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The radical new Toro Active In-Frame suspension is based on a torsional pivot point that allows the entire vehicle frame to literally twist and contort to respond to your terrain.

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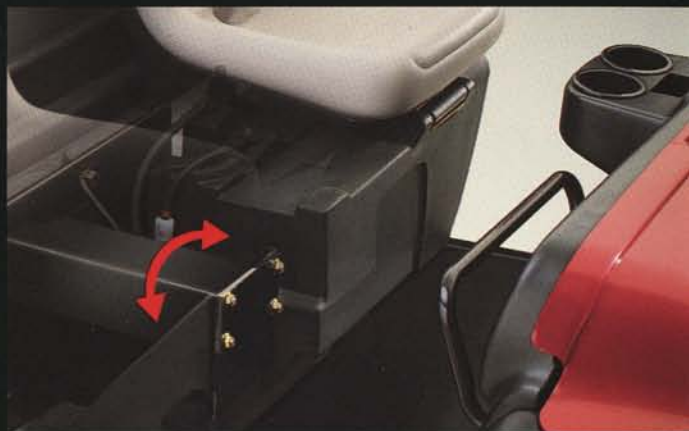
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The best turning radius around.
Like the Heavy-Duty Workman vehicles, the front wheels on the new Mid-Duty models turn an incredible 70 degrees for tight maneuvering.





Golf Course Superintendents

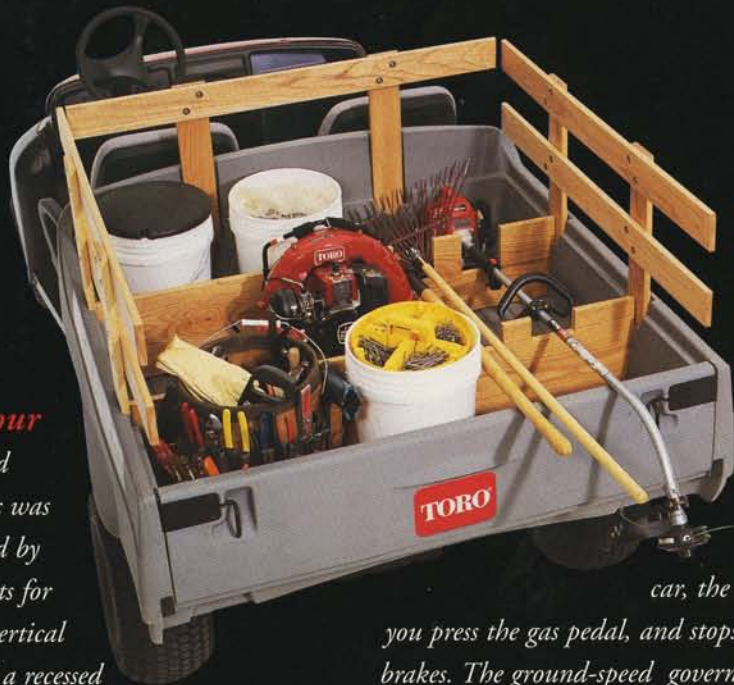


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cent to it that also is lighted and gets the same level of play. We'll adjust some of our cultural practices for the existing Bermudagrass fields to improve our results for the next drought. We'll step up the aeration program to maximize the infiltration rate. We'll also adjust our irrigation cycles, going to less frequent, but deeper irrigation to encourage deeper rooting," Robinson said.

Robinson notes too much water is the more typical problem; there isn't enough depth or layering of soil for excess moisture to percolate through. Once fields reach the saturation point play must be shut down for long-term preservation.

"It's an ongoing educational process to alert our field user groups and the general public to this need, but we're making progress each year," she said. "We've developed a hot line system to provide daily field status reports and we post open, closed, or umpire/referee decision status signs on all the fields."



Photo courtesy: Debra Kay Robinson

Robinson's Final Thoughts

Robinson is quick to note the program results depend on the effectiveness of those staff members out on the fields every day.

"It's the adjustments they make on a daily basis, adapting maintenance practices to existing conditions and staying ahead of needs that keep our program in harmony. It's like a symphony," she said. "I'm the director up front with the baton, but if they don't perform well we lose the harmony. Then we all look and sound bad and field conditions suffer. Our staff understands that and constantly strives to improve their knowledge and skill levels to improve the condition of our fields. They are the key to our success."



