stadium in 1985. Gill took the student under his wing, arranged another internship for him at Kansas City with George Toma, and encouraged Mellor to complete a turf degree at OSU. He will graduate this summer.

"This kid is going to make a great turf manager," says Gill. "He has the education and the experience to jump right in at some club and do a professional job. It's the kind of preparation I'd really like to see all future turf managers have."

The Harry Gill Scholarship Award is presented by STMA in honor of Gill, the principal founder of the organization.

TEXAS RAISES $300,000 FOR TURFGRASS RESEARCH

Texas A&M University kept its promise to match turf research donations generated by the Texas Turfgrass Association during the association's recent show, but it wasn't easy.

Outgoing TTA President Jerry Roberts made Dr. Ed Runge of Texas A&M's Crop Sciences Department swallow hard when he announced the association had raised $151,000 during 1986 for the R. C. Potts Turfgrass Research Endowment. With the matching funds, the university will have more than $300,000 to generate interest revenue for future turf research.

On that pleasant note, Roberts passed the gavel to new president Alan Hess, Gulf Coast Regional Superintendent for American Golf Corporation. More than 1,000 turf managers and suppliers attended the three-day event in San Antonio. The 1987 Texas Turfgrass Conference will be held in Houston.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED REPORTS BASEBALL IS TWICE AS POPULAR AS FOOTBALL

A survey of more than 2,600 readers of *Sports Illustrated* magazine has established that baseball is the most popular outdoor team sport played on turf. It is twice as popular as football in both participation and event attendance according to the magazine's Sports Poll '86.

Baseball led all other sports in attendance with 30 percent of the readers paying to attend a game. Football was second with 16 percent of the respondents paying to attend either a professional or college game. As many readers paid to watch horse racing as they did professional basketball, 7 percent. Four percent or less paid to attend golf, tennis or soccer matches.

When it came to participating in team sports played on turf, baseball won again with 28 percent. Baseball, however, is far from being the top participation sport. Nearly half the survey respondents said they swim regularly during the year. A greater percentage of the group played golf than football, 14 and 13 percent respectively. Eleven percent of them played tennis while only four percent play soccer. Nearly 75 percent of those polled actively participate in sports during the year. Men also engage in a wider assortment of sports than women.

The survey also revealed that younger sports fans are more inclined to go to a stadium or ball park to see an event than older fans. Young fans make up the majority of the 44 percent of those polled who prefer seeing games in person rather than on television. If these young fans continue to prefer to see events in person, ticket sales should do well in the future. Providing low-cost tickets to sporting events may be the key to keeping this generation coming to the ball park.

Overall, those most involved in sports are better educated, have higher incomes, are younger and are male.

CHALKBOARD

TIPS FROM THE PROS

NIGHTTIME VS. DAYTIME IRRIGATION WHICH IS MORE EFFICIENT?

By Daniel Scaliter

"Game called on account of sprinklers!" Sound ridiculous? It has actually happened. It's one thing to end a game in a downpour, but when the source of the downpour is man-made there's a lot of explaining to do.

As parks and golf courses across the country install irrigation systems to protect valuable sports turf from drought damage, the chance of irrigation disruptions increases. One way to provide an extra margin for error and conserve valuable water is to irrigate at night.

Perhaps if more superintendents in charge of turf irrigation systems were aware of the advantages of nighttime irrigation as compared to daytime irrigation, they might alter their current watering practices. By doing so, they not only reduce the chance of daytime disruptions, but they cut water waste to a minimum.

Nighttime irrigation has a key benefit over daytime irrigation—the general efficiency of the system will be higher during the night. Any mechanical system can be rated for efficiency. The higher the value of efficiency, the less costly and more efficiently the system will operate.

In sports turf maintenance, we must provide the turfgrass with a certain amount of water. However, due to different losses in the process of irrigating, we must deliver *more* water than the grass actually needs. By reducing these losses, the total system efficiency increases. While not all losses listed below are associated with daytime irrigation, a number of them definitely are.

Refilling the Pipe—Every time a valve opens, a certain amount of water drains out of the sprinkler heads until the pressure in the pipe builds up and the system starts working at operating pressure. This volume of water is lost because it serves only a small area around the sprinkler heads. The same losses occur when the valve closes.

