



# HOW TO PREVENT DOLLAR SPOT & BROWN PATCH FROM RUINING YOU ON INSPECTION DAY.

PREVENT DOLLAR SPOT, BROWN PATCH AND OTHER DISEASES EARLY, BEFORE THEY BECOME A PROBLEM.

You don't want to be put on the spot; use the Banner® preventive program. Banner works systemically to control disease from the inside out. Once absorbed by the leaf and stem system, Banner won't wash off and keeps on working after drying, unaffected by rain or irrigation. Used as directed, Banner is safe to turf and applicators.

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**CIBA-GEIGY**

© 1988 CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, CIBA-GEIGY, Ag Division, Box 18300, Greensboro, NC 27419. Always read and follow label directions. Banner can be used on all turf grass varieties. (Use on all turf grass varieties label pending.) The following restrictions apply to Bermudagrass and St. Augustine grass: Do not use more than 2 oz. per 1,000 square feet every 30 days. Not labeled for use in California.





## THE BANNER PREVENTIVE PROGRAM

### *How to prevent dollar spot*

Apply Banner at a 1 oz. rate early (April-May through September) to prevent dollar spot from ruining your greens for full 28-day control.

### *How to prevent brown patch and other diseases*

Apply Banner at the 2-4\* oz. rate (May or June through September) for 10-21 day brown patch control. And at 1-2 ozs., Banner provides excellent systemic control of anthracnose, powdery mildew, rust, red thread and stripe smut. Or, use Banner at the higher 2-4\* oz. rate to achieve broader-spectrum control of leaf spot and melting out for 14-21 days. And the 4\* oz. rate for summer patch and spring dead spot at 30-day intervals.

### *Tank mix Banner to control already-present brown patch*

As with all turf fungicides, Banner's scheduling is critical. But when schedules are interrupted and brown patch is present, use Banner at a 2 oz. rate in a tank mix with contact fungicides like Daconil 2787® or Chipco® 26019. The contact fungicides will control existing diseases and Banner will prevent future infections.

New Banner. Unsurpassed protection for greens, tees, and fairways. And you'll know it on inspection day. \*4 oz. label rate pending

# BANNER. LONGER LASTING, PREVENTIVE CONTROL.





# sportsTURF

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## MAIN EVENTS

### 12 INSECT CONTROL FOR RECREATION LANDSCAPES

Environmental issues and the tremendous demand for recreational facilities are making turf and landscape insect control increasingly complex. Limited sports facilities must be protected from the ravages of insect pests with methods that are both effective and environmentally responsive. Entomologists from across the country pinpoint key insects to watch for this season and provide tips for their control.

### 21 AERATION AND CULTIVATION: MAKING SURE THE CURE IS BETTER THAN THE DISEASE

"One of the biggest hurdles to overcome with aeration is realizing that all types of cultivation create some degree of compaction in the soil," states Dr. Bob Carrow at the University of Georgia. "The important thing is to look at the net benefit—making sure that the amount of compaction relieved is greater than the amount of compaction caused by the machine." Carrow and other experts stress that aeration is a critical part of sports turf management and that more than one type of cultivation method may be required to solve all problems.

### 29 A GUIDE TO IRRIGATION REPAIRS

Four people who specialize in troubleshooting irrigation systems tell what components need to be checked regularly to assure that systems perform as intended by their designers. A simple test from the controller can quickly tell the sports turf manager if electrical shorts, wiring faults or solenoids are functioning properly. The experts stress that regular checks can prevent bigger problems down the road. The net result is efficient water application and conservation of both water and electricity.

### 38 CITY PROVES AMATEUR BASEBALL CAN BE A MAJOR DRAWING CARD

More than 70,000 baseball fans flock to remote Farmington, NM, every August for the Connie Mack World Series held in Orville Ricketts Park. It's Jeffrey Bowman's job to see that the park lives up to the expectations of the fans and the community. Read how the park district and the community work together to keep Orville Ricketts Park a national drawing card and winner of the 1987 Baseball Diamond of the Year Award in the park, municipal and school category.

## LINE-UP

- 8 THE FRONT OFFICE
- 8 EVENTS
- 46 CHALKBOARD
- 48 ROOKIES
- 50 SCOREBOARD

**COVER:** Fire ant queen with workers on blade of grass. Photo courtesy:  
Max Badgley, Biological Photography, Moreno Valley, CA.



