

TempLine removable synthetic turf paint

TempLine water-based paints are easy to apply and remove, with outstanding brightness, opacity, play durability and weather resistance in between. TempLine paint is available in three grades, depending on your needs for extended durability versus short-term utility and ease of removal. All three grades come ready to use in a broad range of colors formulated to dry fast and stay flexible without binding together turf fibers or infill granules. TempLine paints are also valued for the brightness and durability they provide without creating heavy build-up.

TempLine Turf Paints and Removers are formulated to work together as a highly efficient marking and removal system, especially when used with the TempLine Mantis Extractor.

Eco Chemical

John Deere Dense Turf rotary turf brush & 14 blade reel

John Deere Golf has launched the Dense Turf (DT) Rotary Brush and 14 Blade Reel. The new 14 Blade Reel lowers the frequency of clip by reducing the distance traveled between consecutive cuts of reel blades. The 14 Blade Reel is available now for Quick Adjust 5 (QA5) cutting units, and the 180SL and 220SL Walk Greens Mowers. The DT Rotary Turf Brush has an exclusive helix design for mounting the bristles that is similar to the blades of a reel. This design assures more consistent turf engagement and enables the brush to more effectively stand up more grass—without having to increase brush depth. The DT brush is ideal for dense-turf varieties of warm season turf grasses, and can also be used with cool-season varieties.

John Deere Golf

Netafim Techline CV dripline for slopes

With built-in check valves in each emitter to prevent low head drainage, Netafim Techline CV dripline offers a water-saving solution for irrigating landscapes with elevation changes, such as slopes and low lying areas. Techline CV check valves hold back up to 4.6' of water, which means water stays in the tubing when the irrigation is turned off and does not flow down to lower elevations. With check valves, Techline CV emitters turn on and off at the same time, balancing the irrigation coverage. Dripline systems without check valves can lose up to 1.3 gallons of water per 100 feet, resulting in plant damage or slippery surfaces. With advanced features that ensure reliable performance, Techline CV includes built-in physical root barriers in each emitter to prevent root intrusion. All emitters also have an anti-siphon design that inhibits dirt and debris from entering the tubing.

Netafim

New Rain Bird valve boxes

In today's price-sensitive marketplace, it can be challenging to provide top-quality irrigation systems that also fit within tight budgets. As a result, irrigation professionals often have to choose system components like valve boxes based upon tight project budgets. Now, Rain Bird has launched a line of durable, versatile valve boxes that fit into almost any budget without sacrificing quality—PVB Professional Series Valve Boxes. Featuring light but durable construction, the PVB Professional Series Valve Boxes and lids come in a wide variety of sizes and configurations to meet any irrigation site's needs. Round, mini, standard and jumbo options are available in green and black, as well as tan for more arid landscapes and purple for reclaimed water applications. Standard and jumbo valve box extensions are also available.

Rain Bird

Four new ETQ fungicides from SipcamAdvan

SipcamAdvan expands its ETQ fungicide portfolio for season-long use with the addition of four new products. Echo Dyad ETQ, E-Scape ETQ, Eclipse ETQ and Sipcam Clearscape ETQ combine proven active ingredients with SipcamAdvan's exclusive ETQ technology. Echo Dyad ETQ contains chlorothalonil, E-Scape ETQ contains chlorothalonil and tebuconazole, Eclipse ETQ contains iprodione and Sipcam Clearscape ETQ contains tebuconazole. All incorporate SipcamAdvan ETQ technology to optimize turfgrass color, strength, density and consistency by protecting turf from UVA and UVB rays, heat and other stress factors.