This water loss can be prevented by installing antidrain check valves. These valves should be installed close to the lateral lines where possible. Many manufacturers today incorporate check valves in some of their sprinkler heads.

Overthrow—A properly designed irrigation system places the correct amount of water in the right location. Water reaching areas not intended for irrigation is lost. The geometry and size of irrigated areas necessitates the use of various types of sprinkler heads. By using part-circle heads and sprinklers with adjustable radius of throw, and by checking the irrigation system at least once a week, these losses can be greatly reduced.

Runoff—Runoff will occur whenever the precipitation rate of the irrigation system exceeds the infiltration rate of the soil. Infiltration is the entry of water into the soil surface. Slopes, grades and soil texture can reduce infiltration rates. Infiltration rate data can be obtained by sending soil samples to a testing laboratory.

To prevent runoff, the system should be designed with sprinklers that do not have a precipitation rate higher than the infiltration rate of the soil. The precipitation rate of sprinklers on slopes should be less than those on relatively flat terrain. By matching the two rates, the soil can be brought up to its water-holding capacity with minimal runoff.

Watering Below the Root Zone—The depth of the root zone actually defines the important area for moisture content. Moisture below this depth cannot be reached by the plant and is lost. It is possible by properly scheduling irrigation to place water only where it is useful to the turf and not deeper.

Poor Uniformity—Faulty irrigation design (high pressure, wrong spacing, wrong volume, etc.) and irrigating during windy days reduces the uniformity of water application. When a system has low uniformity, it is necessary to apply more water than is really needed to assure that an adequate amount has been deposited to the entire turf area.

To obtain higher uniformity, the irrigation designer should space the sprinkler heads at 55 percent of their diameter of throw or less. He should also specify a pressure-regulating valve whenever the available static pressure exceeds the system-design pressure by more than 15 psi. System-design pressure is the total of all hydraulic losses plus sprinkler operating pressure. Finally, irrigation should be done during low wind conditions, if possible (at night).

Evaporation Spray Losses—The highest evaporation spray losses will occur during daytime irrigation due to a combination of heat and wind. To prevent this loss, the irrigation manager should schedule cycles to be completed during the night or early morning. This will save both water and money.

By controlling these losses the amount of water applied will be more in line with the amount of water the turf actually needs. A water meter allows us to keep track of the water delivered to the field.

For example, if our irrigation controller operates three valves for 30 minutes each, the total amount of water passing through the water meter should be roughly 60,000 gallons. If one of the valves did not open, then the meter would show a deficit of 20,000 gallons delivered to the field. During the summer, in some regions of the country, turf will experience stress—or even death—if a valve misfunction goes undetected for more than two or three days.

Let's assume, hypothetically, that we have a 40-acre park with an irrigation system that has been designed to minimize losses by utilizing antidrain valves, part-circle heads, etc. However, it is still operated during the day, when water evaporation due to heat and wind is at a maximum.

Let's also assume the uniformity of application is 85 percent. The total system efficiency (TSE) will then be 85 percent multiplied by the remaining efficiency of the system after losses caused by evaporation and windy conditions. It has been determined that turf requires 1.5 inches per acre per week of moisture during the peak season without natural rainfall.

By using data from an American Society of Agricultural Engineers report by K. R. Frost and H. C. Schwalen and figures available from the California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS), we find an eight percent water loss due to wind and evaporation during sprinkling or a 92 percent efficiency (100%-8%). Consequently, the total system efficiency is 78 percent, obtained by multiplying 85 percent by 92 percent. In other words, to provide the turf with 1.5 inches of water per acre per week, 1.92 inches have to be applied (1.5 divided by .78) during the day. By irrigating at night the total system efficiency is increased to 84 percent and only 1.78 inches of water need to be applied per acre per week to provide the turf with the same 1.5 inches of water.

The total amount of water saved by night irrigation is 145,855.8 gallons per week.