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*Gregory W. Graham*

Gregory W. Graham, Golf Course Superintendent  
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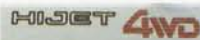


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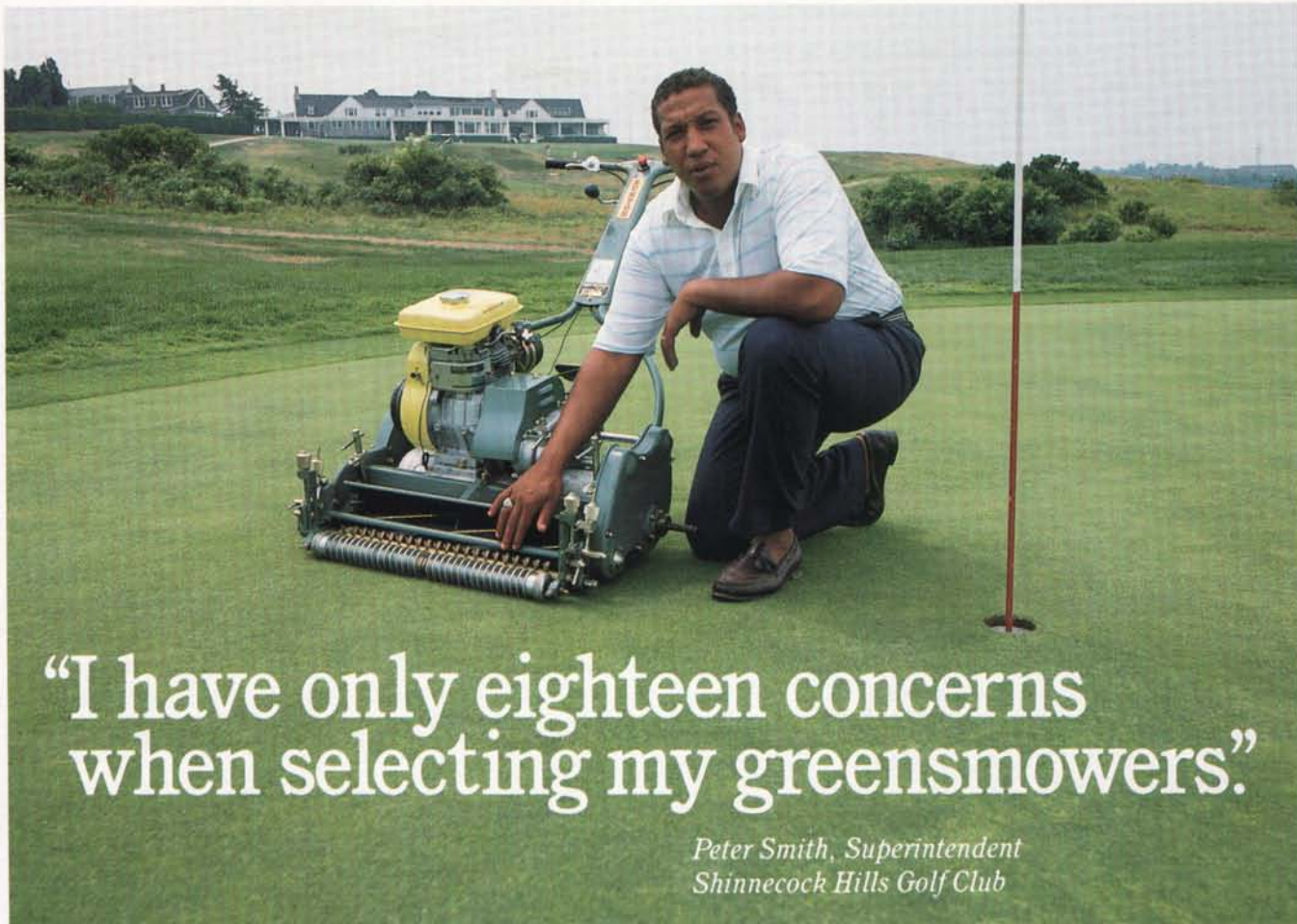


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**“I have only eighteen concerns when selecting my greensmowers.”**

*Peter Smith, Superintendent  
Shinnecock Hills Golf Club*

“When you’re hosting the U.S. Open, the quality of your greens is going to be evaluated by the best golfers in the world and a national television audience. That’s why I use only Buntun mowers to maintain my greens here at Shinnecock Hills,” says Golf Course Superintendent Peter Smith.

Since he discovered Buntun mowers, Smith has purchased eight greensmowers and two teemowers. Here are some of his comments.

**On the tournament:**

“For three years before the 1986 Open I mowed my greens at 5/32” with 22” Buntun walk-behinds. For the tournament I mowed at 1/8”. The Buntun doesn’t have a floating head so I get a true 1/8” cut once I set and lock in the height. With the new Buntun tournament knife I can easily get down to 7/64” without digging into the green.”

**On Buntun features:**

“The powered rotary brush is a great feature. It stands the grass up before it’s cut to control grain and

eliminate runners. I use grooved rollers for closer, more accurate cuts and verticut attachments for thatching.”

