Funds Granted $1500 (New England Golf Assn) General support with emphasis on selection and breeding superior bentgrasses for putting green use.

A full time assistant was hired in June, 1982 and now works exclusively in the turfgrass selection and breeding work underway. During 1983, 174 grasses were evaluated, including 44 creeping and velvet bentgrasses for putting green use. Many show promise.

Additional collecting was done during 1983. Most of this work was with grasses found under very low fertility and dry soil areas. Seed was produced on many materials collected in 1982. Additional nurseries were established this year for 1984 seed production with materials collected in 1982 and 1983.

Several species are being vegetatively increased for use in polycross blocks in 1984. Some materials have been sent to Oregon for inclusion in seed production trials. Among some of the most interesting materials are aggressive, creeping red fescues that, in nursery rows, are as rhizomatous as bluegrass.