Bob Tracinski is the Business Communications Manager for the John Deere Worldwide Commercial & Consumer Equipment Division headquartered in Raleigh, NC. He serves as public relations co-chair for the STMA.

Maintenance Program Outline

Turf Management

- Mow playing surface turf with reel mower - one-inch height of cut from spring through August - one-and-a-quarter inch height of cut from
- September through end of season
- Mowing rate - every other day during prime growing season, decrease rate early and late season
- Core aerify - four times per year, break up cores
- Topdress with sand
- Apply post-emergent herbicide for crabgrass control - as needed in July
- Apply broadleaf control as needed following IPM practices

Fertilization Management

- Soil tested as needed
- Determine what want to accomplish at each fertilization
- Adjust fertilization program to accomplish goals with soil test result parameters
- Typical first fertilization of season - 20-5-5 with 2% FE, 50% slow release
- Typical supplemental fertilization,

generally at three- to four-week intervals, 46-0-0

Irrigation Management

- Recharge system as weather warms
- Inspect irrigation system
- Repair any problems (ie, valves, line breaks)
- Raise irrigation heads as needed
- Customize MIR 500 software to accommodate current irrigation needs
- Winterize irrigation system in November

Facility Management

- Inspect bleachers - two times a year
- Clean and blow bleachers - six times a year
- Inspect lights and scoreboard - daily
- Remove trash - daily
- Mow non-play turf surfaces with rotary mower - three-inch height of cut, rate as needed
- String-trim areas - on a weekly rotation
- Clean and stock restrooms - daily

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Eugene Mayer: sportsTURF'S

2000 Manager of the Year

by Michael San Filippo

Any turf manager who knows Eugene Mayer will tell you that he's a man you want on your side, and not just because he's an auxiliary police officer.

Those who have worked alongside Mayer and have gotten to know him over the years agree that he is a special man in the sports turf industry, one who cares about the ground he works on, the athletes who play on it and the men and women who work alongside him. For his knowledge and compassion for the industry, Eugene Mayer has been selected by his peers as the *sportsTURF* Manager of the Year for 2000.

"There's no one else like him," says L. Murray Cook, president of Ballpark Services, LLC. "He has the ability to work with anyone and everyone. He's always available and willing to help and offer his assistance."

Cook, who worked alongside Mayer in improving the turf for the spring training facilities of the Braves and Expos in West Palm Beach, Fla., says he always got what he needed from Mayer. "They broke the mold with him," says Cook.

Professional career

Mayer began his turf career with Scotts in 1961, after graduating from Ohio State University with a B.S. in agronomy and agricultural education. Working in research and development,

Mayer was involved in the patenting of 15 Kentucky bluegrass varieties and one St. Augustine grass variety.

His experience with various forms of turf was not limited to research labs or test plots. His knowledge of Scotts products allowed him to get down on the playing surfaces and work with groundskeepers during the 1968 Major League Baseball All-Star game at RFK Stadium, the 1975 World Series in Boston's Fenway Park and the 1993 Super Bowl at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

In 1988 he moved to the Professional Business Group as the technical trainer and support manager, where he was actively involved in training all professional sales people for the ProTurf Division of Scotts. His work took him to seminars throughout the United States, Mexico, Australia, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore.

Mayer has also overseen the development and maintenance of playing fields for such major sporting facilities as the Rose Bowl for the 1994 World Cup, Ohio Stadium at OSU and several Major League Baseball fields. He has consulted for the Milwaukee Brewers, Boston Red Sox and Kansas City Royals, among others.

In 1993, Mayer became a member of the STMA Board, serving as commercial vice president from 1993-95. He served as secretary for his final two years, 1996-97. In 1997 he was a featured speaker at the association's annual conference.

Eugene Mayer, left, presents the Harry C. Gill Award for 1998 to John Souter at the 1999 STMA Awards Banquet. Mayer received the award in 1997.



