

to perform equivalent to tall fescue varieties in a number of different trial locations. Other studies have also concluded that under limited irrigation cycles Texas hybrids perform better and maintained greater turf quality than tall fescue cultivars. In the same study tall fescue had higher water use. Along with improved heat and drought tolerance other benefits, extensive rhizomes for improved wear and recovery, lower water usage and good performance under lower maintenance.

Ryegrass a good companion

Perennial ryegrass is a fine textures species with the potential to develop into a high quality, hardwearing turf stand. It's fast establishing characteristics combined with high quality, color, texture and close mowing tolerance make perennial ryegrass ideal for athletic sports field use. These qualities are why perennial ryegrass is best used in a sports field seed mixture as a companion to Kentucky bluegrass. It is also important to remember that by blending the two species genetic diversity is increased maximizing each species strengths and weaknesses. Adding perennial ryegrass will speed up establishment assisting with natural weed control and importantly increases disease resistance and is resistant to different diseases than Kentucky bluegrass such as necrotic ring spot.

Perennial ryegrass is also endohpyte enhanced that improves tol-

erance to insects such as billbugs. Mix with Kentucky bluegrass the ryegrass component ranges from 10- 50% dependent on application. The percentage of perennial ryegrass used in a mixture should be based on the desired time period from time of seeding to planned use. If the establishment period is limited then a greater percent of ryegrass is recommended.

Intermediate ryegrass has been introduced over the past 8 years and offers some excellent benefits. Based on the principals of an annual plant Intermediate ryegrass has been develop to produce a high quality turf stand similar to perennial turf type ryegrass. Characteristics include germination under cool soil conditions, rapid establishment and improved turf quality over traditional annual ryegrass. Intermediate is an excellent overseeding tool for high traffic areas and is less competitive in a mixture with Kentucky bluegrass than perennial ryegrass.

Fescue offers alternatives

Turf-type tall fescue has traditionally been used on non-irrigated low-maintenance sports fields in transition zone and cooler climates. Tall fescue has two limiting factors that need to be considered; improved disease resistance and poor establishment. Generally speaking tall fescue is very wear tolerant once fully established, but getting tall fescue established before traffic and wear is



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a very young turf, the coaches and players like it a lot! There's better footing because of the healthy mat underneath, so it's much easier on the players and their joints." The TifSport growers are mighty proud that America's Team is now practicing on America's grass - TifSport.

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*This chart is for general observation only. Individual performance of varieties within each classification may vary widely and require comprehensive regional test results to determine the best performance. To see chart in its entirety please visit www.pickseed.com.

