Photocomm, Inc., the #1 name in solar electricity, produces Solar Irrigation Power systems (SIPs) and Sundrop irrigation controllers. SIPs provide reliable AC power for operating conventional irrigation controllers and remote control valves. SIPs and Sundrop are ideal for retrofitting or automating irrigation systems where public utility is unavailable or cost prohibitive.

Photocomm, Inc. (800) 223-9580
7681 East Gray Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85260
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The Diamond Demon is the machine that will turn your difficult baseball/softball infields into level, smooth playing areas in short order. The Diamond Demon comes in four- and six-foot widths. All production models come with a tow package as standard equipment (not shown). Hundreds of satisfied users worldwide!

See us at Booth #319
Diamond Demon
4115 Southernaire, St. Louis, MO 63125
(314) 487-1753
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Kifco has recently extended their popular line of Water-Reel Irrigators. These self-traveling sprinklers are now available in five different sizes to ensure there is a Water-Reel to fit your needs. With adequate pressure it is possible to irrigate a football field with a single pass down the center. The machines are compact, easy to use, operate unattended and shut off automatically. Water-Reels combine outstanding features that come from more than 25 years of traveling sprinkler engineering.

Kifco, Inc. See us at Booth #133
P.O. Box 367, 600 S. Schrader Ave., Havana, IL 62644, (309) 543-4425, Fax (309) 543-4945
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Now you can have 15 to 20 minutes advance warning of threatening lightning conditions with the Airborne Technology M-10 lightning detector. It provides the warning time necessary to stop play and shut down irrigation systems and other computerized equipment. Used by the PGA, USGA, hundreds of clubs and schools, the M-10 has been proven invaluable. It's also very cost effective.

For free information package, contact: Airborne Technology Corp.
6300 Oakton St., Morton Grove, IL 60053
(708) 966-9500, Fax (708) 967-1188
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Sports Surface Supplies

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Partac Peat Corporation (Beam Clay®)
Kelsey Park, Great Meadows, NJ, 07838
(800)-247-BEAM, (908)-637-4191
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The Bannerman Turf-Topper

This is the original big capacity, precision-built sportsfield topper. This machine has been performing successfully all over North America for over seven years. And it's still the only one that can make these claims. When equipped with 19-inch Pussy-Foot tires with up to three-yard load capacity maintains flotation pressure of 10-15 psi. Trouble-free self-tracking conveyor floor. Special "no-chatter" P.T.O. shaft for shorter turns. Equipped with portable, tractor-mounted hand brake for safety and convenience. Enclosed contra-rotating spreader cylinder for precision and speed.

Gordon Bannerman Limited
41 Kelfield Street, Rexdale, Ontario, Canada M9W 5A3, (416) 274-7875, Fax (416) 247-6540
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Athletic Field Maintainer™ (AFM)

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KROMER CO.
2365 Commerce Blvd., Mound, MN 55365-1425, (800) 373-0337
See you at the Athletic Director's Show Booth 205
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Turfgrids

"Tough Stuff for Sports Turf" Sun Devil Stadium is the home field for the Phoenix Cardinals and the Arizona State Sun Devils and considered one of the best natural playing surfaces in the NFL and Pac 10. It was reconstructed this past spring with TurfGrids. The TurfGrid system is patented, simple, logical and long overdue. It combines synthetic fibers into the natural grass field and increases the sheer strength of the playing surface by 100%. This means sure footing and safety with less divots and injuries...Just what good teams expect from their playing surface.

Stabilizer, Inc.
1832 East Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85018, (602) 952-8009, (800) 336-2468, Fax (602) 852-0718
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Debris Blower

New from Goossen Industries is a debris blower for clearing leaves or other light debris from large areas. A 27-inch diameter impeller rotating at 1,620 rpm creates a wind velocity powerful enough to clean your grounds in a short period of time. A convenient bidirectional spout lets you adjust the direction of discharge from your tractor seat. The Goossen Debris Blower can be powered by any tractor with a 540 PTO drive and attaches to a standard three-point hook-up. Make your grounds cleanup chores a breeze with the new Goossen Debris Blower.