These savings in water and money, when added to other advantages of nighttime irrigation should provide an array of evidence that anyone in charge of sports turf cannot afford to ignore. Not only do costs drop, but the daytime use of the turf area is extended, vandalism is often reduced, and the risk of liability due to falls or water damage is cut. These savings can be passed on to other turf management items that need improvement.

Editor's Note: The author is an irrigation consultant in San Bernardino, CA, and is a member of the American Society of Irrigation Consultants.

ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

TURFLON FORMULATIONS

The number of formulations of Turflon herbicide for control of broadleaf weeds in turf has been expanded to four. The herbicides contain triclopyr as their main active ingredient and are effective against a wide variety of hard-to-control weeds.

Two formulations contain only triclopyr, one in an ester base and the other in an amine base. The ester-based product is low in volatility to reduce the potential for damage to ornamentals. Turflon D and Turflon II Amine also contain 2,4-D for control of early emerging, hard-to-control weeds such as oxalis, ground ivy and wild violet. All formulations are designed to minimize movement through the soil, which could lead to root uptake by desirable vegetation.

DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY

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COATED SEED

Inadequate fertilization and diseases are two major causes for low germination rates of conventionally-seeded turf. By coating seed with nutrients important for germination and Apron fungicide to control seedling diseases, CelPril has achieved a seedling survival rate nearly 40 percent higher than uncoated seed.

The Nutri-Kote process is now available to turf seed suppliers so they can offer coated seed to their customers. Less coated seed is required for a typical seeding since the germination rate is higher. The nutrients also accelerate the growth of seedlings for a faster stand of established turf.

In addition to the systemic fungicide Apron, the coating includes nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, iron and zinc. Nutri-Kote has been tested successfully on colonial bentgrass, perennial ryegrass, creeping red fescue, Kentucky bluegrass and common bermudagrass.

CELPRIL INDUSTRIES, INC.

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COMPACTION METER

Most sports turf managers have a good idea which areas suffer the most from surface compaction. The Penetrometer can confirm or deny compaction information quickly and enable the turf manager to identify and correct compaction problems before they become serious.

The compaction meter measures the resistance in pounds exerted on a metal probe as it is pushed into the soil. The higher the resistance to the probe, the drier and more compacted the soil is. The manufacturer provides a scale of recommended readings for greens and other sports turf areas. For example, a reading of 9 to 14 pounds on a green is best for holding a chip shot.

The meter also warns the turf manager when a field or fairway is too wet for play, since wet soils compact easily. By keeping records of compaction readings on key wear areas, measures can be taken to prevent serious turf loss.

J. D. LANG COMPANY

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DWARF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

As more and more golf course superintendents cut fairways below one inch, fewer and fewer Kentucky bluegrasses can take the stress. Turf Merchants, Inc., has found a solution with a dwarf Kentucky bluegrass called Gnome.

The naturally-short bluegrass thrives when cut as low as 3/4 inch. Superior drought tolerance and resistance to leaf spot, dollar spot, Fusarium blight and rust help the dwarf grass compete with annual bluegrass in fairways. The turf presents a dark-green color even under low levels of fertility and moisture, both enemies of annual bluegrass.

The aggressive Gnome can be mixed with other turfgrasses for seeding.

TURF MERCHANTS, INC.

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PROPORTIONING PUMP

A convenient way to apply wetting agents to large turf areas is by injecting them into the irrigation system. The P.P.M. Unit from Aquatrols precisely injects liquids into any irrigation system. The electrically-powered pump can inject up to 7.5 gph of wetting agent or other liquid.

The unit is enclosed in a ventilated case and operates off any convenient single or three-phase power source. It is shipped ready-to-install with ten feet of plastic tubing, valve strainer, suction and discharge valves and installation and operation instructions.

AQUATROLS CORP. OF AMERICA, INC.

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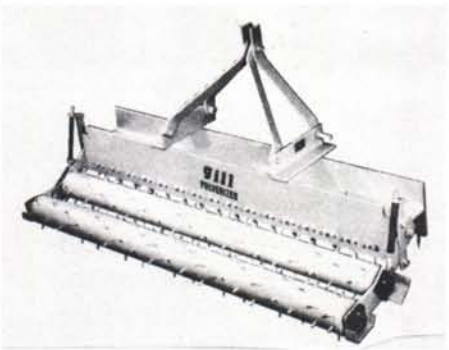
PRODUCT UPDATE

SOIL PULVERIZER



Each extra pass of earth-working machinery is wasted time and money. Gill pulverizers do six different tasks, from scarifying to rolling, and eliminate the need for other pieces of equipment.