Type	Description	PICKSEED Offering	Comparable Varieties		
Compact	* Low, compact growth	ALPINE	Argos	Indigo	Glade
	* High quality turf	MOONSHADOW	Amazon	Moonlight	Ram 1
	* 1/2 inch cutting height	INDIGO	Chicago II	Nugget	Golden Nugget
	* Excellent resistance to Leaf Spot	EXPLORER	Blacksburg	P-105	Amazon
	* Long Winter dormancy		Blackstone	Platini	Apex
	* Variable under summer stress		Conni	Broadway	Goldstar
	* Often purple winter color		Wildwood	Diva	Blue-tastic
			Ascot	Hallmark	Skye
			Blue Max	Casablanca	
			Apex		
Compact-Midnight	* Characteristics of compact type	QUANTUM LEAP	Barrister	Midnight	Beyond
	* Very dark green color	BLUE VELVET	Award	NuGlade	Rhythm
	* Late Spring green-up	GRANITE	Awesome	Midnight II	EverGlade
	* Good heat tolerance		Impact	Total Eclipse	Everest
	* Susceptible to Powdery Mildew		Liberator	Rugby II	Freedom III
	* Variable resistance to Summer Patch		Arcadia	Odyssey	Midnight Star
	* Many susceptible to stem and leaf rust		Courtyard	Absolute	Freedom II
			Midnight	NuDestiny	Alexa
			NuGlade	GINNEY	Blustone
Compact-America	* Characteristics of compact type	LANGARA	Showcase	Dybamo	Blue Knight
	* Finer leaf, higher density	AMERICA	Apollo	Unique	
	* Moderate Winter dormancy	MERCURY	Brilliant	Bedazzled	
	* Moderate Summer recovery		Bordeaux	Royale	
	* High Summer Patch resistance		Arrow	Boutique	
	* Resistant to Powdery Mildew		Mallard	Glenmont	
	* Good in shade		Sonoma	Kingfisher	
Aggressive	* Aggressive lateral growth	TOUCHDOWN	A-34	Northstar	Broadway
	* High shoot density		Baris	P-104	Durham
	* Very wear tolerant		Mystic	Cheetah	Fairfax
	* Quickly knit sod and repair		Brunswick	Julius	
	* May predominate in blend		Orfeo	Limousine	
	* Variable in other characteristics		Showcase	SR 2284	
BVMG	* High seed yields	CANNON	Abbey	Fortuna	Merit
	* Medium-good turf	CREST	Baron	Gnome	Famous
	* Stripe Smut susceptible		BlueChip	Goldrush	
	* Medium low growth		BlueStar	Clearwater	
	* Medium wide leaf		Marquis	Nassau	
	* Very stemmy turf		Dragon	Raven	
	* Poor Winter performance		Envicta	Victa	
	* Resistant to leaf spot				
	* Billbug susceptible		* BVMG = Baron, Victa, Merit, Gnome		
Shamrock	* Moderate Winter color	PARKLAND	SR 2100	Shamrock	Wild Horse
	* Good resistance to Leaf Spot		Atlantis	Brooklawn	
	* Good turf quality and sod strength		Champlain	Lakeshore	
	* Billbug susceptible		Moonshine	Champagne	
	* High seed yields		Durham	Mongoose	
	* Less stemmy than BVMG				
	* Strong rhizome development				
	* Summer performance variable				
Julia	* High turf quality	RAMPART	Avalanche	Julia	
	* High density		Ikone	Ulysses	
	* Good Summer performance		Caliber		
	* Very high wear tolerance				
	* Good Leaf Spot & Stripe Smut resistance				
	* Generally susceptible to Brown Patch & Dollar Spot except for Ulysses, Rampart and Avalanche				

Chart continued on page 44

introduced is an issue. This characteristic also affects the ability of tall fescue to recover quickly after heavy wear. Recent developments have seen the introduction of tall fescue cultivars with rhizomes improving establishment and wear tolerance. Tall fescue performs best when combined with 5-10% of Kentucky bluegrass.

Fine fescue cultivars offer some good alternatives for non-irrigated athletic fields and recreational turf areas. Specifically the Red fescue family Chewings fescue, Strong red fescue and Slender red fescue are examples of fescue groups that can be used in low-maintenance situations. Improved chewings and red fescue have seen recent advances in traffic tolerance, improved heat and drought tolerance, germinate more rapidly, have excellent cool temperature growth (spring and fall) and perform well in shady locations. Improved fine fescue cultivars also have the additional benefits of endophytes and should be seed in a blend with Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass for best performance.

Endophytes offer significant benefits

The availability of endophyte improved turfgrass cultivars is an important part of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices that can help reduce inputs. Endophytes are fungi that have a symbiotic relationship with some grasses, spreading through seed infection. The presence of endophytes in turfgrass has been

demonstrated to provide many benefits including resistance to surface-feeding insects, increased disease resistance and increased stress tolerance. Currently the species of turfgrass with endophytes that are available on the market include perennial ryegrass, tall fescue, Chewings fescue, strong creeping red fescue, slender creeping red fescue and hard fescue. In some of these species, most cultivars available will have high levels of viable endophyte. Attempts have been made to find or introduce endophytes into other turf species such as Kentucky bluegrass but so far these associations have not been stable and have not led to marketable cultivars.

There are many factors to be considered in the construction and maintenance of an athletic or recreation field. Seed cultivar selection is one of many inputs that can impact the long-term success and quality of the turf stand. As outlined there are many different aspects that are critical in the selection of the proper turf grass species and cultivar for each specific turf site. Proper selection of turf cultivars can be the most important decision you have to make. ■

Paul Stevens is manager, professional turf, Pickseed Canada Inc., pstevens@pick seed.com.

