

Strickland, Meredith, Ball & Tamaska win MiLB Turf Awards

Scott Strickland (Triple-A), Shaun Meredith (Double-A), Chris Ball (Class A) and Tommy Tamaska (Short-Season/Rookie) are this year's classification winners in the annual Sports Turf Manager of the Year Awards, sponsored by the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). Ball was also the Class A winner in 2007. He has won or shared the title of best sports turf manager in the Carolina League for the past four years for his work at the home of the Myrtle Beach Pelicans, BB&T Coastal Field.

Strickland has been in charge of Durham Bulls Athletic Park for the last six seasons. He has been with the Triple-A club since 2004.

Meredith displayed his talents at Merchantsauto.com Stadium, home of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, to win the Double-A honor. He joined the Fisher Cats for last year, after working for State College in the New York-Penn League from 2006-08.

Tamaska works at the Carpenter Complex in Clearwater, FL home of the Gulf Coast League Phillies and where Philadelphia's spring training operations are based.

The STMA provides educational opportunities and support so that sports turf managers can provide the best sports surfaces for all levels of play. Sports turf managers are experts on the field and partners of the game.

The four classification winners, who were selected from among 16 league winners, will receive their award at the Baseball Winter Meetings™ Awards Luncheon at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort near Orlando on December 6.

The league winners:

LEAGUE	WINNER	CLUB
International League	Scott Strickland	Durham Bulls
Pacific Coast League	Chris Schlosser	Iowa Cubs
Mexican League	Ismael Cristobal Hernández	Sultanes de Monterrey
Eastern League	Shaun Meredith	New Hampshire Fisher Cats
Southern League	Ed Attalla	Jacksonville Suns
Texas League	David Bicknell	Frisco RoughRiders
California League	Justin Clarke	Stockton Ports
Carolina League	Chris Ball	Myrtle Beach Pelicans
Florida State League	Opie Cheek	Clearwater Threshers
Midwest League	Mitch McClary	Fort Wayne TinCaps
South Atlantic League	Greg Burgess	Greenville Drive
New York-Penn League	Matt Neri	State College Spikes
Northwest League	Adam Farrell	Spokane Indians
Appalachian League	Blake Anderson	Greeneville Astros
Pioneer League	John Barta	Billings Mustangs
Gulf Coast League	Tommy Tamaska	Phillies

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona:
Chris Walsh cwalsh@scottsdaleaz.gov

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.cstma.org.

Florida #1 Chapter (South): 305-235-5101
(Bruce Bates) or Tom Curran CTomSell@aol.com

Florida #2 Chapter (North): 850/580-4026,
John Mascaro, john@turf-tec.com

Florida #3 Chapter (Central): 407-518-2347,
Randy Fisher, rfisher@kissimmee.org

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gatewaystma.org.

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.gstma.org.

Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com.

Illinois Chapter STMA: www.ILSTMA.org.

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.imstma.org.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.iowaturfgrass.org.

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.kystma.org.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org.

Mid Atlantic Sports Turf Managers Association (MASTMA) (formerly the Chesapeake Chapter STMA)
Ph. 410-704-2197 www.mastma.org

Minnesota Chapter STMA: www.mstma.com.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.mokanstma.com.
(See Expanded Profile included in Chapter Highlights)

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association:
402/441-4425.

New England STMA (NESTMA):
www.nestma.org.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfmanj.org.

Sports Turf Managers of New York:
www.stmony.org.

North Carolina Chapter of STMA:
www.ncsportsturf.org.

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA):
www.ostma.org.

Oregon STMA Chapter: 503/953-9406

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org.

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.pnwstma.org.

Southern California Chapter:
www.socalstma.com.

South Carolina Chapter of STMA:
www.scstma.org.

Chapter Sponsors



Hunter®
The Irrigation Innovators

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com.

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association:
866/897-8621.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.vstma.org.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association:
www.wstma.org.
(See Expanded Profile included in Chapter Highlights)

Forming Chapters:
Indiana Chapter:
Joey Stevenson, jstevenson@indyindians.com

STMA International Affiliate Organizations:
National Parks, Singapore: www.nparks.gov.sg

Sports Turf Association, ON, CANADA
www.sportsturfassociation.com

Forming International Affiliate Organizations
Irish Institute of Sport Surfaces
Institute of Groundsmanship




Thatch Master
Dethatching, Aeration and Verti-cutting



Slicing or Coring Aeration

www.TurfTimeEq.com
800-201-1031

See us at STMA - Booth # 500

THE FASTER WAY TO A BETTER LOOKING FIELD

Atom Professional Edger
Fastest way to edge infields, outfields, base paths and grounds.
Shaft driven, lightweight and rugged.



Hayter Harrier Striping Mower
Split Rear Roller for dramatic striping and easy maneuverability.
Rotary mower will cut as low as 1/2".



Visit us at Booth #1321

SEAGO
INTERNATIONAL, LLC.
Ph: 800-780-9889
www.seagointernational.com



The Earth & Turf MultiSpread™ 320



Designed for Sports Turf Managers!