“The solid aluminum drive rollers on the Buntun machines give me firmer greens without compaction. They cut straight, since both rollers are powered, and I’ve never had a problem with the engines.”

**On teemowers:**

“My tees concern me as much as my greens. With Buntun I get a striped, walk-behind look, plus the efficiency of a 26” mower. After all, those TV cameras focus on the tees almost as much as the greens. They have to be in top condition.”

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# THE FRONT OFFICE

## OPINION PAGE

### PLAYING BY THE NUMBERS



**T**hey say numbers don't lie. That may be true, but they are frequently overlooked. We recently came upon some numbers that tell a very interesting story about the sports turf market.

The departments of agriculture in many states carry out a periodic census of the acreage in agricultural production. A few states, with the support of their state turf associations, take this census a step further and track the acreage of maintained turfgrass. Maryland is one of those states.

In 1987, the Maryland Turfgrass Council financed a second turfgrass survey by the department of agriculture. The goal was to show the progress and growth of the turfgrass industry and its influence on the state's economy since the last census in 1979. Instead of asking just for acreage, the survey included questions on maintenance costs, labor, equipment purchases, chemical purchases, and more.

The new survey included something overlooked in the first survey—athletic fields. The results brought home something we've believed all along, that the industry has been overlooking a market which is second only to residential turf in acreage! The survey showed that athletic fields are second in acreage only to home lawns in the state. Ten percent of the maintained turf in the state is athletic fields. Golf courses comprise six percent of the state's maintained turf. Home lawns are roughly 40 percent.

If you add maintenance of the grounds around parks and schools to athletic fields and golf courses, you find that 30 percent of the maintained turf in Maryland is managed by sports turf managers.

The total maintenance costs for all sports turf in Maryland alone is more than \$200 million dollars! That is more than was spent during the same year for residential turf! Ten million dollars more to be exact.

The Maryland survey also reinforces a recent National Golf Foundation maintenance survey showing that golf course maintenance costs have increased significantly in the past decade—almost ten percent per year. But the biggest surprise was that golf course superintendents utilize maintenance dollars more effectively than athletic field managers. An average golf course in Maryland spends \$1,500 per acre per year for maintenance while an average sports facility spends \$1,975.

Something tells me that sports turf managers didn't fill out the survey for athletic fields, the park directors and superintendents of schools did. I doubt strongly if any athletic field manager, with the exception of those at major stadiums, would believe that their budgets are comparable to golf courses. Certainly, if you consider that much of a golf course is rough, the figures make more sense. But you can't maintain a heavily-used athletic field like a golf course rough. A tee would be more like it.

The point is that Maryland has taken a big step toward getting solid, numerical data on athletic fields. If the 49 other states followed suit, we would have an open and shut case for the value of athletic field turf in this country.

The National Golf Foundation estimated that \$3.58 billion was spent on golf course maintenance in the U.S. in 1987. If we play a numbers game and take Maryland as an average state, the cost of maintenance of athletic fields in this country is conceivably \$6.35 billion! If we add golf, parks and schools together, the total is easily over ten billion dollars.

With that kind of investment in turf each year, we strongly believe that the sports turf manager who is responsible for this tremendous national asset should be well-trained, well-respected and well-compensated. That's what we believed three years ago when we started **sportsTURF**, and that's what we believe today. The numbers are getting too large to overlook anymore.

*Bruce Shank*

# EVENTS

## CALENDAR

### JUNE

**8**

Rutgers Turfgrass Field Day, Turfgrass Center, Hort Farm II, Cook College, Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ. Contact: Dr. Henry Indyk, Soils & Crops Dept., Cook College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903, (201) 932-9453.

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Sixth Annual Field Day, Turf-Seed Inc./Pure Seed Testing, Hubbard, OR. Contact: Pam, Turf-Seed Inc., P.O. Box 250, Hubbard, OR 97032, (800) 247-6910.

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Midwest Sports Turf Institute, College of DuPage, DuPage, IL. Contact: Sports Turf Managers Association, 400 N. Mountain Ave., Suite 301, Upland, CA 91786, (714) 981-9199, or Susan Glasgow, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL, (312) 858-2800, Ext. 2770.

### JULY

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Eastern Sports Turf Institute, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA. Contact: PGMS, 12 Galloway Ave., Cockeysville, MD 21030, (301) 667-1833, or STMA, 400 N. Mountain, Suite 301, Upland, CA 91786, (714) 981-9199.

**19-20**

Athletic Facilities Maintenance Seminar, Mulberry Street Recreation Center, City of Lenoir, NC. Contact: Professional Grounds Management Society, 12 Galloway Ave., Suite 1E, Cockeysville, MD 21030, (301) 667-1833.

**25-27**

International Lawn, Garden & Power Equipment Exposition, Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Contact: Katie Stanford, Expo 88, (800) 558-8767.