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Continued from page 42

Type	Description	PICKSEED Offering	Comparable Varieties		
Other	* Exhibits traits that are intermediate between groups * Additional study required to classify * CYNTHIA shows excellent Rust tolerance	CYNTHIA BRONCO	Allure	Freedom II	Bariris
			Ascot	Yvette	Baritone
			Baronie	Jewel	Blue Ridge
			Bartitia	Misty	Chelsea
			Baruzo	Monte Carlo	Blackstone
			Geronimo	NuStar	Lily
			Canterbury	Rita	Markham
			Cardiff	Seabring	Blue Sapphire
			Chateau	Sodnet	Fylking
			Chicago	Washington	
Compact					
Coventry					
Texas x Kentucky Hybrids	* Hybrids between Texas & Kentucky Bluegrasses * Heat tolerant * Extensive rhizomes * Drought tolerant with good recovery * Wear tolerant	BANDERA (SPTR2LM95)	DuraBlue	Fire and Ice	
			ThermalBlue	Longhorn	
			Solar Green	Fahrenheit 90	
			Reveille	STR 2844	
Bellevue	* Medium growth and shoot density * Medium wide leaves * Excellent Winter color * Early Spring green-up * Stemmy in Spring * Moderate recovery from Summer stress * Good Leaf Spot & Stripe Smut resistance * Susceptible to billbugs	BANFF	Bellevue	Freedom	Parade
			Classic	Georgetown	Suffolk
			Dawn	Haga	
			Parade	Trenton	
Mid-Atlantic	* Deep, extensive roots and rhizomes * Vigorous turf and medium-high density * High Summer stress tolerance * Early Spring green-up * Good Winter performance * Rapid recovery from disease * Leaf Spot susceptible except Preakness		Eagleton	Plush	SR2200
			Livingston	Preakness	
			Monopoly	Wabash	
			Cabernet		
CELA	* Better Spring green-up than compact types * Less stemmy than Bellevue * Good turf quality * Good Stripe Smut & Leaf Spot resistance * Variable Winter performance		Adelphi	Jefferson	
			Challenger	Liberty	
			Eclipse	Rambo	
			*CELA = Challenger, Eclipse, Liberty, Adelphia		
Cheri	* Good turf quality * Medium low growth, density and leaf width * Good resistance to Stripe Smut * Good sod strength * Moderate resistance to Leaf Spot * High seed yields * Less stemmy than BVMG types * Moderate Winter dormancy		Cheri	Serene	
			Cobalt	Sydsport	
Common Kentucky	* Midwest ecotypes * Erect growth and narrow leaf blades * Good Summer stress tolerance * May go dormant during Summer * High Leaf Spot susceptibility * Poor Winter color and performance * Early seed production * Good for soil stabilization and conservation	KENBLUE PARK ALENE CACHE	Garfield	Moonstruck	South Dakota
			Geary	Alley Cat	Voyager
			Ginger	Blue Angle	Argyle
			Greenly	Huntsville	
			Wellington	Piedmont	
			Ronde	S-21	
			Newport		
* Developed from Rutgers Turfgrass Proceedings and observations by Pickseed Canada Inc.					update: 2/16/07

Tools & Equipment



Solid metal hose-end nozzles

Precision solid metal fixed-spray hose nozzles are now available from Underhill for all-around use on sports fields and parks for hand-watering dry spots, applying wetting agents and syringing fields before games. The patented Precision nozzle design features stainless steel professional-grade diffuser plates with rubber covers. A wide range of flow rates provides variable spray patterns that ensure optimum coverage and uniform droplets. Nozzles are available in a range of sizes and applications, ranging from 15 to 50+ gpm. Solid brass control valves are also available with 3/4" and 1" hose thread adapters. The nozzles include Rainbow, Rainmaker, Cloudburst, and Cyclone models.

www.underhill.us

Celsius™

Bayer introduces Celsius herbicide

Bayer Environmental Science recently announced it received registration for the newest generation post-emergent herbicide, Celsius, which will deliver weed control on warm-season turf. Celsius herbicide is safe for use year round on the most important warm-season turf types (St. Augustinegrass, centipedegrass, bermudagrass, and zoysia-grass). It provides control of troublesome broadleaf and grassy weeds, application convenience, flexibility and long residual.

