Pennecross turns 40

Continued from page 39

"Time and time again we go through these trials and others jockey for three years, then you see Pennecross is still the best," said Rose. "The bents are getting better, and Penncross won't be nearly as dominant in 10 years. But there will be Penncross sold in 10 years, and people will still be pleased with it."

The careers of Pennecross and Rose are nearly synonymous. Penncross was released in 1955, and Rose got out of the military service a year later. After becoming aware of the new creeping bent at an Oregon State University meeting the following winter, Rose got interested, secured some stolons from Musser and planted a small field in 1958.

"The quality wasn't good," Rose admits. "I happened to go on a trip back to Penn State and met Dr. Joe Duich. "There was some turf conference going on and I was waiting outside in the hall for about an hour. Finally, a bunch of them found out I was growing Penncross, and soon they were all out in the hall talking to me."

"All the researchers claimed the seed that was getting to me wasn't Penncross. Even today you see stories about substitution, and that's certainly what happened back then. We had an all-night session to discuss the problems. Out of that, Penn State decided to release Penncross to us exclusively and we committed to growing only certified seed."

Rose helped form the Penncross Bentgrass Association, the exclusive grower and marketer of Pennecross. When the association was formed in 1971, included most of the 14 growers that remain members today. Turf Seed, Rose Wochaski, CGCS-6904 Salisbury Road, Maumee, OH 43537, (800) 932-5223. Fore Better Golf, Inc., 16030 Lightsey, Austin, TX 78740. (512) 442-1812.

Golf course Marketplace

To reserve space in this section, call Diana Costello-Lee at (207) 846-0600.
Veni-drain suit

Continued from page 39

were going to sue.

"There was no patent infringement here. We researched it very carefully. This is strictly a sales ploy by Redexim."

According to Otto, Southern Green ended its relationship with Redexim in December 1994, on the basis that it was a copy.

"On Nov. 4, the folks at Southern Green were going to sue. We researched it very carefully. According to Estes, Southern Green literally raced to the courthouse and filed a suit on Sept. 19, 1993. The firm put its Soil Reliever on the market in 1994, on the basis that it was a copy. Instead of responding to the cease and desist, they filed a suit," said Otto. "Instead of responding to the cease and desist, they filed a suit which said, basically, that 'Redexim is trying to ruin our business.'"

According to Otto, in May of 1995, Redexim tried to have the Southern Green suit dismissed. However, a dismissal judge...