

Big 10 regional workshop

by Boyd Montgomery, CSFM



Attendees spread out for an up-close view of the football field at Indiana University's Memorial Stadium.

Driving rain couldn't dampen the spirits of attendees of the Big Ten Regional Workshop. This June event, hosted by Indiana University and the Indiana Chapter of STMA, was held in conjunction with the Big 10 Conference's traditional annual meeting of athletic facility and sports turf managers.

Thanks to the arrangements made by Brent Emerick and Stan Moscrip of IU, the morning educational sessions already were scheduled indoors. IU athletic facility staff members, outfitted in rain gear and friendly smiles, greeted attendees and guided them to the quickest, driest routes to the meeting site.

Terry Updike of B & B Fertilizer opened the session with a welcome on behalf of the Indiana Chapter. Emerick and Moscrip added a welcome on behalf of IU. Moscrip outlined the day's agenda noting the afternoon's planned tour of the athletic facilities would take place, viewed from the windows of the bus if necessary.

"Professionalism and Certification," presented by Steve Trusty, STMA executive director, was the morning's first topic. Following Trusty's remarks, Eric Adkins, CSFM, urged other Big 10 sports turf managers to become certified and suggested a "Conference Certification Challenge" be issued to those in other conferences as well.

Next was the panel discussion of "Hot Topics in the Big 10." Highlights of this session included the overview of the IU field program and details from Adkins on the STMA 2000 College/University Football Field of the Year, Northwestern University's Ryan Field (see page 08).



Stan Moscrip details the football field turf maintenance program as he shows a section of turf and soil profile pulled from the field.

After the morning break, Dr. Tony Koski, assistant professor/extension, Colorado State University, gave a presentation on "Tips for Growing Healthy Roots." Koski stressed the need for an extensive, well-knit root system for athletic fields, noting this factor took precedence over the depth of the root system.

Each of the presentations included the opportunity for interaction with a question and answer session.

The tables buzzed with conversation as attendees enjoyed a great lunch. Then Moscrip announced the clouds had cleared and the on-field tours could begin.

Stops included: the Memorial Stadium football field and football practice fields; the Mellencamp Pavilion indoor practice facility; the Sembower Baseball Field and baseball practice fields; the Softball Complex and practice field; the Armstrong Stadium/Yeagley Field Soccer Complex and practice field; the Haugh Track Complex and practice field; the Assembly Hall Basketball Complex; and the golf team's new practice golf course that was in the final stages of grow-in. At each stop, IU athletic field staff members described the field history, outlined the maintenance program, showed key details, and answered questions.

As several of the attendees remarked, these well-organized field tours provide an excellent opportunity to discuss common problems and find solutions that have produced the best results. The group can compare notes on the actions and interactions of the turf under various procedures in specific conditions, resulting in great ideas to take back to their own field management programs.

Mid-Atlantic Athletic Field Managers Organization (MAFMO Chapter STMA): The MAFMO Chapter is planning an August 24 Design and Construction Seminar to be held at the Annapolis Waterfront Marriott Hotel.

For information on the MAFMO Chapter, or pending activities, call the Hotline at 410-290-5652.

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: The Arizona Chapter will be partnering with the Arizona Parks and Recreation Annual Conference in Phoenix. The Chapter's event, a Summer Seminar, will be held August 30 at Pointe Hilton at Tapatio Cliffs Resort at 11111 North 7th Street in Phoenix. Featured speakers include: Dr. Ronnie Duncan, University of Georgia on Paspalum Grass; Dr. Thomas Lubin, Professor Emeritus, on Humates & Other Organics in your Soil; Dr. David Kopec, University of Arizona Extension on Simple Methods to Successful Overseeding and Developing Year-round Maintenance Schedules; and Dr. Charlie Rodgers, Research Geneticist for Seeds West, Inc. on New Bermuda Seed Varieties for the Southwest Market. For information on this event, please contact Chris Calcaterra, City of Peoria.

