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MAIN EVENTS

15 AQUATIC WEED CONTROL: WHEN EVERY DROP COUNTS

When drought strikes, many sports turf managers discover that the only water they can count on for irrigation is held on site in lakes and ponds. Aquatic weeds can render these important water reserves useless in times of crisis. For this reason, aquatic plant management should be part of every water conservation plan. Facilities in drought-prone areas should invest no less in aquatic weed control and lake management than they do in efficient irrigation and pumping systems, drought-tolerant turfgrasses and water-conserving redesign. No amount of efficiency is important if your water source is inadequate. This story outlines the steps that can be taken to keep water in lakes and ponds ready for use in irrigation systems.

19 WATER AERATION: A FRESH APPROACH TO LAKE MANAGEMENT

Ten years ago, the concept of a floating aerator for golf course ponds was in its infancy. Golf course consultant Holman Griffin started testing aerators and reporting on their merits. Today, he feels as strongly as ever about aerators as evidenced in this interview.

22 SELECTING THE BEST SEED FOR COOL-SEASON SPORTS TURF

Buying seed for cool-season sports turf is far different today than it was 40 years ago. Turfgrass breeders have been working diligently to improve the color, disease resistance, texture and insect resistance of commercially-available cultivars. Their success is documented by National Turfgrass Trials directed by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with seed companies and turf specialists across the country. Sports turf managers can take advantage of this progress by buying seed of these improved cultivars. This article provides the latest USDA findings and reports on the development of seed blends and mixes that better serve the sports turf manager on a regional basis.

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COVER: Fountain aerator provides both aesthetic and functional benefits to golf course pond. Photo courtesy: Barebo.