Celsius has shown specific benefits in terms of broad spectrum control for more than 150 weeds, including dove-weed, bull paspalum, large crabgrass, dandelions, Virginia buttonweed, and dollarweed. Have the freedom to make post-emergent applications on a wide selection of weeds when it's convenient for you.

www.backedbybayer.com

Star Line paint designed for environment

In January 2009, Pioneer Athletics introduced the first-ever Environmental Protection Agency "Design for the Environment" designated field paint with their Brite Stripe Ultra-Friendly product line. Today, Pioneer has announced a second EPA recognized paint named Star Line Ultra Friendly, the companion product to their paint-in-a-box sprayer, the Star Stripper.

Just like Pioneer's previously released Brite Stripe Ultra Friendly, Star Line Ultra Friendly is completely free of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and includes more readily biodegradable components than ever before.

"Intensive ingredient research contributed to formulation breakthroughs for our Brite Stripe Ultra Friendly line of paints," said Doug Schattinger, President of Pioneer Athletics. "It was important to our company that we continue to introduce additional products that help relieve environmental stress and improve field surface health."

www.pioneerathletics.com

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—Vince Lombardi

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Two new walk-behind dethatchers from SISIS

CS Trading LLC introduces the SISIS AUTO-ROTORAKE MK5: ARR/5H. Based on the proven Rotorake principle incorporating a reel of blades rotating at high speed in the opposite direction to that of a conventional reel mower, this new model offers an increased working width plus cutting reel safety brake, 6-hp Honda engine, and "no tool" depth of cut control mounted to handle to enable depth to be set while moving forward. A range of optional blades and spacers are available for this machine with full differential for easier turning and minimal surface marking.

www.csturfproducts.com

New cold weather synthetic turf adhesive

NORDOT Adhesive #34P from Synthetic Surfaces Inc. is a new, high green strength, one-part curing urethane that extends the synthetic turf installation season on both sides of winter. Its cold weather installation properties will permit more practical installations in fall and spring. The faster green strength, aka "grab," development of the new adhesive helps offset the normal slow down and cure of all adhesives as the temperature drops. It also helps avoid installation problems such as "seam curl" and "wind lift" due to stiffer turf when cold. Also will work in warmer weather.

www.nordot.com



XC Hybrid controller now in stainless steel

Hunter Industries' XC Hybrid, a battery powered version of their XC controller, is now available in a stainless steel version. Protect all the features of your investment: A 365-day calendar, three independent programs (each with four start times), global seasonal adjustment, station controlled sensors, "Easy Retrieve" memory backup, and on-board, non-volatile memory. Prepared to weather the outdoors, this controller comes in 6- and 12-station models. And the use of six C batteries means a longer life, up to twice that of the standard XC Hybrid.

www.hunterindustries.com



Deere launches new ZTrak PRO 900 Series mowers

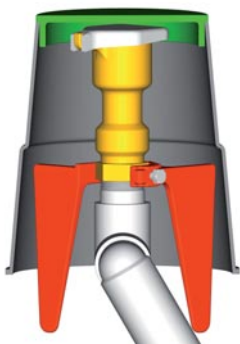
John Deere has introduced its latest line of commercial mowers, the ZTrak PRO 900 Series and its "Work it for a Week" program, which means you can purchase a mower and put it to the test; if you don't like the way it runs, rides, cuts or handles, you can return it for exchange or full refund within 10 days of purchase. Deere also is offering a commercial, 2-year bumper-to-bumper warranty with unlimited hours. All models feature 7-Iron Pro decks with stamped, seven-gauge steel, full-wrap reinforcement and Mulch-on-Demand capabilities and top mowing speeds of 10.5 or 12 mph.

