that Tifway II looks like Tifway, with the same desirable characteristics, but makes a denser, more weed-free turf, is more resistant to rootknot, ring, and sting nematodes, is more frost tolerant, exhibits a little better quality, and often greens up a little earlier in the spring. It is the combination of these traits, none of which can be used for identification, that warrant the release of Tifway II.

**TURFGRASSES**

**Pickseed grasses get plant variety protection**

Pickseed West, in Tangent, Oregon, has received Plant Variety Protection for America Kentucky bluegrass, Agram chewings fescue, and will begin marketing Exeter Colonial Bentgrass, which has been out of production for some years.

Exeter, developed at the University of Rhode Island under the direction of Dr. Richard Skogley, has been regarded for many years as a low maintenance turfgrass. It is characterized by medium dark green color, very fine leaf blade and has excellent winter hardiness and disease resistance.

Agram was selected and developed in Holland. It is an improved chewings fescue with excellent turf quality and medium dark color. It will make an excellent component in shade mixtures, according to Mike Robinson, Vice president of Pickseed West.

America is a low-growing, fine textured turf-type bluegrass with excellent density and dark green color. It performs well in both full sun and in moderate shade, Robinson adds.

**FERTILIZER**

**New fertilizer process can cut volatilization, cost**

A new fertilizer material should be available soon that will save energy, reduce nitrogen losses, and cut costs. A process developed and patented by scientists at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station has many benefits. It allows universal use of urea, the cheapest form of dry fertilizer and will significantly cut losses from leaving the fertilizer on the soil until rain or irrigation carries the nitrogen into the soil.

The process uses calcium or magnesium nitrates or chlorides to stabilize volatile nitrogen fertilizers, according to Dr. Lloyd Fenn, the soil chemist who developed the process. "The urea, at 90°F, when left on the soil in the presence of calcium, remains to a large extent in the urea form for two to three weeks instead of the present one to two days with ordinary urea." Fenn states. The new fertilizer will soon be produced in liquid form by the Stroller Chemical Company in Houston.