For information on the chapter, or other upcoming events, contact Bill Murphy, Recreation and Facilities Manager, City of Scottsdale Park, at e-mail: bmurphy@ci.scottsdale.az.us or 480-312-7954.

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): OSTMA is planning its 4th Annual Fall Field Day at the Ohio State University Intramural Complex on September 11. This event will feature a lineup of speakers in the morning and an afternoon with vendors.

OSTMA is accepting scholarship and Field of the Year nominations until October 1, 2001. Visit the website or contact Boyd Montgomery for further information.

For information on the OSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Joe Zelinko at 800-897-9714 or Boyd Montgomery at 419-885-1982, ext. 50; or visit the chapter's website at www.glstma.org.

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: The MO-KAN Chapter is planning a Fall Field Day from 7:45 AM to 2:00 PM on September 12 at Satchel Paige Memorial Stadium in Kansas City. This event will be hosted by Kansas City Missouri Parks and Recreation. Morning sessions include: Fall and Winter Turf Management presented by Chuck Dixon, JL Bruce & Company; a session on Turf Renovation and Overseeding; and Breakout "Hands-On Training" Sessions on: Basic Turf Renovation and Overseeding, Irrigation Troubleshooting and Repair, and Seed Pre-Germination Techniques. Following lunch and vendor presentations will be the opportunity to visit with vendors or take part in the question and answer sessions with the breakout session instructors. The day's events will wrap up with the MO-KAN Business Meeting.

For information on the MO-KAN STMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Trevor Vance at 816-504-4271; Gary

Custis at 816-460-6215; or Jody Gill at 913-239-4121.

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: The Wisconsin Chapter is planning a Fall Seminar September 6 in Eau Claire. More details will be announced soon.

Chapter members are encouraged to participate in the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association (WTA) Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tourney to be held at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva October 10.

For more information on the Wisconsin Chapter, or other pending events, call Richard Miller at 608-756-1150.

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: The Iowa Chapter will hold a Baseball/Soccer Workshop at Upper Iowa University in Fayette from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. October 9. Topics on the agenda include: "Putting Your Field To Bed for the Season," presented by Dr. Dave Minner of ISU; "Fertility and Soil Sampling," presented by Gary Peterson; "Field Painting," by Kevin Vos of the Muscatine Soccer Complex; "Aerification & Topdressing," presented by Bryan Wood of Commercial Turf & Tractor; and "Homemade Tools," presented by Ken Hanawalt of Rockwell-Swaledale Schools. The vendor show will run from 2:15 to 4:00. Attendees are encouraged to view and try out the latest in sports turf equipment and materials.

For information on the Iowa Chapter, or upcoming activities, contact Lori Westrum of The Turf Office at tel. 515-232-8222, or fax 515-232-8228, or e-mail Lori@iowaturfgrass.org.

Florida Chapter #1: The Florida Chapter is planning an Irrigation Seminar at Holiday Park in Ft. Lauderdale October 16. The Chapter will again take part in the annual Turf Rodeo; this year's event will be held at Deerfield Beach November 7.

For information on the Florida Chapter, or pending activities, call John Mascaro at 954-341-3115.

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: The Nebraska Chapter is planning an October meeting at Haymarket Park in Lincoln, the new home of the University of Nebraska Huskers baseball team and the professional baseball Northern League team, the Saltdogs. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Nebraska Chapter, or upcoming events, call Gregg Bostelman, City of Grand Island, at 308-385-5426.

Midwest Chapter STMA: Upcoming events for the Midwest Chapter include a Fall workshop at the Lincolnshire Sports Complex in October, and the annual North Central Turf Expo at Pheasant Run Resort in December.

For information on the Midwest Chapter, or pending activities, call The Chapter Hotline at 847-622-3517.

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): The Tennessee Valley Chapter is

planning a fall workshop in Jackson. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the TVSTMA Chapter, or upcoming events, call Bill Marbet, Southern Athletic Fields, Inc., at 931-380-0023 or 800-837-8062.