Two rows of eight-inch teeth scarify the soil to a depth of nearly four inches. Two blades then grade and level the loosened soil. Pins on two rear rollers break up clods and pulverize the soil. Finally the rollers firm and roll the pulverized soil for seeding or sodding.

Gill recommends the Model 20A200 or Super Gill '200' for parks, golf courses and other large areas. A box drop spreader can be mounted on the pulverizer to sow seed or apply fertilizer as the unit operates.

Attached to a tractor with three-point hitch, the pulverizer speeds up the fine grading process after rough grading has been completed. One unit is said to do the work of six.

GILL INDUSTRIES, INC.
Circle **137** on Postage Free Card

SUPER SOPPER

When thousands of dollars ride on a game or race, a rainout is about the worst thing that can happen. After a downpour, standard drainage systems may still take hours to remove excess water from an area. For those who can't wait for hours, a rolling water-remover called the Whale Super Sopper can pick up and redeposit more than 4,000 gallons of surface water per hour.

The Australian-made device can pick up one inch of water from turf or pavement on each pass and pump it through a large hose to another location with its 66 gpm pump. Power steering helps turn the six-foot-long, plastic-wrapped drums. The unit travels up to eight mph in both forward and reverse and removes water in both directions.

For greens, tennis courts or other smaller areas, the company has two and three-foot wide models that remove from nine to 17 gallons of water before emptying.

MARKETPLACE USA
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Introducing

Two New Premium Turfgrasses

Julia Kentucky bluegrass is an outstanding European introduction now produced in the United States and marketed by LESCO. Under evaluation in the United States since 1978, this variety has exhibited excellent performance — consistently ranking in the top 10% of all Kentucky bluegrasses. Julia produces a dark green turf with medium fine texture and upright growth habit.

By providing excellent density and wear tolerance with little or no seedhead development under turf conditions, Julia meets the demands of even the most critical turfgrass manager. This new LESCO variety is perfect for those areas where a quality stand of bluegrass is desired. It is a component of the following LESCO seed blends and mixes: Quality Blue Blend, Classic Turf Mix, Premium Athletic Mix and Tuf-Turf Mix.

Julia
Kentucky · Bluegrass

Cimarron turf-type tall fescue is a very high quality turfgrass featuring a rich dark green color with good density. Developed by Dr. William A. Meyer of Pure Seed Testing and available now from LESCO, this new variety exhibits brown patch resistance and overall turf quality equal to Apache and Bonanza — two of the top commercial turf-type tall fescues. The increasing popularity and adaptability of turf-type tall fescues makes Cimarron a wise choice for many turf situations. It is a component in LESCO Transition Blend and Tuf-Turf Mix.

CIMARRON
TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

More to come...

Watch for the 1987 introduction of Trailblazer — the first of the new dwarf turf-type tall fescues. This new lower growing, darker green breed is a major breakthrough in turfgrass research and development.

To order or for more information on LESCO seed, call toll free.

