

Annual Report - 1987
Research Sponsored in Part by U.S.G.A.
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Trial evaluation continued through 1987 on collected materials. These include:

1. Thirty two advanced generation Creeping and Velvet bentgrasses for putting green use. Two Creeping bentgrasses, RI-AP19 and a RI Polycross, are being increased in Oregon for potential release. We will apply for variety protection of AP19 as the variety "Providence". It is in trial at a few locations nationally. We are also increasing an improved, dark green Velvet, RI-AC408 and a similar Polycross.
2. Two Colonial bentgrass trials. One seeded in 1984 contains 50 cultivars and one seeded in 1986 has 45 selections. Several of these materials show promise as improved selection.
3. We have in trial about 250 lawn and general purposes grasses obtained from collections made since 1982. These are being maintained under very low fertility levels.

We have continued our study of grass mixtures for fairway usage. These are being maintained with and without fungicide treatment.

The automatic rain shelter constructed during 1986 was utilized during this season. We have taken cup cutter plugs from field plots and established the plugs within the shelter. We currently have 150 selections, with three replicates, under drought stress evaluation.

From May through October 30, I was on sabbatic leave from the University during which time I collected grasses from 9 states from Rhode Island to Minnesota. The majority were fine fescues and Colonial bentgrasses. I collected nearly 1000 materials. These materials are being vegetatively increased in a nursery.

Bill, this is a quick run-down of progress for 1987. Sorry for the lateness of my report but my travels have separated me from the office for lengthy periods.

Executive Summary - 1987
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The USGA-GCSAA research support has been utilized for assistance with our grass improvement program. During 1987 nearly 1000 grass selections were made from old turf stands in Northeastern and North Central United States. Among this group were about 325 bentgrasses - the majority being colonials. Many of these selections were from old cemeteries, some over 200 years old.

Several hundred cultures of turf grasses, including more than 100 bentgrasses, were continued in evaluation trial through the season. Efforts are underway to release one or two creeping bentgrasses as improved varieties and an improved chewings fescue variety, containing an endophyte, is nearing release.

Drought tolerance studies of collected materials were initiated during the season.