

Turf Covers: Thinking Ahead of Winter

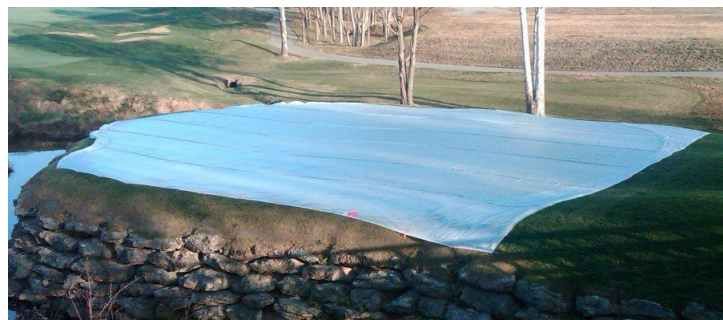
This past spring was especially challenging for golf courses nationwide. After a harsh winter and a cold, wet start to spring, the already-short golfing season in the northern reaches of the country was even shorter. What to do?

A small public course in upstate New York had used turf covers in the past to greater and lesser degrees. “Sometimes it’s simply about planning and budgeting for the small needs through winter that can give you an advantage in spring,” said the General Manager. “We have always had a small number of troublesome holes that seem to get the biggest beating. Typically, they are greens that are more sheltered from the sun.”

But a remedy does exist, and the team at the course dug a little deeper into turf cover offerings last year to find more than a standard cover.

What they uncovered was a simple, ingenious system that relies on a standard, permeable turf cover as the top layer and a fibrous under-layer which adds protection and increases thermal action. When the covers were removed in mid-March, the difference was astonishing — not only had the damage been controlled, but spring growth had increased substantially. “After putting down the Turf Shield Arctic System in the fall, we quietly and anxiously waited for spring,” the Superintendent said. “When the time came, we pulled the different systems off the greens that were tested. The differences were dramatic. The areas with standard covers were much better than the uncovered sections. Areas with the dual-layer Arctic System looked like winter never happened.”

Excerpt from an upcoming GCM Online article



Test areas were completely covered with standard permeable covers. Underneath, partial sections incorporated the second Turf Shield Arctic layer.

Turf Shield Fabrication & Fabric Specifications

Feature	Description	Feature	Description
Material	Woven Polyethylene	Seams & Edges	Reinforced, Double Sewn Seams
Color	Translucent White or Black	Securing Areas	Steel Grommets - Every 5'
Size (s)	Made to Order	Markings	ID Tags Sewn @ Corner

Property	Test Method	English Units			SI Units		
		MD	CD		MD	CD	
Mass per Unit Area	ASTM D-5261	3.1		oz/yd ²	105		g/m ²
Grab Tensile Strength	ASTM D-4632	150	115	lbs	668	512	N
Grab Tensile Elongation	ASTM D-4632	18	16	%	18	16	%
Air Permeability	ASTM D-737	33.5		ft ³ /min/ft ²	10.2		m ³ /min/m ²
UV Resistance (2000 hours)	ASTM D-4355	85		%	85		%

A woven agricultural fabric, produced from polypropylene slit-film tapes, which meet or exceed the following: *Note: Exposure of this product to certain agrochemicals may have an adverse affect on the service life of the fabric. Some agrochemicals contain in their structure active halogens (such as chlorine) and sulfur, or other byproducts which reduce the service life of woven polypropylene fabrics. Accelerated polymer degradation and/or photodegradation may occur. Please consult your agrochemical supplier for information and other available options.

Turf Shield Air Flow Layer Fabrication & Fabric Specifications

Feature	Description	Feature	Description
Material	Non-Woven Polyester	Roll Size	90" x 90'
Binder	Non-Soluble	Roll Area	675 sq. ft.
Color	Black	Packaging	Opaque Poly Bag

Property	Test Method	English Units			SI Units		
		MD	CD		MD	CD	
Color		Black					
Mass		16		oz/yd ²	.488		kg/m ²
Area		675 ft ² (90" W x 90' L)			62.71 m ² (2.29m W x 27.43m L)		
Mullen Burst Strength	ASTM D-3786	149		lbs.	662		N
Grab Tensile Strength	ASTM D-4632	59.4	51.6	lbs	264	229	N
Permeability	ASTM D-4491				14.01		m ³ /sec

Custom Sizes & Fabrication

Turf Shield covers are fabricated to order. Provided with dimensions and ID, each cover is assembled with high quality and durability in mind. Priced similar to many standard sized covers, Turf Shield covers are based on your measurements. The Turf Shield Air Flow Layer is ordered by the roll and is trimmed to fit by the customer.

Additional product information can be found by calling IVI-GOLF at 888-970-5111 or visiting us on the web at www.ivi-golf.com.