

Press Release

England Skipper Pinpoints The Solution To Better Pitches

ECB award-winning Head Groundsman, David Bates, has earned the praise of England captain Nasser Hussain for the quality of his Northamptonshire County pitch. As former Chairman of the First Class Groundsmen, David's experience covers preparing some of the finest pitches for domestic and international cricket, and this latest accolade further enhances his growing reputation as the UK's leading pitch consultant.

Writing in the Sunday Telegraph, England skipper Hussain held up the Northamptonshire pitch as the standard to which all the country's cricket grounds should aspire. "My vision of what English cricket should be starts at Northampton. It is the only ground in England that I know of that is regularly like a test pitch overseas," said Hussain. "If we could have a single request granted, it would be that we have pitches like Northampton everywhere, not just in county cricket, but at under-19 and under-16 club level as well."

Delighted with the recognition, Bates commented: "Our achievements at Northampton demonstrate the importance of combining practical experience with in-depth technical knowledge, which is exactly what we will be doing with our 'Total Turf Solutions' consultancy service." Along with leading turf culture lecturer, Alan Lewis, Bates plans to share his expertise and offer knowledge, support and guidance by creating an independent central resource to provide research and product development, ground care, training and equipment sales.

"Anyone needing to achieve and maintain the best sports turf surface can benefit from our help," say David Bates and Alan Lewis.