- 1-cubic yard capacity Topdresser with Exclusive, Wide-spread Beater!
- For Schools & Universities, Athletic Fields, Lawn Care Professionals, and Golf Courses!
- Spreads Topdressing Materials, Infield Mix, and Grass Clippings!
- Two-Wheel Ground Drive with 26 x 12.00-12 Turf Tires!

Other Earth & Turf topdressers available from 3 cu. ft. capacity to 15 cu. ft. capacity. See our complete line at:
www.earthandturf.com
888-693-2638

Infield Drag.com
10% Factory Direct Discount to City Rec Departments, Schools and Military.
Complete Line of
INFIELD Groomers & TURF Care
PR72 Pro Groomer, AS58 All Star Chisel-Drum
MG72 Granular and MG72 Golf & Turf
Groom Baseball and Softball Infields, Pulverize Aeration Cores, Groom Artificial Turf, De-Thatch Natural Turf, Work in Top Dressings and Groom Golf Greens.




www.Infield-Drag.com
Heying Co. 515 6th Ave. Alton, IA 51003
Ph. (712) 756-8847

BEAM CLAY® INFIELDS!



Beam Clay® has supplied products to every Major League Baseball Team and over 150 Minor League Teams, more than 700 colleges and thousands of towns and schools from all 50 states and worldwide. Beam Clay® supplies special mixes for infields, pitcher's mounds, home plate areas, red warning tracks, infield conditioners, drying agents, plus over 200 other infield products, including **regional infield mixes blended for every state and climate** from bulk plants nationwide!

BEAM CLAY®
800-247-BEAM (2326)
WWW.BEAMCLAY.COM

WANT TO REACH QUALIFIED BUYERS?

- TARGETED LEADS
- SUPERIOR PENETRATION
- PROVEN VALUE
- OUTSTANDING RESULTS

Then rent our list of targeted, qualified readers for your next direct mail promotion.

Call today for more information regarding our product lines and extensive database marketing programs.

M2MEDIA 360
LIST RENTAL

Cheryl Naughton
cnaughton@m2media360.com
678-292-6054 Fax: 360-294-6054

Please fill out this form in its entirety

Yes, please start/continue my FREE subscription to *Sportsturf*

FOR FASTER SERVICE visit our web site at <http://www.submag.com/sub/ft> or fax to 847-763-9569

No, thank you.

Which version would you like to receive?

Print Print/Digital

Signature: (required) _____ Date: _____

Name: (please print) _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: (required) _____

January 2011 - Expires June 2011 - RS1101

1 What is your company's primary business? (check *ONLY ONE*)

- F Sports Complex G Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
 T School, College or University P Park
 H Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check *ONLY ONE*)

- A EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
 B MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
 C GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
 D SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
 F COACH E Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?

Y Yes N No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)

- F Over \$1 million C \$50,001 - \$100,000
 E \$500,001 - \$1 million B \$25,001 - \$50,000
 D \$100,001 - \$500,000 A \$25,000 and under

5 Please also send a free subscription to the following people at the same location

Name _____ Title _____
 Name _____ Title _____

SportsTurf ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Advertiser	Page #	Web Address
Aer-Flo	.45	www.aerflo.com
Barenbrug USA	.48	www.barusa.com
Beacon Athletics	.29	www.beaconathletics.com
Beam Clay	.52	www.beamclay.com
Colbond	.43	www.colbond-usa.com
Color Biotics	.24	www.colorbiotics.com
Covermaster	.33	www.covermaster.com
CoverSports USA	.25	www.coversports.com
Diamond Pro	.2	www.diamondpro.com
Earth & Turf	.52	www.earthandturf.com
Eco Chemical	.32	www.eco-templine.com
Ewing Irrigation	.3	www.ewing1.com
First Products	.37	www.1stproducts.com
Game Time Sports Systems	.40	www.gametimesportssystem.com
Graff's Turf Farms	.25	www.graffsturfarms.com
GreensGroomer	.9	www.greensgroomer.com
Grigg Brothers	.19	www.griggbros.com
Heying Company	.52	www.infield-drag.com
Hydraway Drainage	.17	www.hydraway.net
John Deere	.5	www.deere.com
Johnston Seed	.26-27	www.johnstonseed.com
Kochek	.31	www.kochek.com
Kubota Tractor Corp.	.11	www.kubota.com
LT Rich Products	.13	www.z-spray.com
Natural Sand	.30	www.naturalsand.com
Newstripe	.40	www.newstripe.com
Seago International	.52	www.seagointernational.com
Sod Solutions	.39	www.sodsolutions.com
Sports Turf Managers Association	.47	www.stma.org
Stabilizer Solutions	.41	www.stabilizersolutions.com
STEC Equipment	.15	www.stecequipment.com
TifSport Growers Association	.16	www.tifsport.com
The Toro Company	.55	www.toro.com
TurfTime Equipment	.52	www.TurfTimeEq.com
Turface Athletics	.35	www.turface.com
Turfco Manufacturing	.23	www.turfco.com
University of Georgia	.49	www.georgiacenter.uga.edu/sports-turf
World Class Athletic Surfaces	.29	www.worldclasspaints.com



IT'S FREE

Bi-weekly newsletter emailed to you from the editors of SportsTurf magazine

ST Insider brings latest news and information from around the USA for sports turf management professionals

Visit www.sportsturfonline.com and click on "E-newsletter" to register quickly



SportsTurf has gone mobile!