SipcamAdvan

Technomad's all-inclusive, outdoor audio solution

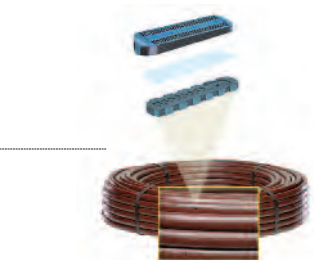
Houston-area systems design and integration firm Covenant Communications has gradually transformed sports audio for the Alvin School District in southern Texas in recent years, installing Technomad advanced audio loudspeakers across baseball and softball fields, a large football stadium and other athletic venues to improve quality and coverage. Covenant Communications extended those audio benefits to the new batting cages at Manvel High School this spring, injecting fresh energy into the arduous drill of batting practice. The Technomad solution here covers all the bases, bringing together two full-range loudspeakers, an outdoor amplifier and a flexible audio control system. All components are completely weatherproof for protection against the heat, humidity and moisture of the harsh coastal-area climate.

Technomad LLC

AirDrain synthetic turf drainage

AirField Systems AirDrain synthetic turf drainage doubles as a 100% vertical drainage layer and shock pad. The company says it provides a 14.7% reduction in Gmax over a cement/asphalt sub-base, and an 18.9% reduction in GMAX over compacted gravel sub-base. Whether installed on an aggregate sub-base, concrete or asphalt the AirDrain for Synthetic Turf drainage helps provide you with consistent Gmax and shock attenuation properties which are a major contributor to the reduction of concussions and the safety of your players. Some factors that might influence a change in GMAX would be an inconsistency of the infill or wear of the synthetic turf fibers. Unlike traditional shock pads or e-layers the AirDrain is 1" high, has a 92% air void and a vertical and lateral drainage rate which cannot be matched by any other product in the industry.

AirField Systems



Resources to help you manage your fields

STMA IS COMMITTED to strengthening the sports turf industry and enhancing members' competence by providing applicable information on how to manage athletic surfaces. The STMA Information Outreach Committee works hard to produce educational bulletins that provide tips and advice for how to best manage your natural turfgrass athletic surfaces. Topics range from health and safety to cultural practices to construction and renovation—all aim to assist in promoting and maintaining the health and playability of natural turfgrass surfaces.

Check out the Members-Only side of the STMA.org to access any of the following resources:

Seasonal field maintenance calendars that detail management practices throughout the year:

- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for Cool Season Turfgrasses
- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for Warm Season Turfgrasses
- Annual Athletic Field Maintenance Calendar for the Transition Zone

Resources on cool and warm season turfgrass species commonly used for athletic turf:

- Kentucky bluegrass
- Annual bluegrass
- Perennial ryegrass
- Tall Fescue
- Bermudagrass

Cultural practices that keep your field in good health:

Fertilization:

- Understanding Soil Tests
- Plant and Environmental Responses to the Essential Nutrients
- Quick Release Nitrogen
- Slow Release Nitrogen

Irrigation:

- Rootzone Construction
- Water Availability
- Water Tables
- Amount and Frequency for Irrigation
- Application
- Irrigation Systems
- Effective Water Use

Drainage:

- Drainage Solutions
- Best Management Practices to Reduce Stormwater Runoff and Pollution at your Sports Facility
- Flooding on Sports Fields
- Drainage - A Crucial Component for Athletic Field Performance
 - Part One: Surface Drainage
 - Part Two: Internal Drainage
 - Part Three: Subsurface Installed Drainage Systems

Guidelines for general field management that will help in maintaining healthy, safe athletic surfaces:

- Sports Field Management Practices - Athletic Field Management in the Spring
- Sports Field Management Practices - Preparing a Field for Winter
- Field Management During a Drought
- 2012 Heat and Drought Stress Effects on Sports Turf Management
- Football Practice Techniques that Help

Minimize Field Wear

- Strategies for Managing Heavily-Used Fields
- Thatch Management
- Sprigging Bermudagrass
- Sports Field Painting Tips
- Snow Removal
- How to Control Moles and Reduce Turfgrass Damage

Resources that give tips and advice for new construction and renovation of fields:

