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PROGRAM

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER 2000

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14 2001 Product Source Book

Your one-stop buyer's guide to sports turf products and services.

Main Events

8 Field of the Year

Colfax High School—The High and Mighty High School Football Field of the Year.

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Managers Association

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SEE PAGE 40

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The *sportsTURF 2001 Product Source Book* is a valuable tool for the turf industry, providing contact information to contacts throughout the industry. It's designed for easy use in gathering information about products and the companies that provide them.

The guide is divided into two main sections: a product directory that lists products and services by category and a company directory that provides company sales contacts, addresses, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail and Web site addresses for manufacturers, distributors, dealers and suppliers of these products.

Users can find information on specific products and services by searching the Product Directory for the appropriate category, noting the companies listed under that category and then turning to the Company Directory to find contact information for each company.

The *sportsTURF 2001 Product Source Book* is a year-round reference to fresh ideas and the latest products. Finding the right answer for each facility takes time, but we hope that with resources like this guide, the search will be easier than ever.

Corrections

In the sidebar on page 13 of the November issue of *sportsTURF*, Mike Andresen was inadvertently listed as the author. Eric Adkins, CSFM, From Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., was the actual author of the piece. Mike Andresen, CSFM, is with Iowa State University.

The following entry was inadvertently omitted from the STMA Trade Show Guide:

Geoturf

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sportsTURF apologizes for these errors.

Happy holidays! I'll talk to you all in 2001.

Michael SanFilippo
(847) 882-1942

Calendar of Events 2000

December 12-14

New Jersey Turfgrass & Landscape Expo 2000, Trump Taj Mahal, Atlantic City, NJ. Contact: New Jersey Turfgrass Association, 41 Lupton Ave., Woodbury, NJ 08096; (856) 853-5973 or (908) 821-7134.

2001

January 9-11

Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, 1200 First Ave., King of Prussia, PA. Contact: Michael Smith, Gulph Mills Golf Club, 300 Swedeland Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406, (610) 828-0253, smith601@sprynet.com; or Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, PO Box 1078, Lemont, PA 16851-1078, (814) 863-3475, fax (814) 863-3479, sah15@psu.edu.

January 9-11

Cornell University/New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA) Executive Business Management Program (Part II), The Statler Hotel, Ithaca, NY. Contact: New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), PO Box 612, Latham, NY 12110; (518) 783-1229/(800) 873-TURF (8873); fax (518) 783-1258; nysta@nysta.org. Web site: <http://www.nysta.org>.

January 25

Northeastern PA Turf School & Trade Show, The Woodlands Inn & Resort, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Contact: Andrew McNitt, Department of Agronomy, 116 ASI Building, University Park, PA 16802, (814) 863-1368, asm4@psu.edu; or Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, PO Box 1078, Lemont, PA 16851-1078, (814) 863-3475, fax (814) 863-3479, sah15@psu.edu.

February 5-9

The Ohio State University Golf Course Maintenance Short Course, Holiday Inn on the Lane, Columbus, OH. Register at (614) 292-4230. E-mail: bloetscher.1@osu.edu.

February 6

Turfgrass Advocacy 2001, Lobby Day, Legislative Office Building et al, Albany, NY. Contact: New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), PO Box 612, Latham, NY 12110; (518) 783-1229/(800) 873-TURF (8873); fax (518) 783-1258; nysta@nysta.org. Web site: <http://www.nysta.org>.

February 20-21

Southern Illinois Grounds Maintenance School, Gateway Convention Center, One Gateway Dr., Collinsville, IL. Contact: Ron Cornwell, 200 University Park Dr., Edwardsville, IL 62025; (618) 692-9434.

February 22-23

The Ohio State University Professional Lawn Care Short Course, Holiday Inn on the Lane, Columbus, OH. Register at (614) 292-4230. E-mail: bloetscher.1@osu.edu.

February 26

Southeast Regional Conference, Holiday Inn, Suffern, NY. Contact: New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA), PO Box 612, Latham, NY 12110; (518) 783-1229/(800) 873-TURF (8873); fax (518) 783-1258; nysta@nysta.org. Web site: <http://www.nysta.org>.