Northern California Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: The Nor-Cal Chapter is in the process of planning their annual Seminar on Wheels event. Details will be announced soon. For information on the Nor-Cal Chapter, or pending events, call Janet Gift at 530-758-4200.

Southern California Chapter: For information on the Southern California Chapter, or pending activities, call Ron Kirkpatrick at 858-453-1755.

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: The

Colorado Chapter is planning an August Turf Day at the new Invesco Field at Mile High. More details will be announced soon.

For information on the Colorado Chapter, or upcoming activities, visit the Chapter's website-www.CSTMA.org-or call the CSTMA Chapter Hotline at 303-346-8954.

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Gateway Chapter, or upcoming events, call Mark Jennings at 314-983-5345, or Jim Anthony, Saint Louis University, 314-977-2956.

Indiana Chapter: For information on the Indiana Chapter, or pending activities, call Terry Updike, B & B Fertilizer, at 219-356-8424.

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Organization (KAFMO/STMA): For information on the KAFMO/STMA



<http://www.greenindustry.com>

the FASTEST way to

GET what

YOU NEED

To obtain information about advertised products, services and editorial items OR to subscribe to SportsTurf visit us online or complete the product information/subscription card.

STMA Chapter News

Chapter, or other upcoming events, contact Dan Douglas, Reading Phillies Baseball Club, 610-375-8469, ext. 212; or e-mail kafmo@aol.com.

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): For information on the Chapter or other pending events, call Rick Jurries, West Ottawa Public Schools, at 616-738-6974, or go to www.mistma.org to visit the chapter's new website.

Minnesota Chapter STMA: For information on the Minnesota Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Ron Unger, Director of Parks & Recreation, City of Kasson, 507-634-4165 or e-mail ParkNRec@CityofKasson.com.

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: For information on the New Jersey Chapter, or upcoming events, call Jim Gavigan, Lesco, 732-248-8979; or call Eleanora Murfitt, Director, Township of Clinton Parks & Recreation Department, 908-735-5999.

North Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the North Texas Chapter, or pending activities, call Kayla McAfee at 972-234-6584 or Rene Asprion at 972-647-3393, or visit the website at www.ntstma.org.

South Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the chapter, or upcoming events, call

Tom McAfee, Nelson Wolff Municipal Stadium, San Antonio, 210-207-3754.

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: For information on the Virginia Chapter, or upcoming events, contact: Chapter Vice President, Randy Buchanan, County of Henrico Recreation and Parks, via e-mail: buc06@co.henrico.va.us or 804-261-8213.

Mid-South Chapter STMA: For information on the Mid-South Chapter, or upcoming events, contact Robert Bodi at TURF419@aol.com or Jim Calhoun at 901-755-1305.

Chapters On The Grow

Las Vegas: With the STMA Annual Conference & Exhibition headed for Las Vegas January 16-20, 2002, plans for the formation of a Las Vegas Chapter also are moving forward. For more information on the developing chapter, please contact Rod Smith, Grounds Manager/Cashman Center at e-mail: rms@lvcsa.com or 702-386-7140.

New York: A chapter is forming in Central New York. The group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the National Soccer Hall of Fame. For more information, contact Kevin Meredith, National Soccer Hall of Fame, at Kevin@wpe.com or 607-432-2953.

sportsTURF Sales Territories

CT, DC, DE, IN, MA, ME, MI, NH,
NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VT

Paul Garris

35 Greenbriar, Aurora, OH 44202
(330) 562-2512, (330) 562-3512 (fax)
pgarris@mail.aip.com

AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM,
NV, OR, UT, WA, WY

John Bolduc
P.O. Box 12357
Orange, CA 92859
(714) 538-4730, (714) 538-4785 (fax)
jbalduc@mail.aip.com

AL, AR, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MS,
NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV

Deanna Morgan
2565 N. Arbor Trail,
Marietta, GA 30066
(678) 445-5211, (678) 445-5611 (fax)
dmorgan@mail.aip.com

IA, IL, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI

Colleen Murphy
Millennium Marketing Group, Ltd.
2028 N. Stanton Ct., Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 590-1162, (847) 590-1163 (fax)
cmurphy@earthlink.net

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

VERTI-DRAINS AND MORE

Nation's #1 Distributor has trade-in's for greens, tees, fairways & sportsfields.