- 8 Steps to an Easy Field Facelift
- A Guide to Synthetic and Natural Turfgrass for Sports Fields - Selection, Construction and Maintenance Considerations
 - Natural Grass Athletic Fields for High Schools
 - Natural Grass Athletic Fields for High Schools PowerPoint

Suggestions for implementing environmental stewardship at sports facilities:

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Water Efficiency
- Stormwater Management
- Renewable Energy
- Carbon Credits, Renewable Energy Credits, and Carbon Offsets
- Transportation
- Lighting
- Heat Islands
- Brownfields
- LEED

Suggestions for implementing environmental stewardship on athletic fields:

- Soil Issues
- Species Selection
- Cultural Practices
- Traffic Management
- Natural Pesticides
- Pesticides
- Compost Applications to Sports Fields
- Best Management Practices to Reduce Stormwater Runoff and Pollution at your Sports Facility

Resources that focus on keeping fans, athletes, coaches, and other users safe

- Sports Field Safety Football/Soccer Safety and Maintenance Checklist
- Baseball/Softball Safety and Maintenance Checklist
- The STMA Collection of ASTM Standards for Athletic Fields

Take advantage of all that STMA has to offer! In addition to the resources STMA has provided, links to university websites and STMA conference presentations are also available to assist you in taking your athletic field and professionalism to the next level. ■

Our Founders—add to the history

STMA'S FOUR FOUNDERS—Dick Ericson, George Toma, William Daniels, PhD, and Harry Gill—[took an indistinct profession and formalized it. They were at the forefront of STMA's journey from an unorganized industry to a profession of significance. Many factors have influenced and strengthened the association along its way, but one constant remains: the culture of STMA that was created by these early leaders.

Nominate someone for a Founder's Award. Each Founder has brought something unique to the profession:

- Dick Ericson - a leader who continues to raise the professionalism in the industry

- George Toma - a mentor who continues to inspire individuals to be the best that they can

- William Daniel, PhD - an academic who established the industry's important partnership between educators/researchers and practitioners

- Harry Gill - a dedicated professional who made a tremendous impact on the success of STMA.

To nominate someone who embodies these characteristics, go to www.STMA.org, click on the Professionalism tab, and then on the Founders' link. The deadline to nominate someone is Oct. 15. ■

One Word Describes the 2014 Conference Education Program: EXPANSIVE!

THE 2014 STMA CONFERENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM has been set! This year the tracks are: agronomics, pest control, safety, facility management, water, professional development, synthetic fields, industry developments, and construction and renovation. STMA is focused on providing conference attendees the most current, unbiased information in all aspects of sports field management to help you succeed.

The STMA Academy is back on Tuesday, January 21. Higher level learning opportunities will feature industry professionals speaking about high wear athletic fields, playability and safety of fields, weed control, and understanding weather and climate. These sessions are included in your conference registration, so make sure to plan your trip to attend.

The General Session kicks off a day filled with educational opportunities on Wednesday, January 22. Take advantage of the pest control track throughout the day and earn pesticide recertification credits. The pest control sessions will focus on improving plant

performance with plant protection products, establishing pest thresholds, insect control for the upcoming year, and turfgrass disease management.

Valuable education continues into Thursday morning on January 23. Don't miss sessions focused on new technology to manage athletic fields, organic management, field renovation, infield maintenance, player safety, stormwater best management practices, and more. Students also have education tailored specifically to their needs on Thursday. Sessions that give advice on the correct career path, mentors, and internships are provided to help students succeed upon entering the industry.

Friday morning, January 24 features five different workshops led by some of the top turfgrass educators. These interactive sessions will focus on soil, water, pest control, and field management to help attendees improve their skills and knowledge. The Innovative Sessions will then take place on the trade show floor. This year focuses on some of the most recent

improvements and technologies that have been introduced to the sports turf management industry.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with university professors, researchers, and other sports turf professionals to learn about what is happening in the industry and improve upon current practices. For a full description of all the education taking place at the conference this year, check out the conference brochure, available next month. ■

STMA is focused on providing conference attendees the most current, unbiased information in all aspects of sports field management to help you succeed.

