

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

VERTI-DRAINS FOR SALE

Nation's #1 Distributor has trade-in overload.

All older model aerifiers
(005.120, 105.145, 305.200, \$ 200h)

Made for greens, tees, fairways, sportsfields, etc., Prices starting at \$2000 for "as is" or will rebuild for additional cost. These Verti-Drains are the older slower design, but can be made to operate almost as cleanly as the new style.
Commercial Turf & Tractor 800-748-7497

FOR SALE ^{50% OFF}

Used Verti-Drain Parts

All parts in good serviceable condition.
Commercial Turf and Tractor 800-748-7497

Call Chris Dziubla for Classified

Rates and Information

(630) 295-9617

Advertiser's Index

<i>Company</i>	<i>Page</i>	<i>Circle</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Page</i>	<i>Circle</i>
Beacon Ballfields	14	134	John Deere	23	138
Beacon Ballfields	27	135	L. R. Nelson Corp.....	20	110
Bishop	22	113	L.R. Nelson Corp.	33	121
Broyhill Co.....	25	132	Laser Leveling Inc.	12	105
Broyhill Co.....	26	139	Laser Leveling Inc.	33	122
Covermaster Inc.	39	128	Nutramax Laboratories Inc.	28	116
Cygnat Turf & Equipment.....	19	109	Nutramax Laboratories Inc.	43	130
Delta BlueGraass Co.	11	104	Partac Peat Corp./Beam Clay.	38	127
Desso DLW Sports	36	126	PBI Gordon.....	32	119
Diamond Pro	40	129	PBI Gordon.....	5	136
Diamond Pro	10	140	Pro's Choice Inc.....	27	137
First Products Inc.....	25	114	Textron Turf Care & Specialty Products.....	3	133
GCSAA.....	2	101	Thomas Bros. Grass	24, 31	118
Geoturf.....	21	112	Turf Specialties Inc.	21	111
Goossen.....	17	107	Typar Turf Blankets.....	13	106
Goossen.....	32	120	Typar Turf Blankets.....	35	125
Grant Sports Fields	22	115	West Coast Turf	9	103
John Deere	28	117	World Class Athletic Surfaces Inc.	18	108
John Deere	34	123	World Class Athletic Surfaces Inc.	34	124
John Deere	44	131			

Adams Business Media

Steve Brackett

Group Publisher

250 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1150
Chicago, IL 60606
(815) 459-5189 (815) 459-5805 (fax)
sbrackett@mail.aip.com

Michelle Citro

Research Editor

250 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1150
Chicago, IL 60606
mctiro@mail.aip.com

Wayne Boyles

Group Business Manager

250 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1150
Chicago, IL 60606
(630) 833-9798 (630) 833-9735 (fax)
wboyles@mail.aip.com



Q&A

BY DR. GRADY MILLER, ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT,
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Have Questions?

SEND THEM TO GRADY AT: P.O. BOX 110670, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE, FL 32611-0670

I have a good base of bermudagrass but the field has not been taken care of for the past few years. I want to know if I should seed the infield and then put a top dressing of sand or dirt to level it. I have some little spots that need some help. Also, what is the best thing to use to get rid of bahiagrass?

Unfortunately, many fields have periods of neglect due to changes in field managers, poor administration, or lack of adequate funds for year-round maintenance. If you have a good base of bermudagrass and have some time, then you have a number of options. My approach to renovating this baseball field would depend upon how much bermudagrass is on the field and how well it is distributed across the field.

From your note it sounds like bahiagrass makes up the balance of the field not covered with bermudagrass. If that is the case, just seeding bermudagrass is not going to change the overall appearance of the field until the bahiagrass is removed. Bahiagrass can be controlled with MSMA or DSMA (sold under various trade names) at labeled rates. Three to four repeat applications at 7 to 10 day intervals are necessary for control. It is best sprayed in the spring. This program may require treatment for more than one year to remove the bahiagrass. This herbicide can discolor bermudagrass, but this can usually be offset with application(s) of nitrogen fertilizer.

After you have removed the bahi-

agrass, then you are ready to begin field renovation. Fill in all the low areas with a soil that is similar to the native soil of the field, especially if the low areas are more than an inch below grade. You do not want to use a soil that is too dissimilar to what is below it; otherwise you may have layering that may promote either excessively droughty or wet conditions. You may want to top-dress and use a steel drag mat to further level the field's surface. Concentrate on the infield first, but do not overlook the low areas in other parts of the field.

During the renovation, keep in mind that a field should have a 1 percent slope from bottom of the pitcher's mound to beyond the baseline. The outfield should slope 1 percent from the infield skinned area toward the warning track. The slopes will minimize water puddling. This is also a great time to remove any lips that have formed around the skinned areas. Excavate and remove sand/clay soil to create the proper slope required for surface runoff.

With the work completed on the low and uneven areas, you should next concentrate on the grass. If you have at least 50 percent bermudagrass cover, you may elect to initiate an aggressive fertilization program to "grow-in" the field. It is not unusual to have bermudagrass go from 50 to 100 percent cover in 4 to 6 weeks using high rates of nitrogen fertilizers and adequate irrigation. Apply 3/4 to 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per week using a soluble form of nitrogen

(e.g., ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulfate, etc). These high rates should only be used during a short term - until the bermudagrass has fully covered.

If the bermudagrass cover is sparse, you may want to go ahead and seed the field. The ideal time to seed the field is mid-spring to mid-summer. In southern Florida, seeding may even be performed in late summer with good results. The typical seeding rate is 1 to 1 1/2 pounds of hulled bermudagrass seed per 1,000 square feet (or 40 to 65 pounds per acre). Use a rotary or drop spreader to apply the seed evenly and at the proper rate. It is a good idea to apply half the seed in one direction, then apply the other half in a perpendicular direction. If possible, carefully rake the seed into the soil using a leaf rake, and then lightly roll to improve seed-to-soil contact. After seeding, water lightly and frequently to keep the top quarter-inch of soil moist until the seed germinates. As the plants begin to grow, change your irrigation schedule so that you are watering more of the root zone, but less frequently. This will encourage development of a deeper root system.

You mentioned seeding in your note, but realize that sprigging and sodding are commonly used alternative methods of establishing bermudagrass. In fact sprigging is often more cost effective than seeding. Contact your local county extension agent or state turfgrass specialists for a list of cultivars appropriate for your area.

No other infield conditioner maintains the game readiness of your playing field better than Diamond Pro.

Call 1-800-228-2987 for more information or click on www.diamondpro.com.



DIAMOND PRO

Circle 123 on Inquiry Card

Tools of the Trade



MAXIMUM PROTECTION FROM STRESS WITH AMINO ACID BIOFERTILIZERS



Use MACRO-SORB® radicular throughout the growing season to increase nutrient absorption and enhance root growth and development.



Use MACRO-SORB® foliar to increase photosynthetic activity, especially during periods of stress, and throughout the year to enhance your foliar spray program.



Use QUELANT®-Ca to correct a calcium deficiency within the plant or once a month to keep calcium levels sufficient throughout the year.



Use QUELANT®-K to enhance synthesis of carbohydrates and increase turfgrass tolerance to heat, drought, cold, traffic, disease, and other adverse conditions.

Call 800-925-5187 for your nearest distributor

www.nutramaxlabs.com

Circle 130 on Inquiry Card

VISIT US AT BOOTH #704 AT STMA 2001