

1-2-3™ Sports Turf Management Program

	Application rates	Benefits
Out of season field use	First application 12 oz./1000 sq. ft. Follow every two weeks 6 oz./1000 sq. ft.	ROOTS1-2-3 premix builds deep root structure and dense crown. Chelated iron ensures healthy deep color, without excessive top growth.
In season field use	Every 10-14 days 12 oz./1000 sq. ft.	Heavier applications of 1-2-3 help damaged turf mend rapidly. 1-2-3 encourages maximum root growth and strong knitting. Chelated micro-nutrients keep the color strong during the entire playing season.
Special events	5-7 days before event 12 oz./1000 sq. ft. After the event 6 oz./1000 sq. ft.	Enhances rooting and increases carbohydrate reserves needed under heavy stress, especially if turf is covered. Post event application helps turf bounce back quickly, reducing thin spots and re-generating color with biostimulants and turf micros.
Seeding	3 days after seeding 12 oz./1000 sq. ft. 14 days later 2 oz./1000 sq. ft.	Enhances germination and faster knit-down. Achieves a dense, even, playable crown ten days to two weeks earlier than ordinary grow-ins from seed. Seed bed preparation should include an application of dryROOTS2™ at the rate of 10 lbs./1000 sq. ft. Before laying sod, make an application of dryROOTS2™ at the 10 lbs./1000 sq. ft. rate.



**6 oz. per 1,000 sq. ft.
every 2 weeks gives you:**

- Deep, even color throughout the year
- Faster grow-in (seeding and sprigging)
- Optimum root development
- Reduction of dry spots
- Complete chelated micronutrients
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- Buffering to neutral
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For more information contact your distributor.
Or call ROOTSinc. at 800 342-6173

NEW MEMBER SWEEPSTAKES!!

All New Members Joining Between October 1st and December 1, 1999, will be eligible for a drawing for a free registration to the STMA 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition, January 12-16, 2000, St. Louis, Missouri

BONUS - EVERYONE WINS

Join Now - and get up to three months FREE!

That's Right! If you sign up RIGHT NOW, your membership is in force through December 31, 2000.

Get Serious With STMA

Application for Membership

The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) is an organization of professionals representing all segments of the sports turf industry. Our members work to combine the science of growing turfgrasses and the art of maintaining sports turf to produce playing fields that are both safe and aesthetically pleasing.

STMA provides members with a variety of benefits, including: education through regional institutes and conferences; support for sports turf research; facilities tours; a national awards program; access to the STMA National Conference & Exhibition; our Sports Turf Manager Newsletter; and MUCH more!

If you're serious about the sports turf industry, then it's time to become a member of STMA. Join today!

Member Information

Name _____
 Title _____
 Employer _____
 Type of Business _____
 Address _____
 City/state/zip _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____
 E-mail Address _____
 Signature _____
 Referred by _____
 (STN99)

Membership Category (please check one)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I - Professional Sports Turf Facilities Managers | \$85 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | II - Four-year Colleges and Universities Sports Turf Facilities Managers | \$85 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | III - Other Schools Sports Turf Facilities Managers | \$85 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | IV - Parks & Rec. Sports Turf Facilities Managers | \$85 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | V - Commercial (<i>US or International</i>) | \$295 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Va - Additional from same Commercial Company | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VI - Student (full-time w/valid ID) (<i>non-voting</i>) | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VII - International (<i>other than commercial</i>) | \$85 |
| | <i>(must be in US dollars)</i> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | VIII - Research, Teaching & Cooperative Extension Personnel | \$85 |

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please enclose payment in U.S. dollars (check, money order, Master Card, Visa, Discover or American Express) and send to:

Sports Turf Managers Association, PO Box 3480, Omaha, NE 68103-0480

For more information, contact STMA Headquarters at 800/323-3875, 712/366-2669, fax: 712/366-9119 or e-mail: SportsTMgr@aol.com

"Promoting Better and Safer Sports Turf Areas"

sportsTURF®

PROGRAM

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 1999

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www.sportsturfonline.com

STMA Newsletter

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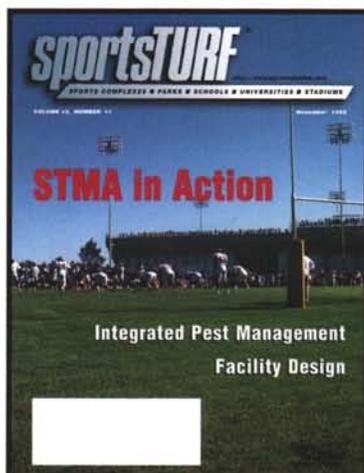
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STMA Minnesota Chapter Workshop on Wheels attendees watch the Minnesota Vikings work out at the University of Minnesota - Mankato. Courtesy: STMA

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New Deal

SportsTURF has enjoyed a long and productive relationship with the Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA). We look forward to continuing this partnership into the new millennium.