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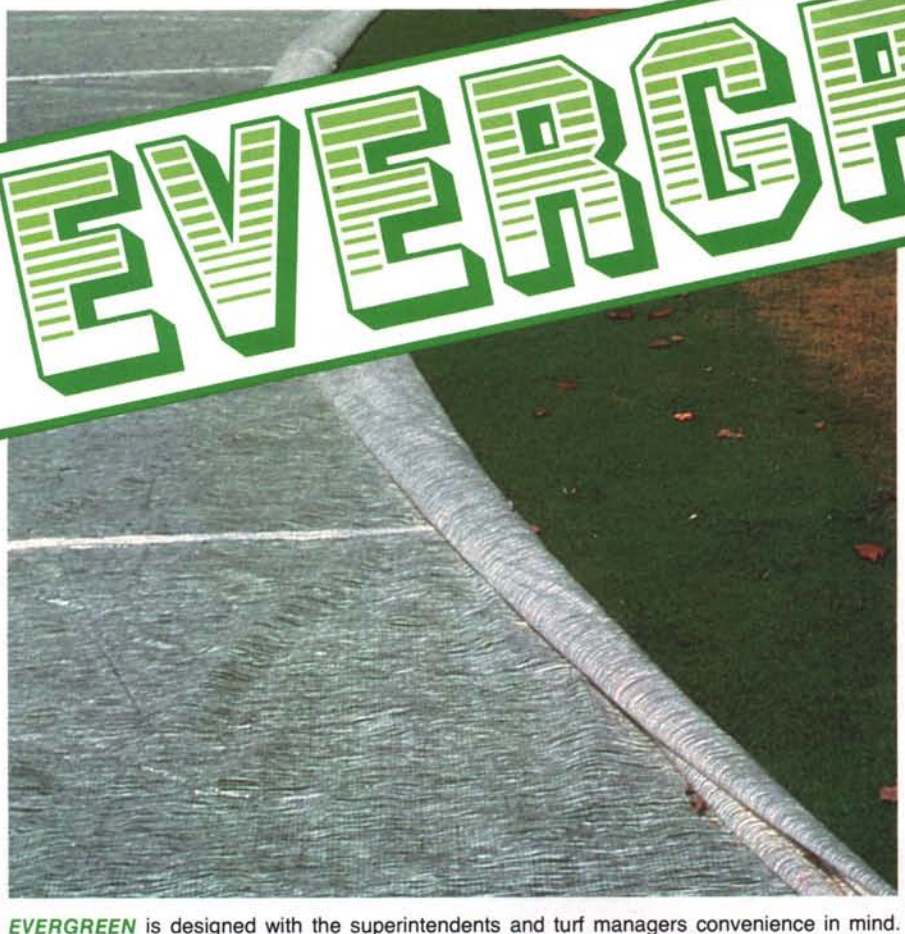


multi-purpose protective turf cover and self-contained growing enhancement system

is fast becoming the most popular and talked about covering system available in the market place today!

- *Application proven* and supported by *leading superintendents and turf managers* throughout *North America and Europe.*
- *This multi-purpose turf covering system* is now being used *year round* throughout *North America and Europe.*
- Our industry's first and only one-piece covering system shipped complete with fastening hardware and storage bag.

EVERGREEN is designed with the superintendents and turf managers convenience in mind. The covers are lightweight and strong, for easy handling. The one-piece construction and simple anchoring peg system allow installation or removal in less than half an hour per cover. These simple steps are all that's needed to provide troublefree protection and enhanced germination throughout the year.

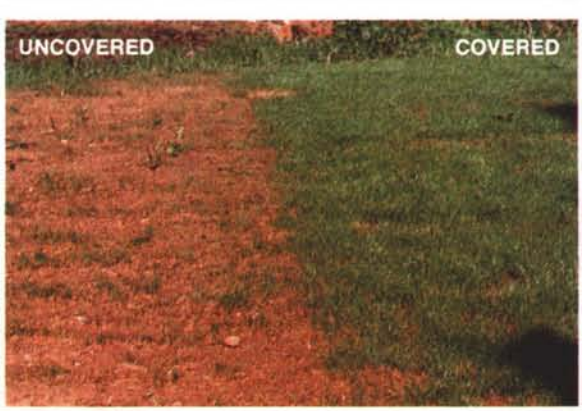
FEATURES:

- Permits air and water circulation.
- Cover will not absorb water.
- Resists rot and mildew.
- Debris will not adhere to the cover.
- One-piece construction eliminates overlap marks and discolouration.
- Six (6) standard sizes: 24′ x 50′, 48′ x 60′, 60′ x 90′, 72′ x 90′, 12′ x 50′, and 84′ x 110′.
- Custom sizes available upon request.

Unique one-piece construction is easy to install.

PROVIDES FROST AND COLD WEATHER PROTECTION to the recreation and horticultural markets throughout North America and Europe. Prevents desiccation from strong winds and keeps soil temperatures several degrees warmer than the surrounding areas. ***EVERGREEN*** is 85% transparent allowing grass to receive the proper amount of sunlight to survive winter and get a head start on growth in early spring.

