Brandt Heads Midwest; 534 at Purdue Conference

Jim Brandt, supt. of Danville, (Ill.) CC was elected pres., and Stan Graves of Westwood CC, Rocky River, O. was elected vp at the annual meeting of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation at Purdue University, Mar. 4. They succeed the retiring pres., Marion Mendenhall, and VP Ray Phillips. W. H. Daniel continues as executive secy. and G. O. Mott, treas.

Even with poor weather there was a new high in attendance with 534 registered. Of these over 130 hadn’t attended a regional meeting before. Much of the increase was due to landscape and industrial lawn personnel. During the meeting, 1958 Fall Field Days were announced for Sept. 15-16.

The theme, “Increasing our Understanding,” was marked by 12 talks reporting the extensive turf research carried on by students and personnel at Purdue. Over 60 people participated in this program. Special attention was drawn to the research in arsenic toxicity, in which W. H. Daniel pointed out that this is the year for supt. to test arsenic in a small way on their individual areas. By 1959 commercial products much easier to spread and more adaptable to application, should be available. For the second year, the special section on basic information drew much favorable comment.

In a panel discussion on nitrogen utilization, D. W. Kolterman pointed out that the source of nitrogen is immaterial to the individual grass plant as long as it gets the right amount at the right time and in available form.

In discussing crabgrass control, N. R. Goetze reported that extensive research at Purdue has led to the release of a faster acting organic arsenical which will appear on the market in 1958.

Attendance at Penn State Meeting High in Spite of Snow Storm

In spite of a severe snow storm at conference time, the 27th annual turfgrass meeting sponsored by Pennsylvania State University was very well attended. The conference was held Feb. 17-20 at College Park.

Discussion of new ureaform nitrogen highlighted the meeting. Results of studies of ureaform application, carried on at Penn State, were outlined by H. B. Musser, head of the university’s turf research program. Joseph M. Duich also told of his findings in conjunction with ureaform research.

Other speakers and their subjects included: R. E. Schmidt, who discussed 2,4-D application; H. B. Couch, who talked on fungicides; Charles D. Jeffries, who described his findings in potassium research; Louis T. Kardos, who explained conditions that come about due to water loss; J. R. Bloom, who spoke on the new nematode menace; and J. C. Harper of Toro Mfg. Corp., who gave some mowing tips on how to avoid shocking turf.