A recent STMA Board decision to extend the Association's contract with Adams Business Media reaffirms sportsTURF's exclusive claim to the title, *Official Publication of the Sports Turf Managers Association*. We intend to honor this endorsement by working even harder to bring you the most important and current news the industry has to offer.

As STMA leads the industry into the 21st century with new standards of quality and professionalism, sportsTURF will continue to bring you the play by play you've come to expect. In upcoming issues, look for expanded STMA coverage, as we highlight the Association's recent strides and future outlook.

The upcoming December issue will present an "STMA Year In Review," to round up the events of an action-packed 1999. Our special STMA Conference theme issue will arrive in January, in time for the Association's Annual Conference & Exhibition, January 12-16, 2000 in St. Louis, MO.

The Conference is already shaping up to be the best yet. STMA has announced that Keynote Speaker Mike Veeck, son of Hall of Famer Bill Veeck, will share the wealth of experience he's earned during the years he's devoted to the baseball industry. Dr. Tom Jadin, Program Development Coordinator for the Winnebago Mental Health Institute in Wisconsin, will also be on hand to give advice on how to stay motivated — and *sane* — on the job.

Our Conference theme issue will tap into some of the major points facing STMA as the Association prepares for the future. Featured topics will include "STMA 2000: Looking Forward;" "Building Professionalism: Certification Update;" and our annual profile of the "sportsTURF Manager of the Year."

Timely theme issues are just one way sportsTURF will be improving coverage next year. Our 2000 schedule includes a special baseball/softball issue in the spring, in addition to issues dedicated to root zones and winter readiness in the fall.

Also new next year, sportsTURF will provide expanded coverage of some of the most important issues you face in your program through series articles. We'll delve deeper into specific aspects of topics such as irrigation, drainage, and seed selection by devoting multiple articles to each subject in consecutive issues of the magazine.

In addition to these improvements, we will continue to deliver cutting-edge feature articles from the most knowledgeable professionals in the industry. Our monthly columns will still bring you expert advice from industry leaders that you've come to trust.

I encourage you to take an active interest in the magazine as we continue to grow and improve in 2000. SportsTURF is your source of industry news and information. Let us know your thoughts, so we can bring you the stories you want to read.

One final change to look for next year will be a new picture at the top of this column and a new signature at the bottom. You'll soon meet your new editor, as I prepare to make some major changes of my own in 2000.

I'd like to express my gratitude for your support over the past two years. It's been a privilege to bring you the magazine each month. I wish you all the best in 2000.

Steve Berens, Editor
(847) 427-9512

Tip of the Month

Turf Blankets

by Bob Curry



Turf blankets help speed turf green-up in spring. Courtesy: Covermaster Inc.

Turf blankets, also called turf growth blankets, create a greenhouse effect over covered turf. Properly constructed blankets allow turf to breathe, while trapping optimum amounts of heat, light, and moisture to develop an ideal environment for growth. The effect encourages deep root growth for strong, healthy plants.

Originally developed to protect natural turf against winter wind and desiccation damage, turf blankets have proven to be useful tools in all seasons. They can hasten spring green-up, especially in cold climates. In some cases, field use can begin two to three weeks sooner than normal on covered fields. Blankets can also delay dormancy of bermuda in autumn to provide green fields late into the season.

Blankets can help expedite recovery of heavy-wear areas. They can also speed new seed germination. As an added benefit, blankets reduce seed loss, since they guard against both wind and birds.

Turf growth blankets are even

Continued on pg. 28



1999

November 30-December 2

North Central Turfgrass Exposition, Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL. Contact Illinois Turfgrass Foundation: (312) 201-0101.

December 6-9

Ohio Turfgrass Foundation's 33rd annual Conference and Show, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. Contact Kevin Thompson: (888) 683-3445, ext. 3151.

December 7-9

Georgia Turfgrass Association's 30th annual Conference and Trade Show, Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA. Contact Sherry Loudermilk: (770) 975-4123.