www.johndeere.com

Prevent quick coupler accidents

The Claw from Underhill International helps prevent dangerous and unpredictable quick coupler accidents on sports fields. Quick couplers often become unthreaded from swing joints during hand watering and cause a high-pressure "geyser" of water that not only floods the turf but can cause serious injury to maintenance crew. To prevent this hazard, the Claw acts like an anchor, holding the quick coupler securely in place, restraining rotational, vertical and horizontal motion. The Claw fits inside most valve boxes without any cutting or alterations. It attaches directly to the base of the quick coupler valve with a hexagonal receptacle and single stainless steel bolt. Claw tines extend 6 inches below the plane of attachment and are embedded in the soil, approximately 5 inches below grade.

www.underhill.us



Natural gypsum soil neutralizer lowers sodium levels

Profile Products LLC has introduced Sodium-pHix as the newest soil neutralizer in the line of ProPlus Prescriptive Agronomic Formulations. This natural gypsum mineral effectively lowers sodium levels in soils to enhance vegetation. When absorbed into the soil matrix through rain or irrigation water, Sodium-pHix increases the electrolyte concentration and provides calcium to create an ion exchange reaction with sodium. The granular product comes in two particle sizes, a fine-granule hydro formula with a suspending agent for use in hydraulic applications, and a larger broadcast particle for application through a spreader.

Membership Application

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*There must already be a national sports turf manager from your facility or commercial member from your company before you may sign up in the Associate category.

New Members*

Did someone refer you to STMA? We would like to thank them, and enter them in our Member Get A Member Rewards Program.

Person who referred you:

Facility name:

*Not been an STMA national member since 2004. All categories of membership are eligible to recruit; new student memberships do not qualify for this program.

Cut Here

Phone: 800-323-3875

www.STMA.org



Kromer introduces Field Commander

Kromer Company, in business since 1945, has introduced its Field Commander multi-purpose riding unit that will groom, paint/remove lines, spray, apply logos, condition, and do all the necessary functions to maintain both natural turf and artificial turf fields. Kromer says this is the only fully hydraulic machine available that offers complete athletic field maintenance using a "one machine-one operator" concept. Kromer products are used around the world, including by the Green Bay Packers, Minnesota Vikings, Penn State, and the Academy at West Point, just to name a few.

www.kromerco.com

Gravelly Turf introduces SaniTurf

Gravelly Turf introduces the new SaniTurf anti-bacterial sprayer. With an 80-gallon, low-profile poly tank, the SaniTurf distributes athletic hygiene products, disinfectants, sanitizers, fungicides, virucides and mildew stats. A boomless nozzle assembly sprays a 30-foot swath at 40 psi, and it avoids potential boom snags with a conventional boom. Powered by a 3.4 hp Briggs & Stratton® Engine, the SaniTurf also features a six-roller pump which provides a maximum 31.8 gpm and up to 100 psi.

www.ariens.com



Transmission option added to Bobcat tractor line

Since launching its first compact tractor models in 2007, Bobcat Company has continued to expand the line with new models, new options and new attachments. Some of the additions coming this year and in 2010 include a shuttle shift transmission (SST) option to complement the current hydrostatic transmission, and a line of front-mounted implements. The semi-synchronized gear transmission option for CT335, CT445, and CT450 models will feature 12 forward gears and 12 reverse gears with shuttle shift capabilities for ease of use, which will complement the hydrostatic transmission (HST) models offered today.

www.bobcat.com



New electric-powered topdresser

TurfEx introduces its 1.4 cubic-yard capacity MS4500 topdresser featuring polyethylene construction and fully electric operation, this trailer-mounted unit can spread standard topdressing sand for golf courses, crumb rubber for synthetic turf fields and a variety of other bulk materials including compost and soil conditioners. The MS4500's heavy-duty polyethylene construction can make it up to 40% lighter, while the large flotation tires exert 18 psi when fully loaded. The lightweight construction also lessens fuel consumption for the towing vehicle.

