

CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale

VERTI-DRAINS FOR SALE

Nation's #1 Distributor has trade-in overload.

All older model aerifiers
(005.120, 105.145, 305.200, \$ 200h)

Made for greens, tees, fairways, sportsfields, etc., Prices starting at \$2000 for "as is" or will rebuild for additional cost. These Verti-Drains are the older slower design, but can be made to operate almost as cleanly as the new style.
Commercial Turf & Tractor 800-748-7497

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.sportsgrass.com

Tool Free 888-820-2080

Help Wanted

Assistant Groundskeeper

Looking for an assistant groundskeeper for a professional sports team. Should have some experience in equipment operation and irrigation, plus be willing to learn Sportsturf and Landscape Maintenance.

Please contact Rich Genoff at 4949 Centennial Blvd, Santa Clara, California 95054. 408-562-4930

Call

Chris Dziubla

for Classified Rates and Information

(630) 295-9617

Advertiser's Index

Company.....	Page	Circle	Company.....	Page	Circle
ABI Irrigation	14	108	Laser Leveling Inc.	24	120
Adams Book Guild	32	National Mower	19	115
Bannerman	13	107	Nu-Gro.....	3	102
Becker-Underwood Inc.....	21	117	Partac Peat Corp.....	15	110
Bishop Enterprises	15	109	Partac Peat Corp.....	17	114
Colbond	20	116	Partac Peat Corp.....	31	126
Covermaster	12	106	Partac Peat Corp.....	33	128
Diamond Pro	42	131	PBI Gordon.....	27	123
Earth and Turf.....	16	111	SISIS Inc.....	22	118
Environmental Bio Control.....	30	124	Textron	5	103
First Products Inc.....	17	113	Thomas Brothers Grass.....	9	104
Floratine Products.....	40	130	TifSport	26	122
Flowtronex	39	129	Toro.....	2	101
Geoturf	31	125	Turf Specialties Inc.....	16	112
Goulds Pumps	44	133	Turfco Mfg.....	25	121
Jacklin Seed/Medalist.....	23	119	United Horticulture Supply.....	43	132
Kromer.....	33	127	West Coast Turf	11	105



Q&A

Don't be a block head about blocking your heads

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

Have Questions?

SEND THEM TO DAVE AT: IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY, HORTICULTURE DEPT., AMES, IA 50011, DMINNER@IASTATE.EDU

I am designing a high school soccer field and would like to know if you have any recommendations for the irrigation layout?

Jess Fink
Site Designer
Flenker Land Architecture
Consultants
Long Grove, Iowa

You bet, I definitely have an opinion on field irrigation layout. Most of the time the irrigation design company is given a block of land or soccer field and they are asked to design a system which provides the most efficient coverage of water with the least amount of cost. Let me offer a few suggestions that your client may not have considered, but will certainly improve their ability to manage the grass.

Solicit specific irrigation needs from the owner and offer suggestions if they have none. The most obvious need that is often overlooked is site specific irrigation within the field. In the turf business we are programmed to make uniform applications, and what would be more uniform than applying an equal amount of water over the entire field with a distribution uniformity greater than 85 percent?

There's one problem with this scenario: Most intensely trafficked sports fields are anything but uniform. The high traffic areas of the field will need special management to keep repairing the worn areas. Additional management will include

cultivation, topdressing, soil amendments, seeding and sodding.

The irrigation design should be flexible enough to water the intense traffic areas separately from the rest of the field, especially when you are trying to get seed or sod established in the worn areas of the field. Most fields have a block irrigation system with 3 to 5 heads on a valve. The heads are often blocked without regard for the wear pattern that will develop on the field. Watering to meet the needs of the grass will result in excessive water and muddy conditions on exposed soil areas where less water is needed. Adequate grass that is frequently irrigated from this same block can lead to over irrigation and an increase in problems associated with disease and shallow rooting.

Heads used for sports turf have a very small amount of surface exposure to reduce potential contact with athletes. Consequently there are no valve-in-head systems for sports turf. A system from Toro, Hunter, Rainbird and the rest, there's a product that would set you apart from your competition: A valve-in-head for athletic fields that will provide single head water control—where you want it, when you want it.

Here are some irrigation design considerations that give the sports turf manager an edge on supplying water just where they want it.

General tips

* The small additional cost of more pipe and a few extra valves or heads will be money well spent to develop a

more flexible system.

* Consider fast rotor heads that can syringe or supply small amounts of water when frequently watering new seed or sod.

* Place heads close enough to the field so that portable bleachers don't cover heads and disrupt spray pattern.

* Provide a direct line of site between field and controller.

Soccer

* Block heads separately to water goalie boxes.

* Consider the diamond wear pattern created by soccer when blocking the remaining heads on the field.

Football

* No heads in the center of the field because that's where they rut it out.

* Zone a block system to match traffic patterns, i.e. special zones for field center and bench areas.

Head spacing and water delivery rate should not be compromised. Instead, try to match the irrigation blocks according to areas of the field that will have similar watering requirements. The irrigation controller and timer can then be used to determine how often and how much water each block receives. Some of the design companies that I have worked with readily adopt this approach of placing the heads with the grounds manager in mind, while still maintaining uniform coverage of the entire field. Others have a little trouble thinking outside of the box, or should I say "outside of the conventional block."

No other infield conditioner maintains the game readiness of your playing field better than Diamond Pro.

Call 1-800-228-2987 for more information or click on www.diamondpro.com.



DIAMOND PRO

Circle 131 on Inquiry Card

Whatever happened to great seed varieties like Palmer III, Shenandoah II, Apollo and Crenshaw?

They landed in our bags and buckets.

After the recent disappearance of a large seed company, many seed buyers were left to wonder what became of many well-known and respected seed varieties.

Rest assured, they have a new home. United Horticultural Supply is now the nation's source for top varieties.

The varieties you've always counted on are now available individually, or formulated in new blends and mixtures, many of which carry the Signature Pure Seed Tag.™ When you ask for this tag, you are assured to receive clean seed

of the highest quality. It underscores our commitment to provide only the best products and services.

Check with your local UHS representative for more details about our outstanding selection of premium seed varieties, mixtures and blends, the best available.



A sampling of our varieties:

Palmer III Perennial Ryegrass
Prelude III Perennial Ryegrass
Pennant II Perennial Ryegrass
Apollo Kentucky Bluegrass
Princeton 105 Kentucky Bluegrass
Shenandoah II Turf-type Tall Fescue
Falcon II Turf-type Tall Fescue
Crenshaw Creeping Bentgrass
A's & G's Creeping Bentgrass
Laser Poa trivialis
Azure Sheeps Fescue
Reliant II Hard Fescue

plus more than 100 more varieties!

Circle 132 on Inquiry Card



www.uhsonline.com