2000

January 6

New York State Turfgrass Association's (NYSTA) Northeast Regional Conference, Marriott, Albany, NY. Contact NYSTA: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

January 10-13

38th annual North Carolina Turfgrass Conference and Show: "Growing for Tomorrow's World," Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte, NC. Contact Marsha Richardson: (910) 695-1333.

January 11-13

Eastern PA Turf Conference & Trade Show, Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA. Contact Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council: (814) 863-3475.

January 12-16

Sports Turf Managers Association's (STMA) 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition, St. Louis, MO. Contact STMA: (800) 323-3875 or (712) 366-2669.

STMA MESSAGE



Moving Forward to 2000

Much is happening within STMA as we move closer to 2000. First, STMA has extended our agreement with Adams Business Media, publisher of *sportsTURF*, for another two years. The magazine will to continue as STMA's official publication.

STMA will continue to work with *sportsTURF*'s editorial department to provide the kind of information you want and need, in the format that most effectively serves you. As always, I, the STMA Board of Directors, STMA staff members, and *sportsTURF* welcome your comments and suggestions.

Also, as part of this agreement, look for a bigger and better STMA Web page presence. With more computer-connected STMA members than ever before, we want to best use this rapid form of spreading information. We've also found the Web to be an effective outreach to those who don't know much about our association or sports turf management.

Another big news item is the 11th Annual STMA Conference & Exhibition in St. Louis, MO, Jan. 12-16. We're starting 2000 with a top-notch conference that offers more educational sessions, more optional events, and a super trade show — all focused exclusively on the sports turf manager.

This is the place to tackle those tough issues you deal with every day, pick up great new problem-solving techniques, and share ideas with others in the industry. There's something for everyone: the basics for those who are new to field care; sessions on fine-tuning maintenance programs for high-tech, high-profile fields; and everything in between. Here are some things to look for:

- We will be expanding the category sessions this year to give more members a chance to meet and share information with others in similar positions.
- Friday-afternoon workshops are new this year. You can choose one of six in-depth, two-hour educational sessions.
- Saturday afternoon features the popular round-table discussion sessions. You choose which three of 12 topics you wish to discuss.
- Always a highlight are the multiple opportunities for informal networking throughout the Conference.
- The second annual Pre-Conference Chapter Officers Training Session will be held 10:30 am-5 pm, Jan. 11. This interactive forum for idea exchange brings together leaders of STMA affiliated chapters, and leaders of chapters in the process of moving toward affiliation. Those interested in forming new chapters are highly encouraged to come as well. If you're interested, contact STMA Headquarters for more information.
- The STMA Certification program is also in high gear. The first group testing will be held the morning of Jan. 16 for those already pre-qualified to take the test. Thanks to all those on the Certification Committee for their work developing this program, to those who supplied suggestions along the way, and to those who assisted in the two separate sessions of "testing the test."

REMINDERS: Get your Conference registration in before Dec. 1 for the lowest rate. Get your Certification application forms in now to become pre-qualified and able to sit for the Certification test at the Conference.

Stephen Guise, STMA President
(714) 704-0403

See you in St. Louis!



Something

Old

and

Something

New



Wisconsin Turfgrass Field Day attendees inspect home plate and pitcher's mound demonstration plots at O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research & Education Facility. Courtesy: STMA

August 4, the Minnesota Sports Turf Managers Association held its fifth annual Workshop on Wheels. The day was filled with education, idea exchanges, and lots of fun. Highlights of the tour included the following:

- A tour of the Minnesota Vikings practice facility in Mankato included a pre-season peek at the team in action.
- The group toured the first-rate softball complex at Caswell Park.
- In St. Peter, attendees toured Gustavus Adolphus College to see how the facility recovered from tornado damage of a year ago. Acres of turf filled with shredded glass presented a unique challenge for the grounds crew.
- A tour of the new Pat Paterson Fields of Hamline University in St. Paul provided a bonus stop.
- A tailgate party at Midway Stadium wrapped-up the day's events. Some participants extended the day by attending a St. Paul Saints game.

For the first time August 10, the Wisconsin Chapter joined other Green Industry supporters of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association at O. J. Noer Turfgrass Research & Education Foundation for the Wisconsin Turfgrass Field Day.

