THE 25th ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS WINTER SCHOOL FOR GREENKEEPERS


1952 TURF CONFERENCES

Mar. 3-6—Turf Conference. Midwest Regional Turf Foundation and Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

Mar. 5-7—Minnesota Turf Conference and Short Course, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis.


SOUTHEAST APPRAISERS

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Even with the amount of information on hand, the story is incomplete.

Most of the turf weeds which occur in the Southeast have been controlled by one or more of the herbicides now in use. Crabgrass has been controlled by the use of potassium cyanate, sodium arsenite, lead arsenite, and mercurial compounds. Potassium cyanate, sodium arsenite, and the mercurial compounds have also given good control of goose grass or crowfoot, Egyptian crabgrass, and other weeds. There is a great need, however, for materials or methods which will yield selective control of nutgrass, Dallis grass, and sandspurs. Poa annua is regarded both as a welcome gift of nature and as a weed. As long as such attitudes exist, methods for the control and management of Poa annua are needed.

As in other sections of the United States, disease control is quite a problem. We simply do not know enough about the organisms causing the diseases. Disease control will continue to be difficult unless we concern ourselves with the fact that the field of turf is lacking in fundamental knowledge of disease organisms. Good results by the use of the many chemicals now available should not be expected as long as control measures are aimed at the symptoms or damage of the disease rather than the organism. In each region the need is great for basic facts about diseases.

Insect control has been adequate and, apparently, continued success is in sight. The lime and fertilizer requirements of southern turf grasses has been extensively studied. Various organic and inorganic sources of nitrogen have been tested for turf production. The establishment and maintenance of our best southern and cool-season turf grasses has also received attention. Research has paved the way for the first centipede grass seed production and distribution. Replanting greens with improved Bermuda types has been facilitated by the use of methyl bromide.