

## APM Perennial Ryegrass National Overseeding Victories

Results of the 1990-91 Overseeding trials in Florida and Mississippi have just been released, and Medalist America's APM perennial ryegrass has claimed number one finishes in two national test sites!

Medalist's newly released APM took the number-one spot in the University of Florida's trials for overseeding a Tifgreen bermudagrass putting green at the Gainesville, Florida location. APM scored ahead of 37 cultivars and mixes tested for turf quality based on winter overseeding. APM averaged a 7.12 rating, out of a possible 9 points for a seasonal mean on turf quality. APM's highest scores were

for the biweekly ratings between November 1st and February 15th.

APM's performance in the Mississippi overseeding trials reinforced the Florida trial results with another first-place rating for APM's winter turf quality. Seeded on dormant Tifgreen bermudagrass putting greens in November through the following May, APM's seasonal mean was 6.29, almost a full point ahead of the group's mean rating.

APM is one of Medalist America's newest perennial ryegrass selections. APM's low growth, heat/drought tolerance, and excellent disease resistance make it an outstanding candidate for winter overseeding. APM has high density, moderately-fine leaf texture, and superior quality to many of the top performing perennial ryegrass varieties currently on the market. In addition, APM shows good resistance to summer

diseases including brown patch and pythium.

### Development:

The APM population was formed from 23 selected plants from Pinnacle and other superior Rutgers lines. These lines were increased to from approximately 10,000 plants that were space planted in Albany, Oregon. Extensive testing has reduced this number to less than 6,000 plants. Additional testing is continuing.

### Characteristics:

APM is a very low growing perennial ryegrass with a fine leaf texture and excellent disease resistance to summer

APM is a very low growing perennial ryegrass with a fine leaf texture and excellent disease resistance to summer

form the original base population field roguing for stem rust tolerance also eliminated many of the more susceptible plants.

### Probable Applications:

APM is recommended for use on lawns, sports fields, parks and play areas. It should perform well when mixed with a blend of Kentucky bluegrasses and for winter overseeding of dormant warm-season turfgrasses.

Medalist America offers a complete variety of improved Kentucky bluegrasses, turf-type tall fescues, perennial ryegrasses, creeping bentgrasses, bermudagrasses, and zoysiagrasses.

For your complete guide to the Medalist America line of turfgrasses call the Medalist Marketing Department at 800-568-TURF, or fax your request to 503-926-0665.

APM Perennial Ryegrasses...your first choice for winter overseeding!

# The Data is in. And Our Reputation is Growing.

New **APM** Perennial Ryegrass  
from Medalist America.

Trial after trial, test after test, it just keeps on winning. Call your Medalist America marketing representative at 800-568-TURF and find out how **APM** can be a winner for you, too.

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"I like the concentrated formulation. It makes container disposal a lot easier."

-Roger Taylor  
Eagle Ridge Golf and Tennis Club  
Fort Myers, FL

"Touché provides really good results with broad spectrum control at an attractive price. What more could you ask of a fungicide?"

-Bruce Denning  
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For more information on Touché, contact your LESCO Sales Representative, stop in at one of LESCO's 90 Service Centers, or call (800) 321-5325 (In Cleveland, 333-9250).



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#### STMA OFFICE

401 N. MICHIGAN AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60611/312-644-6610

#### MAGAZINE STAFF

PRESIDENT **MARK ADAMS**  
PUBLISHER **BRUCE F. SHANK**  
EDITOR **MATTHEW TRULIO**  
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#### ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL OFFICES

68-860 PEREZ RD., SUITE J, CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92234



#### AN ADAMS PUBLISHING COMPANY

68-860 PEREZ RD., SUITE J, CATHEDRAL CITY, CA 92234  
(619) 770-4370, FAX (619) 770-8019

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VOLUME NINE, NUMBER FOUR

APRIL 1993

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Rebel spirit, dedication and teamwork make Swayze Field at Ole Miss the 1992 College Baseball Diamond of the Year. Just ask Steve Horne, his fine crew and Gary Morris.

### 14 GETTING A JUMP ON SUMMER DISEASES

With spring underway, northern turf managers should start planning control strategies for summer diseases. Conceived and implemented early, an integrated approach, explain Dr. R.T. Kane and Dr. H.T. Wilkinson, is the best plan of attack.

### 18 SPRING IRRIGATION TUNE-UP AT CAMDEN YARDS

A jewel in the crown of Major League Baseball, Oriole Park at Camden Yards enters its second season of action. For Head Groundskeeper Paul Zwaska, a vital part of getting the diamond ready for the regular season was "awakening" the irrigation system after its long winter nap.