Attendance exceeded previous years' numbers by 100. Organizers attributed much of that increase to the involvement of those interested in

sports turf management. Highlights of the day's events follow:

- Two baseball pitcher's mounds, a softball pitcher's mound, and a home plate circle constructed in July gave attendees the opportunity to view what are probably the first test plots of this kind at a university research station. These plots will be used to test various maintenance procedures following the field day.
- Attendees examined a study of Supina bluegrass alone and in various mixtures with perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass, and tall fescue.
- Another study focused on the proportion and quality of the turf stand. It included various bluegrass cultivars mixed with perennial ryegrass in various ratios in the initial seeding to achieve a 50:50 mixture in a mature turf stand.
- On the bluegrass/ryegrass research plots, a machine simulated football traffic, approximating wear between the hash marks that would develop in one game per week.
- The day's sessions included a logo painting demonstration.

These research projects increase awareness of athletic field maintenance issues among other branches of the green industry.

Chapter news

Mark your calendars now for STMA's 11th Annual Conference & Exhibition,

"Gateway to the 21st Century," Jan. 12-16, 2000, Regal Riverfront Hotel, St. Louis, MO.

For information, contact STMA Headquarters by e-mail: SportsTMgr@aol.com, or by phone: (800) 323-3875.

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter will hold a meeting in Ft. Lauderdale Nov. 19. The focus will be "Sports Turf Equipment Demonstrations for Maintaining Athletic Fields." It will include education by Dr. Phil Busey on athletic field weed control.

For information, contact John Mascaro: (954) 341-3115.

Midwest Chapter: The Midwest Chapter is one of the allied co-sponsoring organizations participating in the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's (ITF) 16th Annual North Central Turfgrass Exposition Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, IL. Dec. 1, Dr. Paul Rieke of Michigan State University will present "Construction and Installation of Sports Facilities." Special focus seminars, including those on sports turf topics, will be featured Dec. 2. For event information, contact ITF by e-mail: associationheadquarters@csi.com.

For general information, call the chapter hotline: (847) 622-3517.

Great Lakes Chapter: GLSTMA will hold its second Annual Awards Presentation and Meeting Dec. 7 at

the Hyatt Regency, Columbus.

For information, contact Joe Zelinko: (800) 897-9714, or Boyd Montgomery: (419) 885-1982, or visit the chapter Web site: <http://members.tripod.com/~glstma>.

Colorado Chapter: The Colorado Chapter will again participate in the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Annual Conference Dec. 8-10 at Currigan Hall in Denver.

The Chapter is currently seeking nominations for the 2000 Board. Three directors positions and one commercial officer position must be filled. Elections will take place at the annual meeting, held in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Regional Turfgrass Association Annual Conference. Interested candidates and members with potential nominations should call the hotline or go to the Chapter Web page.

For general information, visit: www.cstma.org, or call the hotline: (303) 346-8954.

Minnesota Chapter: The Minnesota Chapter will again participate in the Minnesota Turf & Grounds Conference and Trade Show Dec. 8-10. The theme will be "Beyond the Millennium: Education for the 21st Century." Several conference sessions will focus on sports turf management.

For information, contact Connie Rudolph: (651) 646-1679.

North Texas Chapter: The North Texas Chapter will hold its annual meeting Dec. 14, in conjunction with the Texas Turfgrass Association meeting in San Antonio. The day's events begin with a breakfast meeting.

For information, contact Rene Asprion, Diamond Pro: (800) 228-2987; or Tom Welch, CSM, Central Garden and Pet: (800) 788-9581; or visit the Web site: www.ntstma.org.

Wisconsin Chapter: WSTMA will join the Wisconsin Turf Association to present the annual Winter Expo Jan. 11-12 at the Marriott West in Madison, WI.

For information, contact Rich Riggs, R. H. Rettler & Associates, Inc.: (715) 341-2633.

KAFMO Chapter: The Eastern PA Turf Conference and Trade Show will be held Jan. 11-13 at the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA. The Western PA Turf Conference and Trade Show will be held Feb. 9-11 at the ExpoMart/Radisson Hotel in Monroeville, PA.

KAFMO will hold its annual Athletic Field Conference at the Holiday Inn in Grantville Feb. 24. The meeting will feature nationally recognized speakers and vendor displays.

For information, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club: (610) 375-8469, ext. 212.

Iowa Chapter: The Chapter will participate in the Iowa Turfgrass

Conference and Trade Show Jan. 24-26 at the Convention Center in Des Moines, IA. A special sports turf track will again be offered.

Featured speakers include: Pete Taylor, the radio voice of the ISU Cyclones; Dale Getz, University of Notre Dame; Connie Rudolph, Midway Stadium; Dr. Dave Minner, ISU; Kevin Vos, Muscatine Soccer Complex; Dr.