305.200 VD 80" W/W 0-16" DPTH \$9000
 305.200HVD 80" W/W 0-16" DPTH \$7995
 305.250HVD 96" W/W 0-16" DPTH \$9995
 Field Boss 37 w/hydau 4W/D, Turf/Tires \$6500
 Level Spike 60" 10" DPTH \$3100
 Multi Spike 48" 10" DPTH \$2700

Commercial Turf & Tractor 800-748-7497
www.commercialturfandtractor.com

FOR SALE ^{50% OFF}

Used Verti-Drain Parts

All parts in good serviceable condition.
 Commercial Turf and Tractor 800-748-7497

SEEDLANDSUSA.COM

Order seeds wholesale online
 Sport Applications, Lawn & Turfgrass Seeds
 FOOTBALL * SOCCER * BASEBALL * TENNIS
www.sportgrass.com
 Toll Free 888-820-2080

Steiner Tractor for Sale

Model 430 Max diesel tractor. Includes 60" Front Deck and 72" Front Tri-Plex mowers. The Steiner has 4 wheel drive and few hours of use. Great condition!
 Please call Alpine Services, Inc.
800-292-8420

Help Wanted

ATHLETIC TURF MANAGER - Michigan State University Grounds Maintenance Department

Requires knowledge equivalent to that which normally would be acquired by completing a four year degree program in Crop Sciences, Turf Management, Plant Sciences, Horticulture, or a related field with course work in Sports Turf Management. Three to five years of related or progressively more responsible or expansive work experience in maintaining sports turf fields and or golf course turf including top dressing, cultivation, irrigation, chemical application, fertilization, mowing and field marking. Possession of a valid Michigan Commercial Pesticide Applicator's certification - Ornamental (3B), Turf (3A). Possession or attainment of an MSU Forklift Operator's Permit prior to completion of applicable probation or trial period. Valid Vehicle Operator's License. Desired experience in public relations, interacting with the media, athletic coaches and the public, turf experience in a cool season grass region, experience in the cultural environment and regulations of athletic programs and the ability to read and interpret irrigation and construction blue prints. Working hours to include weekends during football season. Duties associated with this position involve moderately disagreeable working conditions involving exposure to adverse weather conditions and working with agricultural chemical or biological hazards in an environment with dust and dirt.

Contact MSU employment office at 517/432-1662 to request an application.
 Refer to posting #S10499. Closing date is 8/24/01. MSU is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution.

Advertiser's Index

Company.....	Page	Circle	Company.....	Page	Circle
Bannerman	C2	101	Pro's Choice.....	25	111
Broyhill Company	37	116	Thomas Bros. Grass, Inc.....	7	104
Covermaster, Inc.	17	109	Tifsport	35	115
Diamond Pro	46	117	Tifway Sports.....	14	107
First Products	23	110	Toro.....	C4	119
Geoturf.....	15	108	Turf Specialties, Inc.....	27	113
Jaydee Equipment	27	112	United Horticultural Supply	C3	118
Laser Leveling	3	102	West Coast Turf	11	105
Partac Peat Corporation	33	114	World Class Athletic Surfaces	13	106
PBI Gordon Corporation.....	5	103			



Q&A

"Water water everywhere"

--but do you really know how to use it?

BY DR. DAVE MINNER, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Have Questions?

SEND THEM TO DAVE MINNER AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, 106 HORTICULTURE HALL, AMES, IA 50011, OR E-MAIL: DMINNER@IASTATE.EDU. OR, SEND THEM TO GRADY MILLER AT UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, P.O. BOX 110670, GAINESVILLE, FL 32611, OR E-MAIL: GMILLER@MAIL.IFAS.UFL.EDU.