Find the professional references you need at the adams book guild



Feature of the Month:

Sports Fields: A Manual for Design, Construction and Maintenance, by Jim Puhalla, Jeff Krans, and Mike Goatley,

This book covers every important aspect of planning, design, construction and turfgrass maintenance with hundreds of illustrations and step-by-step procedures to help you get the job done right. No other book provides such intricate detail, combined with easy-to-understand guidance. Sports Fields is unparalleled in quality, practicality, and scope. In Part 1, you will learn the basics of turfgrass science and culture. Part 2 provides complete instruction on facility design, construction and renovation - for football, soccer, field hockey, lacrosse, and more. Part 3 covers other facilities such as playground surfaces, and volleyball courts. Procedures for equipment use, quality assurance, and safety are covered in Part 4. In Part 5, you will learn about stadium management, sand fields, turf paints, and many more useful topics. 600 pgs.

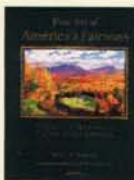
4084 \$74.95



Sports Turf Management Program-Maintenance & Renovation Planning Guide, by Ashman & Associates

This manual was developed to provide a coherent plan for the management of the baseball field playing surface and provides operational guidelines for the grounds crew to use as part of the maintenance plan. Enhances the "playing conditions" of the field by elevating the maintenance standards to the highest level possible. Complete descriptions of the maintenance protocol and identification of key issues to be discussed before starting objective maintenance procedures. This book provides a plan of action outlining the tasks to be completed and benchmarks to measure the progress of the program. 160 pgs.

4024 \$105.00



NEW! Fine Art of America's Fairways, by Mike Ventola, Jr.,

This coffee table book, featuring 48 of America's finest golf courses, showcases golf course architecture and legends of the game. Featuring 138 pieces of artwork, this book guides the reader on a unique golf journey from the majestic mountains and stark deserts of Arizona and California to the vast wetlands along the coasts of Georgia and the Carolinas. The book examines the work of

celebrated golf course architects, such as Trent Jones, Tom Fazio and Jack Nicklaus. 256 pgs.

4209 \$59.95



Destructive Turfgrass Insects: Biology, Diagnosis, and Control, by Daniel A. Potter,

This book has the answers you need to control white grubs, mole crickets, fire ants, and other pests. Stinging and biting insects such as yellow jackets and ticks are included, as well as nuisance wildlife such as moles, raccoons, and more. Covers the biology, diagnosis, and control of virtually all of the insects and mites that attack warm and cool season turfgrasses. Over 250

full color photographs. 400 pgs. 4150 \$65.00



Maintain It Easy(Keep It Safe), by Grounds Maintenance Services

Learn from hundreds of instructional photos featuring all aspects of softball field groundskeeping. Explains: Lip reduction; setting of multiple bases and pitching plates; dragging equipment and patterns; base

line options; unique complex ideas; dugout design; batting cage and hitting station; layout; water removal and much more. Unique field ideas from across the country. 4023 \$37.00



Superintendent's Handbook of Financial Management, by Raymond Schmidgall,

Written specifically for golf course superintendents, managers and owners. Official certification textbook of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The book presents useful methods and techniques for understanding and using income statements, balance sheets, accounting procedures, financial statements, operating budgets, capital budgets, record keeping and much more. 150 pages.

4006 \$34.95



The Mathematics of Turfgrass Maintenance, 2nd edition, by Nick Christians and Michael L. Agnew,

This book provides you with basic mathematical principles of budgeting, fertilizer and pesticide application, the ordering of top-dressing, irrigation, and many other parts of golf course operations. 149 pgs.

4149 \$34.95



Shop Service Manuals Set, by Intertec Publishing Corporation,

This comprehensive 14 book set totals more than 4,500 pages of service and repair information. Covers adjustments, maintenance, overhaul, and reassemble procedures. Titles included: Small Air Cooled Engines Volumes I and II; Chain Saw; Walk-Behind Lawn Mower Service; Riding Lawn Mower; Large Air Cooled Engine, 1988 and Prior, Volume I; Large Cooled Engine, through 1992, Volume II; Yard & Garden Tractor Single Cylinder Models; Small AAC Generator; Yard & Garden Tractor for Multi-Cylinder Models; String Trimmer and Blower; Rotary Tiller. 4043 \$219.95

