In the SB 60-135 Series 137 1st generation inbred progeny from 33 parents that were poorly represented in previous work were progeny tested. Over 1100 plants of 3400 screened progeny were field planted in 1985. In both of these series uniformity within lines in contrast to interline variability is becoming apparent in the field. Inbreeding depression, as expressed by plant vigor is obvious as well. It is not known how well the weaker inbred types will survive winters in the field. The degree of restored vigor and rhizome growth as well shall be eagerly anticipated pending survival.

Self-pollination of 25 SB-1 and 28 SB-90 plants derived from cobalt 60 irradiated rhizome sections yielded 600 and 1200 progeny, respectively. Family size ranged from 1 to 72 plants. These first generation inbred families were screened for rhizomes and gross mutations. Following date marking for rhizome emergence, 470 plants were field planted for further selfing.

4. Other Colonial Bents

Eight rhizomatous bents were selected from bermuda fairways in Australia following treatment with atrizine to control Poa annua in 1984. Plants were greenhouse crossed in all possible combination and 1200 progeny field planted in September 1985. Future work will include selection, inbreeding and selection for triazine herbicide tolerance.

Auburn University supplied us with 14 selections which were field planted for seed production and further evaluation.

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND - Dr. C. Richard Skogley, Principal Investigator

Selection and Breeding of Superior Bentgrasses

1985 Grant - $1,500 (Ongoing support since 1960)

Continued financial support from USGA/GCSAA has assisted Rhode Island Turfgrass Researchers in their efforts to select or develop improved grasses for the golf course industry. We are currently evaluating nearly 400 of our own experimentals, including about 130 bentgrasses. Vegetative materials and seed of several promising selections are being evaluated for seed production potential in Oregon.