

A Bluegrass Seeding Operation



Pixtone picker cleared area.



Left section of field is cleared of stone; right isn't.



Bill Hoeft used 50-50 mixture of pre-germinated Kentucky and Merion, seeded at 40 lbs. per acre.



BILL Hoeft started a bluegrass nursery from seed in the fall of 1956 at Hales Corners, Wis. Seeding was in September. Good coverage was obtained by the following May. A 50-50 mixture of pre-germinated Kentucky and Merion blue grass seed was used at 40 lbs. per acre.

The field was plowed and disced first. It was rather stony so a Pixtone stone picker was used to clear the surface. This machine is made in Bridgeport, Conn. Stone removal was surprisingly good.

Dried activated sludge was applied at 2 tons per acre before seeding.

Pre-germination was accomplished by mixing the seed with two to three times its volume of Vermiculite fines. The mixture was dampened with water and kept that way for five days before seeding. Just before seeding the damp combination of seed and Vermiculite was mixed with dry



Hoeft's stand in May, 1957, before mowing.

activated sludge. This mixture flowed freely through a Brillion grass seeder, which was used for seeding. The Brillion seeder has a seed hopper mounted above two cultipacker type rollers. They press the seed into the soil, leaving a corrugated surface.

Water was available and applied as needed through a portable system.

By early May of this year there was a uniform cover of grass. The plan is to defer the sale of sod until fall. In the meantime the grass is being cut regularly with a hammermill type mower.

Brillion seeder spouts deliver seed between two corrugated rollers.