### 22 DEEP CULTIVATION: WHEN AND WHY

With the development of effective cultivation programs to relieve surface soil problems, researchers and equipment manufacturers have increased their focus on deep cultivation. Dr. Gil Landry discusses steps in formulating programs that "go deep."

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**ON THE COVER:** Swayze Field at Ole Miss the 1992 College Baseball Diamond of the Year.



# Get Serious.

Are you ready to get serious about the sports turf industry? Then it's time to become a member of the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA).

## Who we Are

STMA is an organization of professionals representing all segments of the sports turf industry. Our members work to combine the science of growing grass and the art of maintaining sports turf to produce playing fields that are both safe and aesthetically pleasing.

## What's in STMA for You

We help you — the sports turf professional — do your job better. Here are the benefits STMA provides its members:

- ◆ An opportunity to share knowledge and expertise for better and safer sports turf areas
- ◆ A resource library of valuable technical information
- ◆ Education through the STMA National Conference and Trade Show, regional institutes and workshops
- ◆ A subscription to *Sports Turf Manager*, the STMA bi-monthly newsletter
- ◆ Facilities tours
- ◆ Support for sports turf research
- ◆ A National Awards Program
- ◆ An Annual Membership Directory to keep you in touch with your peers
- ◆ Scholarships for students with an interest in sports turf technology
- ◆ Participation in STMA Chapter meetings
- ◆ Complimentary subscription to *sportsTURF Magazine*
- ◆ Registration discounts for STMA events

Get serious about your profession. Complete the membership application below and join STMA today!

## Sports Turf Managers Association

### Application for Membership

#### Member Information

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 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### Membership Category (please check one)

- Professional sports turf facility manager \$75
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(must be in U.S. dollars)

**Total amount enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose payment (check or money order) and send to:**

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# THE FRONT OFFICE

OPINION PAGE



## Desert Gridiron Gets Maximum Exposure

Last month in the STMA news section of *sportsTURF*, we listed the organization's award-winning athletic fields for 1992. Those honors were presented at the STMA Conference and Exhibit in Indianapolis last December. The STMA award for the year's best gridiron, however, was inadvertently left off the list in the magazine. That was our mistake, one we regret deeply.

The University of Arizona in Tucson received the 1992 STMA Football Field of the Year Award. Although Chuck Raetzman, assistant director of Operations Services Department/Facilities Management Division, actually accepted the award in Indianapolis, he is quick to credit the field's superb crew.

"It's just a team effort," he says. "I don't think you can point to any one person. Our success is the result of a combined effort of members within the grounds department."

Recognition for those often unrecognized — namely sports turf managers — is vital, both for the individuals honored and the profession itself. The individuals are acknowledged for a job well done — sometimes, that's their only significant reward. Sports turf management profits from the exposure because such awards bring the under-acknowledged profession into the public spotlight.

Case in point: The Copper Bowl was held at the University of Arizona on December 29 and televised nationally by ESPN. Moments before the opening kickoff, it was announced over the stadium's public address system that the gridiron had won the Football Field of the Year Award sponsored by the Sports Turf Managers Association.

"Apparently the crowd, about 43,000 or 44,000 people, was *listening*, and they really responded to it with a loud ovation," says Raetzman with a touch of incredulity. "It kind of surprised me."

That kind of attention and publicity is priceless, much like when NFL turf consultant George Toma is shown plying his trade on national television while high-profile commentators like John Madden praise him. Both do more good for the profession than a hundred issues of this magazine. Sports turf management excellence cannot get *enough* public exposure.

Most of the fans at the University of Arizona that day probably hadn't even considered the effort that went into the field. Most certainly had never heard of the STMA. And yet, when it was pointed out to them, they applauded and, what's more, they *appreciated* a job well-done and the professionals who did it. The public isn't blind — it just needs a nudge now and then.

Matthew Trulio

# EVENTS

CALENDAR

## MAY

**10-12** Lecture, "Trees from the Inside Out," by Dr. Alex Shigo. Bellevue Conference Center, Bellevue, WA, (May 10) and Clackamas Community College, Portland, OR (May 12). Contact: John Kirkland (503) 254-0482.

**11-13** Lecture, "Modern Arboriculture in Practice," by Dr. Alex Shigo. Bellevue Conference Center, Bellevue, WA, (May 11) and Clackamas Community College, Portland, OR (May 13). Contact: John Kirkland (503) 254-0482.

