Contents

1

About the Authors xi About the STMA xiii Preface xv

Part 1 Principles of Sports Turf Culture

- 1 Turfgrasses 3
 - 1.1 Introduction 3
 - 1.2 Biology and Identification 4
 - 1.3 Turfgrass Types 11
 - 1.4 Turfgrass Selection 18
 - 1.5 Using the Two-Map System to Select Turfgrass 20
 - 1.6 Planting Times and Rates 24
 - 1.7 Soil Preparation 27
 - 1.8 Planting Techniques 28
 - 1.9 Establishment 35
 - 1.10 Overseeding Warm-Season Fields 38
 - 1.11 Sustaining a Mixed Warm and Cool Season Turfgrass Canopy in the Transition Zone 45

2 Soils and Soil Science 53

- 2.1 Introduction 53
- 2.2 Soil as a Medium for Turfgrass 53

3 Fertility and Fertilizers 67

- 3.1 Introduction 67
- 3.2 Nutrient Requirements 67
- 3.3 Nutrient Uptake 70
- 3.4 Soil Reaction 71
- 3.5 Fertilizer Analysis 73
- 3.6 Fertilizer Sources 74
- 3.7 Application Rates and Frequencies 78
- 3.8 Micronutrients 82
- 3.9 Biostimulants 84

4 Mowing 87

- 4.1 Introduction 87
- 4.2 Types of Mowers 90
- 4.3 Turf Response 92
- 4.4 Height and Frequency 93
- 4.5 Pattern 94
- 4.6 Clipping Removal 95
- 4.7 Equipment and Safety 96
- 4.8 Chemical Growth Regulators 97

5 Irrigation 103

- 5.1 Introduction 103
- 5.2 Irrigation and Turfgrass Culture 103
- 5.3 General Principles of Turfgrass Irrigation 104
- 5.4 Portable Irrigation Systems 105
- 5.5 Installed Irrigation Systems 106
- 5.6 Wireless Sensor Technology 121
- 5.7 Subsurface Drip Irrigation (SDI) 121
- 5.8 The Use of Nonpotable Water for Sports Field Irrigation 122
- 5.9 Know Your Water Source 123

6 Drainage 125

- 6.1 Introduction 125
- 6.2 Surface Drainage 125
- 6.3 Internal Drainage 129
- 6.4 Installed Drain Systems 136
- 6.5 Other Drain System Practices 147

7 Aeration and Topdressing 149

- 7.1 Introduction 149
- 7.2 Aerating for Optimal Turf Responses 149
- 7.3 Aeration Equipment 153
- 7.4 Topdressing 163

- 8 Thatch 167
 - 8.1 Introduction 167
 - 8.2 Definition of Thatch 167
 - 8.3 Advantages and Disadvantages of Thatch in Sports Turf 168
 - 8.4 How Thatch Develops 170
 - 8.5 Maintaining a Managed Thatch Layer 172
 - 8.6 Reducing Excessive Thatch Buildup 173

9 Turfgrass Stresses and Remedies 179

- 9.1 Introduction 179
- 9.2 Mechanical Stresses 179
- 9.3 Environmental Stresses 183
- 9.4 Weeds, Insects, and Diseases 187

10 Wise Use of Chemicals 271

- 10.1 Introduction 271
- 10.2 The Label Is the Law 271
- 10.3 Planning and Performing Applications 275
- 10.4 Record Keeping 286

11 Organic Field Management 289

- 11.1 Introduction 289
- 11.2 Definitions and Principles of Organic Field Management 290
- 11.3 Principles and Concepts of Organic Field Management 290
- 11.4 Making an Adjustment to Organic Field Management 292
- 11.5 Timing and Site Conditions for Organic Field Management 292
- 11.6 Organic Field Management Inputs 293
- 11.7 Compost and Composting 308
- 11.8 Compost Applications on Sports Fields 311

Part 2 Natural Turfgrass Sports Fields

313

- 12 Baseball and Softball Fields 317
 - 12.1 Introduction 317
 - 12.2 Design 317
 - 12.3 Construction 340
 - 12.4 Renovation 349
 - 12.5 Maintenance and Management Procedures 353
 - 12.6 Rules and Regulations 357

- 13 Football Fields 371
 - 13.1 Introduction 371
 - 13.2 Design 372
 - 13.3 Construction 381
 - 13.4 Renovation 383
 - 13.5 Maintenance and Management Procedures 387
 - 13.6 Rules and Regulations 396

14 Soccer, Lacrosse, and Field Hockey Fields 405

- 14.1 Introduction 405
- 14.2 Design 406
- 14.3 Construction 412
- 14.4 Renovation 412
- 14.5 Maintenance and Management Procedures 415
- 14.6 Rules and Regulations 421

Part 3 Other Sports Surfaces

15	Tennis	Courts	433

- 15.1 Introduction 433
- 15.2 Design 434
- 15.3 Construction 439
- 15.4 Renovation 440
- 15.5 Maintenance 442
- 15.6 Rules and Regulations 444
- 16 Track and Field Facilities 447
 - 16.1 Introduction 447
 - 16.2 Design 448
 - 16.3 Track Construction 455
 - 16.4 Track Renovation 456
 - 16.5 Track Maintenance 456
 - 16.6 Rules and Regulations 457

17 Synthetic Turf 461

- 17.1 Introduction 461
- 17.2 History and Innovations 462
- 17.3 Choosing the Right Manufacturer and Installer 464
- 17.4 Care and Maintenance 465

431

Part	4	Ancillary Information	475
18		Surveying the Grade 477	
		18.1 Introduction 477	
		18.2 Surveying Equipment 478	
		18.3 Establishing Elevations 481	
	19	Sand-Based Rootzones 485	
		19.1 Introduction 485	
		19.2 Considerations When Selecting a Sand-Based Rootzone 487	
		19.3 Sand-Based Rootzone Requirements 490	
		19.4 Maintenance 499	
20	Paints and Covers 507		
		20.1 Introduction 507	
		20.2 Paints 508	
		20.3 Covers 515	
	21	Field Evaluation and Turfgrass Assessment 521	
		21.1 Introduction 521	
	4.9	21.2 Components of Field Quality 521	
		21.3 Aesthetic Appeal and Quality 522	
		21.4 Ball and Player Response as Affected by Surface	
		Characteristics 523	
1		21.5 Testing Equipment to Evaluate the Playing	
lome		Sundee 524	
	22	Safety 531	
	22.1 Introduction 531		
	22.2 Player Safety and Performance 531		
		22.3 Spectator Safety 532	
		22.4 Designing for Safety 534	
		22.5 Safety Concerns During Construction and	
1		Renovation 535	
		22.6 Maintaining a Safe Facility 535	
:	23	Environmental Stewardship, Resource Conservation, and	
		Sustainability 539	
		23.1 Introduction 539	
		23.2 Environmental Stewardship 540	

ix

- 23.3 Resource Conservation 541
- 23.4 Sustainability 549

24 Innovations Designed to Promote Natural Grass Fields 555

- 24.1 Introduction 555
- 24.2 Lighting 555
- 24.3 Enhanced Turfgrass Performance 556
- 24.4 Instant Field Replacement 558
- 24.5 Wireless Technology, Remote Sensing, and Predictive Models 562

25 Public Relations and Professionalism 565

- 25.1 Introduction 565
- 25.2 Public Relations 565
- 25.3 Professionalism 570

Appendix 573 Glossary 585 Index 597