The sophistication and simplicity of today's automated irrigation system is amazing, and all of the manufacturers are to be commended for providing the turf industry with a wonderful tool for growing grass. In fact it is so easy that we can flip a switch, punch a button, or program a computer and we can supply water for a year without ever stepping foot on the field. They are the good guys for providing such a dynamic water delivery system. Perhaps some day they will have an effective tool to help us irrigate, possibly remote sensing, but until that time you still need to make that human judgment of when to water. The following is a simple concept for teaching yourself how to water:

.....

Turn off the daily part of the automatic irrigation system and use the manual mode so that the irrigation interval is based on your determination of the fields' need for water that is based on your visual observation.

Inspect the field each day and decide if it needs water. Grass does not need to be watered until it begins to wilt! If you are watering grass that has not started to wilt then you are watering too frequently. Determine how many days you can go without watering and then keep trying to extend the irrigation interval. Too many times I hear this comment from

turf managers and it clearly indicates a flawed strategy: "The field looks good (with no wilt), but I will give it just a little water tonight just to make sure she keeps growing." Extra water or unsolicited watering does not translate into better growth. Instead of using the philosophy of extra water for extra growth, you should consider using the least amount of water that will still keep the plant growing enough to require normal mowing.

.....

Sport field managers with the keenest eyes will anticipate wilt, notice when first wilt starts, and then irrigate in time so that the grass quickly recovers. Mild wilting is not a severe stress on grass and in fact it provides benefits to the plant and soil system. Just before wilt a hormonal process in the plant signals growth of root hairs and root mass. There is very little root hair production when soil pores are continuously filled with water.

Mild wilting insures that the soil has sufficiently dried to allow maximum infusion of air to the roots. Plant cells and leaf tissues that grow under maximum water content are thin walled with weak structure. Plants that are summer hardened by cycles of mild wilt and recovery have smaller, thicker cells resulting in more wear-resistant tissue.

As a general guide mature sand-based fields should be able to last at

least three complete days without watering before they show signs of wilt that signals the proper time for the next watering. Finer textured soils with more silt and clay can often stretch their watering cycle out to once every 1-2 weeks. Another general target for watering is approximately one inch of water per week from either irrigation or rain.

Here are some specific tips to help you develop a watering strategy:

.....

"Foot printing" is an indication of pre-wilt. Just before wilting leaf water content decreases to a point where leaves are no longer rigid and full of water. Plants with sufficient water quickly return to their normal upright shape. When wilt is imminent grass remains depressed and footprints are more noticeable. Waiting to see signs of "Foot printing" is therefore another visual key to indicate when to apply water.

Wilt is the visual drooping, rolling, or folding of turfgrass leaves that results in loss of plant turgidity. The most obvious indication of wilt is the dark blue/gray or purple appearance of the leaves. Notice the areas of your field or facility that wilt first. These first-to-wilt areas can be routinely observed to help you determine when to irrigate. You may have heard the adage "water deep and infrequently."

(continued on page 40)



1-800-228-2987
www.diamondpro.com



Circle 117 on Inquiry Card

TOP QUALITY TURF SEED

PROVEN PERFORMANCE



PRINCETON 105
KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

CRENSHAW
Creeping Bentgrass

Prelude 

APOLLO
KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

These are just a few of the top names from more than a hundred seed varieties that United Horticultural Supply has to offer the turf professional. No other seed marketing and distribution company has as many top quality seed products to offer in all categories and is able to serve every level of customer requirement.

Our list includes the most elite varieties for the world's best golf courses to general reclamation needs for customers in golf course and sports turf management, professional lawn care, landscape contracting, commercial turf and sod production.

Many of these seed varieties are included in blends and mixtures to meet local climatic and use requirements and feature pure seed of the highest genetic quality.



United
Horticultural Supply



For more information and a copy of our *Seed Specification Guide*, contact your local sales representative or see our web site

WWW.UHSONLINE.COM

Circle 118 on Inquiry Card