**12** The Turfgrass Council of North Carolina (TCNC) and the North Carolina Landscape Contractors Association's "Professional Turf and Landscape Field Day." Turfgrass Field Laboratory (Field Center), North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC. Contact: TCNC (919) 695-1333.

**14** Workshop, "A Closer Look at Trees," by Dr. Alex Shigo. Clackamas Community College, Portland, OR. Contact: John Kirkland (503) 254-0482.

## JUNE

**22** Seminar, "Diagnosing Landscape Disorders." University Theater, University of California, Riverside, Riverside, CA. Contact: U.C. Seminar Coordinator, P.O. Box 1719, Wickenburg, AZ 85358 or call (602) 684-7308.

## JULY

**8** University of Georgia Turfgrass Field Day. Georgia Station, Griffin, GA. Contact: Georgia Turfgrass Association (404) 975-4123 or Extension Conference Office (912) 681-5189.

Send announcements on your events **two months in advance** to:  
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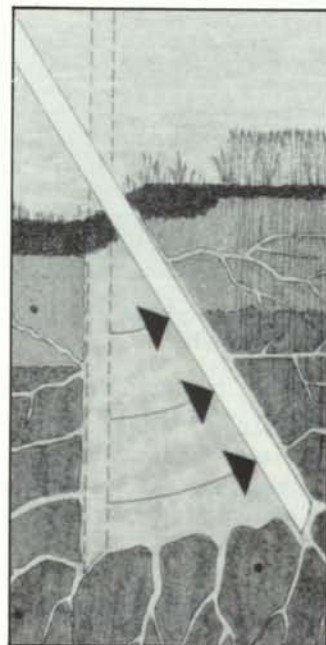
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Turf professionals are amazed to see how healthy and deep their root systems grow after deep tine aeration with Verti-Drain. Case study after case study worldwide shows root systems of fine grasses 8 to 10 inches deep, often through the black layer into the deep root zone.

In all sorts of applications Verti-Drain has saved greens, improved fairways, brought back sports fields, racetracks, restored high-traffic turf areas... even shown dramatic savings on water usage. All because it does one thing better than anything else on the market today—it promotes deep root growth. Customers say it works like a pitchfork actually pitching the tines forward, heaving the soil and creating new pockets for air and water without scarring the surface. There's no other machine like it. And only Verti-Drain can pull cores up to 12 inches deep and solid tine up to 16 inches deep.

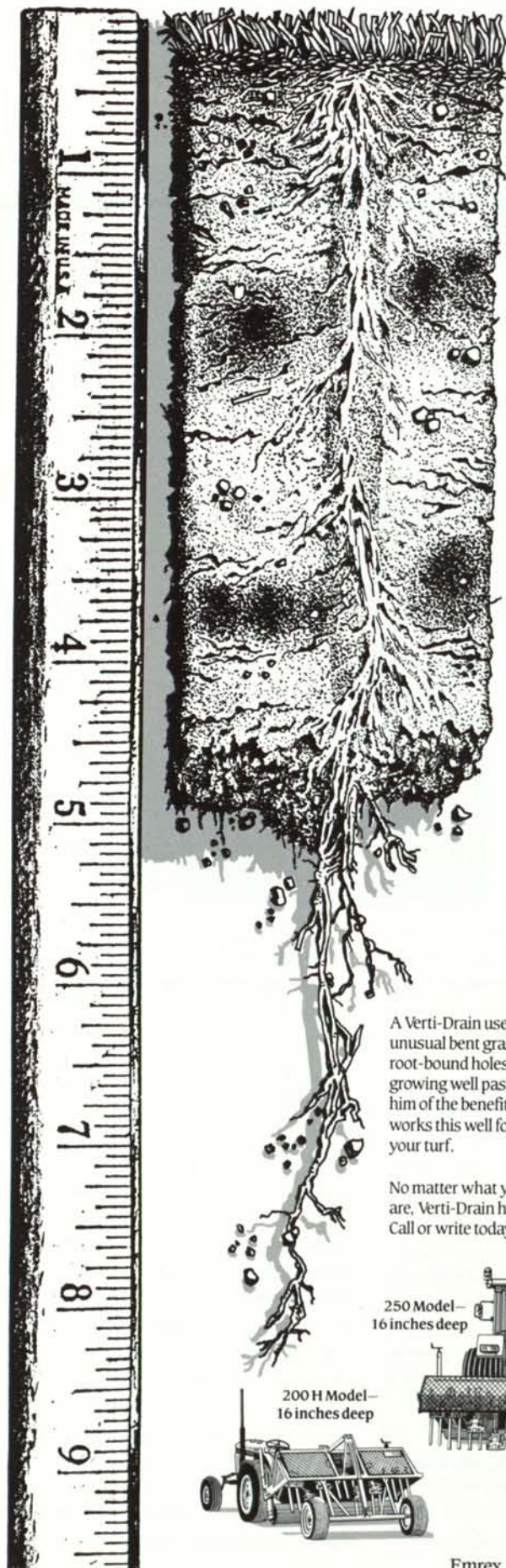
Whether you're into hollow tining or solid tining, there's a Verti-Drain model to fit your needs and budget. Deep tine aeration with Verti-Drain can answer your compaction and drainage worries. Now you can have better turf, believe it or not.



