

Press release



LIVINGSTON CRICKET CLUB IS IMPRESSED BY THE ROMANS

March 2010

Cricket players playing at the Dresselrigg ground in West Lothian, Scotland no longer have to pack their boots before taking to the field thanks to a revolutionary drainage system that can trace its roots back to the Roman occupation of Britain, over nineteen hundred years ago!

Ezidrain drainage panels, installed at the Livingston Cricket Club ground five years ago, have been designed to match a ground drying system found on a Yorkshire farm that was put down by the Romans.

Ezidrain's UK Managing Director James Arrowsmith explains: "The farmer and researchers from Newcastle University identified that the Romans had laid blackthorn briars in a trench and, to this day, it removes excess water by a wick and open cavity system. The water trickles down along the surfaces of the ancient briars without ever becoming clogged by sand and stones.

"It was this discovery that led to the creation of Ezidrain. It is produced from any recycled plastic – shopping bags to bread trays to flower pots to milk cartons - with different types of plastic being mixed together. The Ezidrain panels sit just a few inches below the surface and the water trickles down through the cavities and, just like the Roman prototype, it never becomes clogged with sand or stone."

Jim Wilson, the Head Groundsman at Livingston Cricket Club, heard about the product and decided to use it to drain the outfield at the Dresselrigg ground.

"It was simple to install. We used 3,000 linear metres (9,800 feet). Work was completed in May and by the end of the season there was no evidence where it had taken place. Since it has been in place the ground has been transformed. Regardless of what the weather throws at us, our ground dries out quickly, without surface cracking. Now if it rains on Friday it is likely that we can play on Saturday. Previously the ground would have remained waterlogged for two or three days. We are absolutely delighted with the result – in fact the ground has continued to improve over the five years Ezidrain has been place."

The environment also benefits from this product because panels are made from 100% post use recycled plastic which means that up to 4,400 lbs. of greenhouse gases are saved for every 200 Ezidrain panels produced.

Soccer and rugby fields have also benefited from this unique drainage system and it is used extensively in golf clubs in the UK and is currently being introduced into the United States.

Individual panels measure 39 inches long x 9 inches wide x 1 3/4 inches thick. Ezidrain can be installed without massive interference to the playing surface of sports pitches and played on almost immediately.

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