

**Grounds Association**

**Pitch Advisors October Blog**

**October Optimism**

Depending on when your particular League finished will have a bearing on the success of your autumn renovation. Those before mid September, of which I am one, will or should have had a successful revamp. Those later will have to show some patience to pick the right opportunity. Conditions **must** be dry to spread the loam to obtain positive results.

Towards the end of October early November you would expect to perform you first top-off with a sharp rotary mower. Solid tine aeration could follow this process if conditions allow. Repeat this aeration once a month until late February.

An autumn/winter granular feed around late November/early December is generally advised to strengthen the new growth with a suggested formula of N.P.K. of 3-6-8 + Fe. The iron (Fe) should discourage any moss ingress.

**Outfields: -** These are often neglected through this period of year. Ideally look to alternate yearly between ‘shock-waving’ and ‘verti-draining’ but again only carry out these operations when conditions allow. It is possible to do these tasks even if you have junior football or rugby in these areas.

At this time of year consider machinery upgrades or out of season servicing as prices and rates are more favourable in the winter months.

I still have a brand new *Bowdry* available, so please contact me for further details.