February 27-March 1

Western PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Pittsburgh Expo Mart/Radisson Hotel, 101 Mall Blvd., Monroeville, PA. Contact: R. Eric Oesterling, Westmoreland County Cooperative Extension, Donohoe Center, Donohoe Road, RR 12, Box 202E, Greensburg, PA 15601, (724) 837-1402, or (502) 562-1962; fax (502) 562-1970. Web site: <http://expo.mow.org>.

STMA Message

**Sports
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www.sportsturfmanager.com



Happy Holidays and Warm Thoughts

The weather outside may be frightful, as that old song says. But I hope it's delightful wherever you happen to be during the holiday season. I wish you the happiest of holidays surrounded by family and friends who can counteract the coldest of climates with their love and warm thoughts.

My wish for all of you who give so much of your time and talents to making athletic fields safe and playable is that that your efforts are appreciated and that you be acknowledged for the great job you do. And, I pledge to you, the Sports Turf Managers Association will do an even better job in the future of helping to make that happen.

A major issue that came to the forefront during the STMA Strategic Planning sessions was the need to educate others on who sports turf managers are, what sports turf managers do and why it matters. We need to shine the spotlight on the complexities of athletic field maintenance and why it takes the right balance of art and science to provide safe, playable conditions.

Obviously we need to reach athletes, coaches, and field user groups. And we need to go well beyond that.

Part of the focus for our message will be within the green industry. We need to tell our story to those involved in other segments of turfgrass management and to those who deal primarily with other areas of horticulture.

There often are others within your same facility or department who have little knowledge of what it takes to produce and maintain quality sports fields. If those individuals are in departmental supervisory positions, personnel management positions, or are involved with budget development, procurement or other financial management areas, it may impact the resources you need to achieve your goals. So we need to do a better job of spreading our message there as well.

Many of you are filling multiple roles, managing multi-field sports complexes or athletic fields at several different sites. Some of you are managing not only the athletic fields but also the landscape sections surrounding the fields. Others of you manage the fields, the landscaping, the parking lots and walkways. Some of you also manage the stadium facility. Others of you manage the athletic fields and the entire grounds departments of a school or a school district, or of a park or a parks department.

We know how much you do to make sports an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. We want to make sure others know it, too.

Rich Moffitt
STMA President
(314) 977-2956

FIELD OF THE YEAR



Colfax High School—The High and Mighty Football Field of the Year

by Bob Tracinski

High and mighty is the Colfax High School football field, STMA's 1999 field of the year in the high school division. It's carved into the forest in the foothills of Northern California at an elevation of 2,250 feet. The football field was originally constructed in 1969 at its present location. It now serves a student body of approximately 930.

The rapidly growing city of Colfax is about an hour's drive from Sacramento eastward along Interstate 80. Gregg Roberts is Director of Facilities for the Placer Union High School District. Along with Colfax High School, the District currently includes two other comprehensive high schools with full athletic programs and one alternative education center. The District will start construction on a fourth comprehensive high school in the summer of 2002 as part of the \$60 million construction program passed in bond issue in



The district's football season runs from August until December, with heavy rains a common problem in the latter half of the season.

March of 2000. With football, soccer, baseball and softball game fields at all

the comprehensive high schools, there currently are about 40 acres of athletic turf in the District. Each of the high schools are at different elevations—one at 160 feet, one at 1,200 feet, with the new high school to be built at 3,000 feet. All are native soil fields but due to the different sites, soil conditions also differ. There is no "one size fits all" solution in this field care program.

Roberts says, "The Colfax High School field is a heavy clay native soil and is surrounded by a decomposed granite track. The clay soil is significant due to the annual rainfall of approximately 40 to 80 inches, depending on the wetness of the year. This field was built with a 2-foot crown for drainage to 12-inch collector drains around the field and had remained basically the same for nearly 30 years.

"Starting in 1993, the entire school



Representatives of Colfax High School, Colfax, Calif., receive the 1999 STMA Field of the Year for the High School Division. Former STMA President Steve Guise presents the award.



Good turf coverage was achieved within 10 weeks of sprigging and the completion of field renovation.

district underwent an athletic field turf renovation from cool season turfgrasses to the warm season bermudagrasses. The first field, a soccer field, was converted to common bermudagrass. Over the next five years the rest of the fields were converted to hybrid bermudagrasses, mostly Tifway 419. Because the athletic fields of Colfax High School had been the best in the district when this project was started, they were among the last to be converted. Renovation of the fields at Colfax began in 1997. Baby, a hybrid bermudagrass from Delta Bluegrass Company, was selected for the Colfax fields because of its quick establishment rate and very aggressive lateral growth patterns."

