



2008 National Football League Players Playing Surfaces Opinion Survey

The National Football League (NFL) Players Association released its 2008 NFL Playing Surface Opinion Survey during team meetings in September through November 2008. A total of 1565 active NFL Players from all 32 teams voluntarily filled out the survey forms. The following are some of the survey findings:

	GRASS	ARTIFICIAL
• Which surface do you think is more likely to contribute to injury?	13.7%	84.8%
• Which surface do you think causes more soreness and fatigue to play on?	7.2%	91.0%
• Which surface do you think is more likely to shorten your career?	5.3%	92.6%
• Which surface do you think is more likely to negatively affect your quality of life after football?	2.6%	61.6%
• What type of field do you prefer to play on?	71.7%	15.0%

	VERY SIGNIFICANT	SOMEWHAT SIGNIFICANT	NOT SIGNIFICANT
• How important a role do you believe NFL groundskeepers play in the performance of NFL grass playing surfaces?	84.6%	11.3%	0.9%
• How important a role do you believe NFL groundskeepers play in the performance of NFL artificial infilled playing surfaces?	24.7%	49.2%	18.1%

	STRONGLY VALUE	SOMEWHAT VALUE	DO NOT VALUE
• How much do you value your grounds crew's work on your game and practice fields?	73.8%	21.3%	3.96%

Excerpts from Top Comments/Suggestions from Participating NFL Players

"Grass is probably preferred by most players, including myself."

"I feel that a grass field that is very well maintained is the best field to play on."

"If a cow cannot eat it, we shouldn't be playing on it."

"Create universal guidelines for both grass and turf (artificial) fields."

"The artificial infilled field always starts out great like our field was the first year we put it in. But, after two years of soccer games and concerts, the field is a mess."

To view the survey results visit: http://www.synturf.org/images/2008_NFLPA_Surface_Survey.pdf