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A Verti-Drain user in Virginia sent us proof of his unusual bent grass results. After aerating he found root-bound holes like this with healthy, white roots growing well past the black layer. It convinced him of the benefits of deep tine aeration. If it works this well for him, think of what it can do for your turf.

No matter what your aeration productivity and depth requirements are, Verti-Drain has a model and the attachments to meet your needs. Call or write today for more details and the name of a dealer near you.



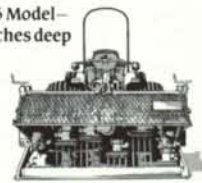
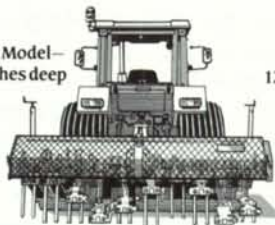
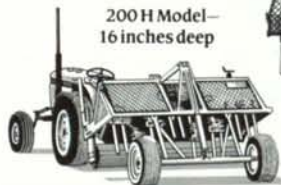
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# COLLEGE DIAMOND OF THE YEAR: PRIDE PREVAILS AT SWAYZE FIELD

By Bob Tracinski



Oxford Stadium's Swayze Field, home of the University of Mississippi Rebels.

**P**ride and tradition — two qualities that are among the hallmarks of the University of Mississippi in Oxford, a school that most people know simply as “Ole Miss.” Those qualities are found in the university’s academics, athletics and fields of play.

Ole Miss fields “Rebel” teams, and Rebel pride runs deep, right down to the roots of the turf at Oxford University Stadium’s Swayze Field. The Rebel baseball squad is entering its fifth year of play on the field, and the facility is well-known as one of the best in the Southeastern Conference. That reputation may soon extend beyond the South, since Swayze Field has been named 1992 College Baseball Diamond of the Year.

## Roots of Success

Construction of the stadium and field was completed in October 1988. Oxford residents voted to assess a 2 percent tourism tax to raise funds for the \$3.75 million facility. Over time, proceeds from the tax will provide \$2 million for the stadium. Ole Miss must pay the remaining balance.

A new on-campus location was selected for the stadium, allowing for “groundsup” construction to accommodate the

forward-thinking of planners. A major highway overlooks the stadium, so the whole community views the facility year-round.

Underneath the stadium, players have a spacious locker room and their own weight room. A unique feature on the college level, an indoor “batting tunnel,” also used for fielding and pitching drills, is large enough to accommodate a full-team practice.

Head Coach Don Kessinger and his assistants have a separate office under the stands. The office is located next to an all-purpose room, which serves as a player lounge and press interview area.

## Winning Team

Maintaining every aspect of the facility, inside and out, are Head Groundskeeper Steve Horne, along with Assistant Groundskeepers Vincent Buford and Darrall Buford. Horne is assisted in all areas concerning turf by Gary Morris, sports turf manager and golf course superintendent.

Horne took the position of groundskeeper/stadium manager three years ago. He had served five years as football equipment manager while working toward his degree in education at Ole



**Head Groundskeeper Steve Horne:** “Always leave the field a little bit better than when you walked on it that morning.”

Miss. Following graduation, he worked as groundskeeper and football manager, moving to his current position in July 1990.

“I didn’t work on the field originally, I just kind of hung around and tried to help out the groundskeeper because I found his work to be very interesting,” says Horne. “When he decided to retire, I was lucky enough to get the position. I’m basically self-taught, and I would never claim to be an expert in agronomy. I learned about maintaining a baseball field in bits and pieces, by listening to others who had more experience in this area. I asked a lot of questions and built upon what I was told. Garry Morris has been my biggest help.”