STMA Affiliated Chapters Contact Information

Sports Turf Managers Association of Arizona: www.azstma.org

Colorado Sports Turf Managers Association: www.cstma.org

Florida #1 Chapter (South): 305-235-5101 (Bruce Bates) or Tom Curran
CTomSell@aol.com

Florida #2 Chapter (North): 850-580-4026,
John Mascaro, john@turf-tec.com

Florida #3 Chapter (Central): 407-518-2347,
Scott Grace, scott@sundome.org

Gateway Chapter Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gatewaystma.org

Georgia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.gstma.org

Greater L.A. Basin Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: www.stmalabasin.com

Illinois Chapter STMA: www.ILSTMA.org

Intermountain Chapter of the Sports Turf Managers Association: <http://imstma.blogspot.com/>

Indiana -FORMING - Contact Clayton Dame, Claytondame@hotmail.com or Brian Bornino, bornino@purdue.edu

Iowa Sports Turf Managers Association: www.iowaturfgrass.org

Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association: www.kystma.org

Keystone Athletic Field Managers Org. (KAFMO/STMA): www.kafmo.org

Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA): www.mistma.org

Minnesota Park and Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mpstma.org

MO-KAN Sports Turf Managers Association: www.mokanstma.com

Nebraska Sports Turf Managers Association: sphillips4@unlnotes.unl.edu

New England STMA (NESTMA): www.nestma.org

Sports Field Managers Association of New Jersey: www.sfmnj.org

Sports Turf Managers of New York: www.stmony.org

North Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.ncsportsturf.org

Northern California STMA: www.norcalstma.org

Ohio Sports Turf Managers Association (OSTMA): www.ostma.org

Oklahoma Chapter STMA: 405-744-5729; Contact: Dr. Justin Moss okstma@gmail.com

Oregon STMA Chapter: www.oregonsportsturfmanagers.org
oregonstma@gmail.com

Ozarks STMA: www.ozarksstma.org

Pacific Northwest Sports Turf Managers Association: www.pnwstma.org

Southern California Chapter: www.socalstma.com

South Carolina Chapter of STMA: www.sc-stma.org

Tennessee Valley Sports Turf Managers Association (TVSTMA): www.tvstma.com

Texas Sports Turf Managers Association: www.txstma.org

Virginia Sports Turf Managers Association: www.vstma.org

Wisconsin Sports Turf Managers Association: www.wstma.org

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Continued from page 11

they never said how to do it, but suggested what might work.

Another man who has been very important to my career is Roger Bossard, the 3rd generation groundskeeper who has been with the Chicago White Sox as long as I can remember. His granddad, uncles, father and cousin were all involved with athletic field management. When I just got out of the Air Force and had a problem, I called him, and Roger returned my call and has had a great influence on me and my career in turf management.

I guess for the last 40+ years I have tried to pay it forward and share all the information I gained from these men and many others and tried to help whoever would call and ask me a question, I think that is the call to all of us in STMA help each other, whether you share a success or a failure if your information helps save someone time or money, that is what this group is about and what Harry and our founding fathers wanted it to be.

PAY IT FORWARD

There are four men whom perhaps I had a little bit to do with their success and growth:

Mike McBride, who came to me early in my career and had been in sales and wanted to do something outside and was willing to work hard, ask questions and learn. Mike was creative, a quick study and did a great job on athletic field grooming and lining and helped grow the sand blasted sign-making in the Chicagoland Parks Systems. His talent created signage still seen all over the area. Mike moved on and became the Superintendent of Parks in Lombard, IL and has since retired and is now helping turf managers as a consultant for a local turf equipment supplier.

Rick Bold and I have formed a rather unique relationship; we have known each other for more than 30 years, but over the past 15 we have kind of mentored each other. We shared ideas and issues and helped each other solve problems; we also helped each other out in sharing equipment. Rick became a CSFM and has been the Superintendent of Parks for the Glenco Park District for many, many years and does a great job serving the Glenco Community.