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Nick Christians, ISU; Jeff Salmond, Baltimore Ravens; Luke Yoder, Iowa Cubs; Brad Vermeer, City of Sioux Center; François Hébert, Lanco Amenagement, Inc.; Dr. William Meyer, Rutgers University; and United Airlines Flight 232 Pilot Captain Al Haynes.

Roundtable discussions return this year with the following topics: "Slow-Release Fertilizers: Pros & Cons;" "Rapid Repairs and Tricks of the Trade;" "Management of Skinned Areas;" "Using Effluent Water for Irrigation;" "Surfing the Net;" "Nutrition of Soil-Based Fields;" "Nutrition of Sand-Based Fields;" and "Effective Uses of Different Field Covers."

ISTMA will hold its annual meeting at the event.

For information, contact Lori Westrum at the Turf Office: (515) 232-8222, or fax: (515) 232-8228.

Indiana Chapter: The Chapter's September meeting at Indiana University drew 40 attendees. A Winter Event is in the planning stages.

For information, contact Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer: (219) 356-8424, or Pat Hickner: (800) 672-4273.

MAFMO Chapter: For information, contact the hotline: (410) 290-5652.

Michigan Chapter: For information, contact Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools: (616) 395-2364.

Mid-South Chapter: For information, contact Jim Calhoun: (901) 755-1305, or Robert Bodi: (901) 383-2414.

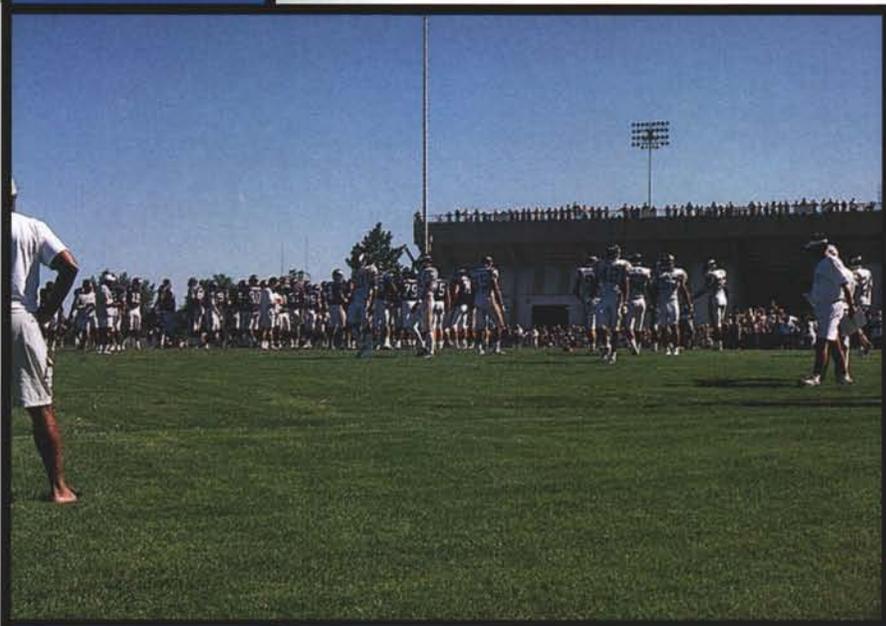
Northern-California Chapter: For information, contact Janet Gift: (530) 758-4200.

Southern-California Chapter: For information, contact the hotline: (888) 578-STMA.

Tennessee Valley Chapter: For information, contact Tom McAfee, Nashville Sounds: (615) 242-4371, or Bob Hogan: (888) 224-6426.

Chapters on the grow

Arizona Chapter: For information, contact Bill Murphy, City of Scottsdale Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 312-7954; or Kris Kircher, City of Chandler Parks & Recreation Department: (602) 786-2728.



Minnesota Chapter Workshop on Wheels attendees watch the Minnesota Vikings work out at the University of Minnesota - Mankato. Courtesy: STMA



The Minnesota Workshop on Wheels stops to tour the softball complex at Caswell Park, Mankato, MN. Courtesy: STMA

Kansas City, MO/KS Chapter: For information on this forming chapter, contact Trevor Vance: (816) 504-4271, John Cundiff: (816) 525-7600, Bill Tritt: (816) 941-4424, Jody Gill: (913) 681-4121, Gary Custis: (816) 468-6215, or Jay Sutton: (816) 795-8873.

Nevada Chapter: For information, contact Ibsen Dow: (702) 649-1551; or Alan Paulson, Clark County School District: (702) 799-8724.