www.trynexusfactory.com

First slow-release, renewable fertilizer now being produced

Commercial production has begun of Crystal Green, the world's first slow-release, renewable and environmentally safe fertilizer. Crystal Green is the only slow-release fertilizer with a combination of nitrogen, phosphorus and magnesium (5-28-0 +10Mg); it is a clean by-product of a new wastewater treatment process, whereby the phosphorus and ammonia are recovered to create a fertilizer. The product can be used in the same manner as monoammonium phosphate or coated products, with the added benefit of high levels of slow release magnesium. There is no need to change equipment or application methods; Crystal Green can be substituted for any existing phosphorous source. It is available in a range of prill sizes from 50 - 240 SGN.

www.crystalgreen.com



Invest in yourself without spending any money

Make 2010 the year that you focus on your career and future success by really using your STMA benefits. STMA offers so much information that is available through its website. By committing 15 minutes each week, you will expand your technical knowledge and add to your value as a sports turf manager.

But where do you start? Your time is a valuable resource, and there is so much information available to help you with your management of sports fields. First, create a quick career development plan. Perhaps you are a cool season turfgrass manager, but know that you would benefit from knowing more about warm season grass management. Or, if you know you'll always be managing cool season grasses, have you kept up on the new varieties in trial or on the market? Perhaps you need to hone your communication skills? Or, begin planning for a field renovation? Pinpoint what you need to know to be a better sports turf manager, write it down, and set aside 15 minutes each week to pursue information on the topics you have noted.



Computer image courtesy of istockphoto.com

Start with STMA's website, www.STMA.org. There are many different ways to find information.

These three ways allow you to see a broad list of resources available and

should be used when you want to find out what technical content is new or available on the STMA website.

Look at the STMA home page to see if any new resources have been added.

Click on the Resources Tab at the top of the STMA website, hover over the Technical Information or Related Topics to see what's there.

Log in to the STMA Members Only page, and click on Technical Resources. (To log in, put in your STMA ID number as your USER NAME, and use your last name as your password).

These three ways provide you with a search method to quickly find singular topics.

Use the Search Bar at the top of the STMA home page. Put in your topic and click. All related resources on the STMA website should be culled into a handy list for you. For example, if you are interested in project management, put that topic in the search bar, and all the information on the STMA website will appear in a list for easy browsing.

Click on the STMA magazine cover, and then on Advanced Search at the top of the SportsTurf page. Put in your topic and fill out the search criteria.

Log in to Members Only and from that home page, click on the TGIF link and put in your topic. TGIF is the industry's top resource for information, and access to it is included in your STMA membership. (TGIF is not available to Commercial members).

STMA continues to enhance the content on its website, so each week that you check back, you should find new information and resources

In addition to the technical resources on the STMA website described above and access to TGIF, following is a full list of membership benefits available to you:

- Annual subscription to SportsTurf Magazine, the industry's top publication dedicated to field management.
- STMA's News Online, a monthly electronic newsletter
- STMA Membership Directory

(Searchable directory is online, Members Only section)

- Employment Openings and Career information (online, Members Only section)
- Discounted registration/exhibition fees to attend STMA's Annual Conference & Exhibition, an event unmatched in the industry for sports field specific information and education, and all STMA Regional Conferences. In 2010, STMA is planning a summer regional conference in the Pacific Northwest area.
- Discounts to the University of Georgia's and the Ohio State University's distance-learning programs.

By committing 15 minutes each week, you will expand your technical knowledge and add to your value as a sports turf manager.

- Opportunity to take a leadership role through national committee service.
- Ability to enter your sports field in the nationally recognized Field of the Year Awards Program.
- Ability to apply for a scholarship through The SAFE Foundation, STMA's charitable arm (student members).
- Recognition as a professional and access to further validate your abilities through certification.

Just a reminder, if you are unemployed anytime in 2010, please let STMA headquarters know and we will extend your membership benefits for six months, so that you will have access to resources to help you gain employment.

For those who are not members, to join STMA please use the membership application in this magazine, or go to www.STMA.org and click JOIN STMA. ■



STMA Committee Volunteer Form

Committee appointments are for a one-year term of service, March - January.
Please fill out a new form annually.

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Facility/Industry Representation (check one)

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- Parks & Recreation
- Academic
- Commercial
- Student

Name of Committee on which you are interested in serving: (not to exceed two)

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DUE FEBRUARY 5, 2010