Eric Fasbender, now at Louisiana State, came to the Schaumburg Flyers as an intern and then became their head groundskeeper. Eric and I struck up a great friendship and I am sure I have learned more from him than he

from me. I am proud of him as he is a true leader in the industry; he did a great job for the Oregon Ducks and is carrying on his hard work at LSU. He loves what he does and it shows. He also gives back, especially with the hard work he does on the Student Challenge Committee of STMA.

And someone I apparently have mentored without even knowing it is my son Matthew. Matt used to come with me on weekends for special event set up, or ball field set ups, and he observed and as he got older he helped work. Even though I have tried to encourage Matt to enter another career field, he has dedicated himself to the grounds industry and is currently helping manage the athletic fields for the Vernon Hills Park District. With Matt's inquisitiveness and always wanting to learn more about turf and infield management, he is now becoming my mentor.

I hope in some way that I have touched the lives of these four men, and increased their love of working on athletic fields. I am proud of each of them and proud to call them all my friends. I do hope that Harry and Doc look down from heaven and smile at me and the efforts I have made to keep the dream alive.

I do know that I have loved every minute I

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1 What is your company's primary business? (check **ONLY ONE**)

- F Sports Complex G Athletic Field and/or Park Architect/Designer
T School, College or University P Park
H Other (please specify) _____

2 Which of the following best describes your title? (check **ONLY ONE**)

- A EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATOR — President, Owner, Partner, Director, General Manager, Chairman of the Board, Purchasing Agent, Athletic Director
B MANAGER/SUPERINTENDENT — Superintendent, Landscape/Ground Maintenance Manager, Foreman, Supervisor
C GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL — Government Commissioner, Agent, Other Government Official
D SPECIALIST — Architect, Designer, Consultant, Agronomist, Horticulturist, Certified Specialist
F COACH E Other (please specify) _____

3 Do you have the authority to buy, specify or recommend products and/or services for your business or organization?

Y Yes N No

4 Yearly operating expenditures (excluding salaries)

- F Over \$1 million C \$50,001 - \$100,000
E \$500,001 - \$1 million B \$25,001 - \$50,000
D \$100,001 - \$500,000 A \$25,000 and under

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have been involved with STMA, I have made so many wonderful friends over the years and I have gotten so much more out of being a member than I could ever have imagined. I was blessed to have so very many wonderful people help me in my career and I hope that I have made them proud.

have had a big influence on the sports turf industry as well as the golf course industry. With this has brought a greater effort to keep the client/customer educated and to manage their expectations. Safety of the athletes has become a primary concern of all sports turf managers and learning from industry peers on how to improve safety keeps you one step ahead any litigious actions.

ing at the status quo was not for him.

Darrel Maier is a former golf course superintendent that started with our company on June 1, 2010 and is currently the Grounds, Landscape and Sports Field Manager at St. Luke's School (a private day school) in western Connecticut. The state of Connecticut, as well as many other states in the Northeast, is under a strict "no spray" policy for all public and private K-12 schools. Darrell is constantly researching information through university studies, on line resources through STMA and talking with other sports turf managers to get the latest BMP information. He is looking at converting one of his Kentucky bluegrass fields to a lower impact improved Tall Fescue variety as a test case. He has come up with imaginative ways to control some of the diseases that occur on Kentucky bluegrasses. ■

Chris Metcalf CSFM/CGM started with our company in December 2000 as Grounds, Landscape and Sports Fields Manager at Aurora University and received his CSFM designation on July 1, 2012. Chris has always been someone who has wanted to learn more and constantly pushes himself and his crew in providing a more safe and attractive campus. When he called and told me he was applying to become a CSFM it was just another example of how stay-

**JOHN A. FIK
CSFM/CGM**

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▲ John A. Fik, CSFM/CGM



BY DR. DAVID MINNER

Professor, Iowa State University

Questions?