Goossen Industries & Construction
925 West Court St., P.O. Box 705, Beatrice, NE 68310, (402) 228-4226, (800) 228-6542, Fax (402) 223-2245
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Enkamat Flatback Natural Turf Cover

A key factor in staging concerts is turf protection. Today's answer is Covermaster's Enkamat Flatback. Its open mesh, geomatrix design allows turf to breathe and its tightly woven flat top can withstand a crowd of thousands. Revolutionary, lightweight, wide width rolls, easy to handle. It's another example of Covermaster's resourcefulness in providing solutions to turf protection needs. Call us for details.

Covermaster, Inc.
100 Westmore Dr. 11-D, Rexdale, Ont. M9V 5C3, (800) 387-5808, (416) 745-1811, Fax (416) 74-COVER
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Beacon Sports Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 44115
Madison, WI 53744-4115, (800) 747-5985
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November/December 1992 35
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CHEMICAL LOG

The Benefits of Organics
By Mike Crossen

The "Era of Recycling" is upon us. Look around our world today and see all of the recycling efforts taking place. In many communities, there is curbside pick-up of aluminum cans, plastics, and newspapers. Backyard composting of leaves and grass continues to gain popularity.

Nearly all organic fertilizers are recycled products. Most people's idea of organic fertilizer is manure. While this is true, products such as sewage, sludge, compost, plant, and animal proteins also make up organic fertilizers. The manure and sewage sludge products usually have lower analyses and can have odor problems. Animal and plant proteins offer the highest nutrient level. These are available in the form of feather, blood, bone, and fish meal.

Organic Mechanics

Almost everything that enters a plant is either produced in, or moves through the soil. After being activated by water and temperature, the organic matter feeds the microorganisms that feed the plant. However, if the temperature drops below the point required for the organic fertilizer to break down, all nutrient release will stop. When the temperatures rise again, the remaining WIN (water insoluble nitrogen) will release its nourishment. The organic matter acts as a sponge collecting and storing nutrients and water until the plant can utilize them. This natural process makes for healthy soil as well as healthy plants. Plus, organics are totally used and not wasted.

Organic fertilizers provide a slow, sustained, and even release of nutrients, feeding plants for up to several months. They can also provide a degree of safety from burning. When burning occurs, the salt from the fertilizer draws moisture away from the plant, producing turf burn. Organic fertilizers have a very low salt index, which in most cases eliminate burning. This makes organics an excellent choice during the summer months when drought and heat stress are greatest.

The Process Of Soil Recovery

Another way organics help is by improving the foundation of the turf—the soil. Soils low in microbial activity and organic matter need help to recover. Organic fertilizers enrich the soil by adding organic matter and microorganisms. As these components are increased, macroorganisms such as earthworms are attracted and convert organic matter into humus. This process begins to improve the soil and that in turn feeds the plant. As earthworm populations increase, compaction problems are decreased due to tunneling. This creates spaces for water, air, and nutrients to be stored and encourages deeper root growth.

Research

Current research at major universities such as Cornell, Ohio State, and the University of Georgia is underway on organics. Many attributes are being evaluated, such as fertility qualities, water-holding capacities, nutrient availability, longevity, and antagonistic effects on turf fungus. Studies have shown excellent results, particularly from the high quality animal proteins. Turf density, disease suppressions, and color enhancement have shown definite improvement from the use of these products.

Once soil is restored to health through good soil management practices—combined with solid turf management practices—the incidence of turf disease should decrease. That in turn means reduced dependency on chemicals. Used properly, organic fertilizers are safe, sound, and environmentally sensitive preventive medicine.

Editor's Note: Mike Crossen is with Nature Safe in Cold Spring, KY.

Aerator

Font'N-Aire combines the beauty of a romantic fountain with the benefits of an efficient aerator. Nothing moves water like a propeller...Air-O-Lator has been involved in aerator design and the technology of aerating since 1967. Font'N-Aire incorporates the Franklin electric, water-cooled, water-lubricated, submersible motor. We believe we have the most energy-efficient fountain on the market. Video available.

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OLY-OLA introduces FENCE GUARD, a protective cap for the top of chain link fences. FENCE GUARD prevents injuries caused by chain link fences bordering ball fields, playgrounds, parks, schools, and homes. FENCE GUARD is made of rugged, weather-resistant heavy vinyl and is secured to the fence with safe, sturdy plastic fasteners. Available in easily installed eight-foot sections, FENCE GUARD comes in two high-visibility colors—orange and yellow. For more information, please call or write:

OLY-OLA Recreational Edgings, Inc.
124 E. St. Charles Road, Villa Park, IL 60181, (800) 334-4647 FAX (708) 833-0816

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