Now you can access all the latest news and events anywhere, anytime. Simply visit www.sportsturfonline.com/mobile4 to stay connected.

Tiger Stripe Field



BY DR. GRADY MILLER

Professor, North Carolina State University

Questions?

Send them to
Grady Miller at

North Carolina State University,
Box 7620, Raleigh, NC 27695-
7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu

Or, send your
question to

David Minner at
Iowa State University, 106 Horti-
culture Hall, Ames, IA 50011
or email
dminner@iastate.edu.

A few weeks ago we saw these odd striping patterns on our bermudagrass fields after the first cold snap. The stripes kind of looked like a tiger or zebra stripe with brown and green turf. We were wondering if this was due to differences in soil moisture. I know it is related to the cold temperatures, but what else?

These patterns have been talked about for years among turfgrass managers with bermudagrass fields. When noticed it is often called “chill damage” because the temperatures were not low enough to cause the entire canopy to go dormant. After a few years of seeing the patterns, I started snapping shots of them to use in presentations. The patterns frequently come up in conversation in the fall when I’m talking to turf managers.

The photo included with this article was taken by Dr Art Bruneau, Professor Emeritus at North Carolina State University. This picture is particularly interesting because it illustrates the potential impact of cutting height on these patterns.

Turns out that the different response of the same grass mowed at different heights is important in understanding what is causing the patterns. The phenomenon is related to fluid movement, but not in the same way most hypothesize. About 2 years ago I tried to convince an eager graduate student from Duke University’s Environmental Science program that it was not soil moisture causing the patterns. She was not convinced, so she took on this phenomenon as a research project. This student, Sally Thompson, and a NC State physics professor published their findings on this subject in the January 2010 edition of the *American Naturalist* journal.

Initially, they thought that the mottled response was a Turing-type effect based on soil moisture differences (primarily droughty areas). It

seems that these types of patterns are often seen in desert vegetation when looking down from high above. But soil moisture tests run immediately after these patterns were noticed, indicated no relationship between a grass’s condition (brown or green color) and soil moisture. The brown turf was not a result of dry soil.

So, what is going on? The scientists used what is called a “porous convection model” along with measured data to describe the pattern’s cause. Several criteria are required for the patterns to appear. First, the plant has to be sensitive to near freezing temperatures. Bermudagrass fits that criterion. Secondly, ground temperatures must still be warm in comparison to rapid onset of decreasing air temperatures. This is often the case in early fall when we get our first chilly temperatures.

The warm ground provides a temperature buffer from the chill damage. This is why lower mowed turf often goes dormant later than higher mowed turf (see photo). With taller mowed turfgrass (e.g. typical height range of athletic fields), the height allows reasonable temperature differences to develop within the canopy.

The temperature difference allows thermal convective motion within the grass canopy (heat moving around the grass blades). The temperature differences, along with plant density and stem/leaf width, direct the patterns of thermal movement. Patterns develop with the influence of rising warm air and falling cold air within the grass canopy. The chilling injury with the falling cold air causes turf dormancy (brown leaf tissue), whereas the warm air from the ground may be enough to maintain green color. The scientists used five mathematical equations to explain the phenomenon (if you are really interested).

So, now you know how these patterns are caused—thermal currents. You may also take some comfort in knowing that their cause has very little to do with how you manage your fields. Yes, if the field was cut lower it may not happen. Some years the first significant cold spell is so cold we see total browning of leaf tissue. When the first cold spell is late, the soil temperature may be cool enough that the temperature gradient is not sufficient to result in adequate thermal convective motion within the canopy, so the entire turf turns canopy goes dormant at the same time. ■



» **TALLER MOWED TURFGRASS** showing effects of chilling temperatures and convection movement.

Get ready to save money at every turn.



Toro® Groundsmaster® 4000-D/4100-D

When you're looking for the biggest return on your mower investment, a 6-foot deck just doesn't cut it. Not when you compare it to the power, precision and performance you get with the Groundsmaster 4000-D and 4100-D. These mowers are loaded with productivity boosting advantages like a powerful 60 hp turbo-diesel engine, up to 10.5' or 11' width of cut, 0" uncut circle, ControlHub™ fingertip controls, SmartCool™ system with auto-reversing cooling fan, all-season attachments and an adjustable air ride seat for optimum operator comfort. Whichever model you choose, you can be confident that you are maximizing your productivity today and many years to come. www.toro.com



Count on it.