The District's football season runs from August until December, with rain usually a factor in the later half of the season. The Colfax field can be hit with heavy downpours when the storms bump against the foothills. A 1-inch rain in the Valley can easily be a 3-inch rain at the 2,250 feet elevation. With a clay soil, turf condition becomes even more important.

Roberts says, "Prior to the conversion, the turf in the middle of the field was generally wiped out by November, resulting in quagmire playing conditions during the rainy season. The Colfax football team was continually in the playoffs at the wettest time. We examined all possible renovation options for the field and determined the patented Sand Channel Greens system would best suit our needs. We worked with Jerry Stratton of Sand Channel Greens, Steve Abella of Delta Bluegrass Company and Dave Patterson of Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, as our soil

chemistry consultant, to coordinate the renovation. To reduce costs, the District bought the components and supplied a good share of the labor.

"Work began the first week of June, 1999, immediately after graduation. Our district and site groundsmen stripped off the existing turf. We had approximately 350 tons of kiln

dried sand trucked in at the cost of about \$30 a ton. The field was graded and the soil chemistry checked and adjusted. Sand Channel Green's equipment cut and filled two parallel rows at a time. These rows are 9 inches deep and 16 inches apart and run the length of the football field. Another piece of equipment does the 9-inch-deep cross-field rows at 4-foot



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Circle 103 on Inquiry Card

Colfax High School - Football Field Maintenance Program

January:

Mowing at 1-1/2-inch as needed
Fertilization - 15-15-15 at 290 pounds per acre, adjusted if needed based on soil test results

February

Mowing at 1-1/2-inch as needed

March

Mowing weekly at 1-inch
Fertilization - 29-3-10 at 150 pounds per acre, adjusted if needed based on soil test results
If soil chemistry dictates: gypsum added to modify the pH
Aeration: shatter tine to 6-inch depth
Topdress: If second topdressing used - with approximately 25 tons of kiln dried sand
Irrigation as needed throughout year

April

Mowing weekly at 7/8-inch

May

Mowing twice weekly at 7/8-inch

June

Mowing two or three times weekly at 7/8-inch
Aeration: shatter tine to 6-inch depth

July

Mowing two or three times weekly at 7/8-inch
Fertilization - 29-3-10 at 150 pounds per acre, adjusted if needed based on soil test results

August

Mowing two or three times weekly at 7/8-inch

September

Mowing twice weekly at 7/8-inch
Aeration: shatter tine to 6-inch depth
Topdress: with approximately 25 tons of kiln dried sand

October


Mowing twice weekly at 7/8-inch
Fertilization - 15-15-15 at 290 pounds per acre, adjusted if needed based on soil test results
Overseeding with mix of annual and perennial ryegrass at the rate of 6 to 10 pounds per 1,000 square feet

November

Mowing weekly at 1-inch
Aeration: shatter tine to 6-inch depth


December

Mowing at 1-1/2-inch as needed




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intervals. This machine lays collector lines and fills the sand in one process. These collector lines transfer water to a 4-inch collector pipe which surrounds the field and which ties into our existing 12-inch drain lines. Our groundsmen filled the machine hoppers with sand, handled the backfill and removed the build up of native soil created by the channeling equipment. Following this, the final grad-

ings were done establishing a 1-1/2 percent crown for surface drainage. The field was sprigged with Baby bermudagrass on June 10. The project took 17 days from start to finish."

Roberts reports good turf coverage was achieved within nine to 10 weeks of sprigging. By the time of first field use, a football game played on Sept. 16, the field was well turfed with only a couple of small areas that hadn't covered completely. Generally, the bermudagrass starts green up in April and reaches full green up by mid-May. The football field is in great shape to host graduation at the end of May or early June.

Roberts says, "We did not overseed in 1999 because the turf was so young. Also, no spring sports use the stadium field, though it is used throughout the school season as weather permits from about 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the high school's physical education classes. But the students wear tennis shoes, not cleats, and the activity isn't concentrated in specific, defined areas. The school has no marching band. The football team practices on the turfed