Please indicate quantities of each publication

___ 4023	Maintain It Easy(Keep It Safe)	\$37.00
___ 4149	The Mathematics of Turfgrass Maintenance, 2nd edition	\$34.95
___ 4006	Superintendent's Handbook of Financial Management	\$34.95
___ 4150	Destructive Turfgrass Insects: Biology, Diagnosis, and Control	\$65.00
___ 4084	Sports Fields: A Manual for Design, Construction and Maintenance	\$74.95
___ 4209	Fine Art of America's Fairways	\$59.95
___ 4024	Sports Turf Management Program-Maintenance & Renovation Planning Guide	\$105.00
___ 4043	Shop Service Manuals Set	\$219.95

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Life after retirement

Mayer retired from Scotts in December of 1998, although he continues to work for the company as a consultant. Retirement for Mayer would constitute work for the rest of



Left to Right: Ruth Ann Mayer, George Toma and Eugene Mayer stand near home plate at the Kansas City Royals' spring training facility in Haines City, Fla.

us: in the past two years he has helped develop the turf for the new \$25 million stadium for Major League Soccer's Columbus Crew and worked with groundskeepers on the field for the Columbus Clippers, a minor league baseball team.

Jeff Limburg, head groundskeeper for the Clippers, worked with Mayer in converting the stadium from artificial to natural grass. "He's a very knowledgeable man, like a reference book," says Limburg. "I learned a lot from Eugene."

Darian Daily, head groundskeeper for the Crew, knew little about turf in the Midwest, coming from Tennessee. Mayer, says Daily, taught him everything he knows about bluegrass and sand-based fields.

"I pick his brain constantly," says Daily, who meets with Mayer once or twice a week to make sure everything is in order at the stadium. "He's so helpful, he never makes me feel like I asked a stupid question. He always takes the time to help me out."

George Toma, artificial/natural grass field consultant, has seen Mayer share his knowledge this way for over 30 years.

"I call him the quarterback," says Toma, "because he passes his knowledge on to so many young people, and the receivers of his advice and lessons have a leg up in getting started in the industry."

In addition to his consulting work, Mayer farms 300 acres and cares for 30 head of cattle with his father, Walter, and son, Tony, at the family farm where he was born and raised.

And for the past 38 years, Mayer has served as an auxiliary officer with full arrest authority for the Marysville Police Department, helping out during special community events such as parades and football games and in times of need.

Recognition for a job well done

Mayer has often been recognized along the way for his contributions to his profession and his community. Most recently he received the 1998 Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Professional of the Year Award. The award is the foundation's highest honor, rewarding those who encourage the continued study and research in turfgrass sciences and effectively communicate research information throughout the industry.

At the 1998 STMA Conference in Orlando, Fla., the STMA recognized Mayer's contributions to the association and the industry as a whole with the Harry C. Gill Memorial Award for 1997. One of the four Founders Awards, the Gill Award honors STMA's groundskeeper of the year, recognizing long-term commitment to the association's goals and standards.

For his community work Mayer received an honorary American Farmer Degree at the 1981 National Future Farmers of America (FFA) convention for his outstanding service to youth, agriculture, education and the FFA. He was honored in 1984 with a Community Service Award from the Central District of Athletic Directors Association for his work at the Marysville, Ohio, football field.

In December 1996, in an article from the Journal-Tribune in Marysville, Ohio, Mayer described why he dedicates his life to helping others. "I think we all have a purpose on this earth," he said. "My philosophy is that you have to work together to help one another. The more we can help people, the better."



See page 44 for past winners and comments.

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Certification Sparks an Upward Spiral



by Dale Getz

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) Certification Program is up and running. Materials have been finalized, reviewed by legal counsel and the National Certification Commission and approved by the STMA Board of Directors. Applicant packets have been sent to all STMA members and to others who have requested them.

Application forms are arriving at STMA Headquarters. A 30-day interval prior to testing was initiated for the initial group testing period. From mid-January of 2000 forward, a 60-day interval from the receipt of the application forms by Headquarters to

the testing date will be in effect. The interval allows the Certification Coordinator time to check the data supplied and verify the points to be awarded.

Certification will benefit the individual, the sports turf industry, and the STMA.

Certification Benefits for the Individual

First, the certified individual will gain pride of accomplishment in achieving a goal above and beyond the daily requirements of job performance and in demonstrating a superior level of competence.