Healthy root development is already underway very early in spring.



ENHANCED GERMINATION
EVERGREEN covers create a greenhouse effect stimulating more rapid growth than uncovered grasses.

Acting as a soil blanket, ***EVERGREEN*** covers retain necessary heat for plant growth while the patented weave construction allows the cover to "breathe", minimizing the risk associated with excessively high temperatures.

Minimizes water requirements by retaining soil moisture near newly planted sprigs and seed at the soil surface.

1) ***EVERGREEN*** is removed from its handy storage bag.

2) The cover is unrolled onto the green or tee.

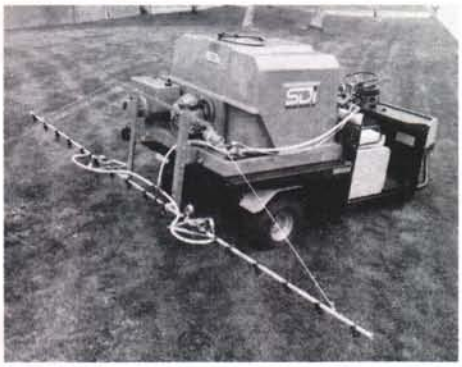
3) The cover is unfolded onto green or tee.

4) ***EVERGREEN*** is secured with anchoring pegs supplied with

ROOKIES

PRODUCT UPDATE

LOW-PROFILE BOOM SPRAYERS



Low-profile boom sprayers for mounting on turf trucksters or on vehicles with power takeoff are a specialty of Spraying Devices, Inc. Engine models can be skid-mounted in trucks with 48-inch cargo beds or frame-mounted with a pin system on most popular turf vehicles. PTO models can be mounted on vehicles with frame-pin mounting and a tachometer kit in only five minutes.

Low-profile fiberglass tanks come in either 100- or 160-gallon sizes. The tanks feature a self-lubricating mechanical agitator assembly. Three choices of piston diaphragm spray pumps are available from 9.5 to 27 gpm to provide pressures up to 550 psi.

The low-profile sprayers provide greater stability for small truckster-mounted units on slopes. The tank-access hatch is also lower and easier to reach for adding and mixing chemicals.

Spraying Devices, Inc.

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FIRE ANT CONTROL

Few things can disrupt the use of recreational turf areas like the painful bite of fire ants. This serious imported pest has spread from the Southeast as far west as Texas and as far north as North Carolina.

Fire ants have constructed mounds on more than 250 million acres of land in this country. It is common to find up to 50 mounds per acre. By laying up to 500 eggs per day, the queen ant can produce a colony of 30,000 members in just one season.

The key to control is disrupting the reproduction of the queen and foraging by the workers. When spread in the range of fire ant colonies, a new pesticide bait called Logic from PBI Gordon is picked up by foraging workers and fed to both the queen and the rest of the colony within the mound. The active ingredient, fenoxycarb, upsets the reproductive cycle of the queen and prevents the larvae in the mound from developing into new worker ants or fertile females. With reproduction halted and no new workers to feed the colony, it starves within three to five weeks.

PBI GORDON CORP.

Circle **135** on Postage Free Card

PAINT SPRAYER

Self-contained compressed-air paint sprayers by EZ-Liner Industries can be used all over the campus, park and golf course. With the frame-mounted gun the unit can paint stripes on fields, tracks and parking areas. Stencils, hash marks and designs can be painted with the hand-held spray gun.

The EZ-Liner 588 holds more than eight gallons of paint or a five-gallon pail in the pressurized tank with safety valve, pressure relief valve, pressure gauge and pressure regulator. A two-cylinder, single-stage pump powered by a five hp Briggs & Stratton engine develops more than 80 lbs. of pressure. The sprayer comes standard with a quick-detach gun on a six-foot hose. The Binks gun with high-capacity nozzle can spray lines between two and six inches wide with sharp edges.

Pneumatic tires help distribute the sprayer's 235 lbs. (plus paint) on turf or soil. The unit is 30 inches wide and 48 inches long.

EZ-LINER INDUSTRIES

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