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David Minner at
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or email
dminner@iastate.edu.

Or, send your
question to
Grady Miller at
North Carolina State University,
Box 7620, Raleigh, NC
27695-7620, or email
grady_miller@ncsu.edu.

Turfgrass poker

—are you feeling lucky?

The drought from 2012 combined with our fall football schedule left our field with less than 25% cover through the center high traffic area, so we dormant-seeded an 80/20 mix of Kentucky bluegrass/perennial ryegrass in early November, along with aggressive aerifying. We saw a little perennial ryegrass germination in the spring but by summer we were still thin and now we are faced with weeds and weak grass to start the fall season. Our other soccer/football fields and some multiple use football/baseball fields that are not as worn out but still need overseeding to fill in bare areas. We do not want to use the bluegrass/ryegrass mix again and have been considering turf type tall fescue. Do you think it's a good choice and what about perennial ryegrass?

Lafayette, IN

My answer to this question has changed over the years since tall fescue first came on the scene as a suitable grass for home lawns. In the past because tall fescue is a bunch grass we would caution users to not overseed existing stands of Kentucky bluegrass or perennial ryegrass with tall fescue because the resulting sward of grass could potentially have clumps of undesirable tall fescue sparsely spread throughout the turf area. In home lawns this would be unattractive and in some sports like soccer and baseball it could affect ball roll. In fact, that risk of tall fescue clumping does still exist in theory and occasionally it may happen.

However, after several years of watching how many sports turf managers use tall fescue as an overseeding strategy and after watching their many successes I have completely changed my mind on over-

seeding with tall fescue to improve sparsely turfed fields where bluegrass and ryegrass have not performed well. This has been especially true on fields where irrigation is inadequate or substantially reduced during drought regulations.

I am a big fan of Kentucky bluegrass for moderate traffic situations where the grass has sufficient time to recover and fill back in to 100% cover. But since bluegrass is so slow to germinate it has left me very unhappy unless I allow nearly a full growing season to let the seedlings mature, tiller and put on rhizome growth. With perennial ryegrass and tall fescue you can expect the bare soil areas to cover twice as fast as Kentucky bluegrass and this is a much better fit for our world of sports turf that needs grass yesterday.

For many sporting fields where you are simply trying to maintain cover the canopy compatibility of Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue is not an issue and players and coaches never question the type of grass, but they do notice when bare soil is showing. We also know that continued overseeding with perennial ryegrass will maintain better turf cover but it can, in just a few seasons, shift the turfgrass stand so that it is mostly ryegrass. If you are constantly fighting drought or disease then the ryegrass suffers.

Tall fescue will germinate and mature much faster than Kentucky bluegrass but slightly slower than perennial ryegrass so it fits nicely into the category of a relatively speedy grass that at least shows some type of pay back in turf cover for your time and dollar investment. I seed a lot of my chronically thin fields with a 50/50 mix of perennial

ryegrass and tall fescue for the simple reason that it gives more cover the following year. If I see the tall fescue starting to take hold after a year or two then I may switch to overseeding just with tall fescue. Once I start with the tall fescue I like to give it about 3 years of overseeding as needed to give it a chance to prove itself.

If you are constantly fighting drought or disease then the ryegrass suffers.

The take home message here is that if you are happy with the turf cover on your field, then don't switch to tall fescue just because someone tells you it is a more drought tolerant grass. On the other hand if bluegrass is not performing the way you want, and dry conditions are part of your turf decline problem, then repeated overseeding with tall fescue may leave you with more grass cover on the field throughout the playing season and a better window of opportunity to establish grass because of faster germination.

In my world turf cover that results in better playability always trumps any potential problem I may have with clumpy turf. In regions where tall fescue grows well the odds are good that tall fescue can help some of your problem fields. It's just not that much of a gamble any more with tall fescue once you start to see more green each year.

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