In order to qualify for the opportunity to take the certification test, the individual must achieve, and docu-



Dale Getz, Athletic Facilities Manager for the University of Notre Dame and co-chair of the Certification Committee.

Figure 1. Basic Requirements to Qualify for CSFM Certification Testing

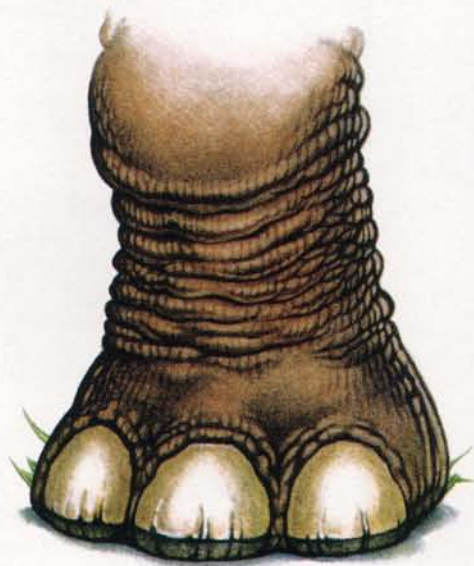
Please note: If any of the BASIC REQUIREMENTS are not fulfilled at the time of application, the application will be returned to the applicant (NO EXCEPTIONS).

1. The applicant must have a minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. The applicant must achieve a minimum of 40 points earned through a combination of education and experience with the following criteria:

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE POINTS

Education		Experience	
Program	Points	Activity	Points/year*
STMA Approved Educational Program (See current list of approved programs)	varies	Sports Turf Crew	1
		Supervisory Sports Turf (Assistant, Foreman or Lead Position)	3
		Sports Turf Manager (Top Position)	6
		Assistant Golf Course Superintendent	1 1/2
		Golf Course Superintendent	3
Note: These points may be added to the points listed below. Education points are not cumulative. In other words, an applicant can only receive points for the highest educational level achieved. The experience points listed below are cumulative.		Note: No more than 50 percent of total experience points can be earned on a golf course. *A minimum of 1,500 hours must be spent on the job to qualify for each claimed year. **The application and resume will be evaluated to determine eligibility for certification.	
Degree		Written Test: Qualified applicants will be scheduled for a written multiple choice test developed for four major sections pertinent for a sports turf manager.	
Associate Degree			
Non-turf	2		
Turf or related plant science	8		
Bachelors Degree			
Non-turf	8		
Turf or related plant science	16		
Advanced Degree: Masters or Doctorate			
Turf or related plant science	24		

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ment the achievement of, a minimum of 40 points earned through a combination of education and experience (see Appendix 1).

We've often referred to the "art and science" of sports turf management. This is addressed by the requirement for a combination of education and experience. While management of athletic playing surfaces requires a solid foundation in the principles of agronomics and turf physiology, there are certain elements of the process an individual must acquire through experience.

In sports turf management you sometimes "tamper" with the laws of science to achieve immediate, short-term results. Then you strictly adhere to scientific principles to correct those inconsistencies and bring field conditions back in compliance with the same laws you previously manipulated.

Unless you've "been there" and "done that" you won't have the "feel" for the "best" degree of moisture in the basepath skinned material or recognize the "right" point to raise or lower mowing height of cut, or determine the "precise" amount of topdressing to apply to achieve specific results.

In order to qualify for certification, an individual will need to have accumulated a large span of knowledge and a wide level of experience. The learning process and the self-examination that always precede formal testing will raise the individual's level of competence. Their personal level of professionalism rises and they demonstrate that factor in their own sports turf program. Their demonstrated level of ability makes them more valuable to their current employer and, in turn, gives them an edge in the job market.

To "certify" is defined by Webster's dictionary as, "to guarantee that something or someone meets a standard." Note that according to legal guidelines, any association or profession is able to certify only that an individual has met the outlined requirements for testing and has correctly answered the required exam questions and, for STMA, that these questions were developed from competencies established by professionals, educators and researchers within the industry. STMA is not certifying such things as an individual's work ethic, job performance, judgment, decision making, etc.

The human element will always be a factor in how effectively, efficiently

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