J.B. VISITATIONS:

December - Cincinnati, Ohio.
Gave a half-day seminar on Turfgrass Stresses and Their Prevention, plus two talks. This Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show is the most successful state turfgrass educational effort with 3,960 attendees and 503 exhibitors. Next conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio, in Dec. 6 thru 9, 1993.

January - Ontario, Canada.
Presented the keynote address and two talks at the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium organized by the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. The keynote address was Turfgrass Trends For The 21st Century, which is the feature article in this TURFAX™. There was a well developed program of topics and speakers. Also, toured their new Turfgrass Field Research Laboratory, a $1.4 million office-lab building plus field plots. The latter has been constructed with an elaborate subsurface drainage, irrigation, and surface contour system specifically for turfgrass research. Turfgrass planting begins in the spring. This will be a top class field research facility. A unique feature is offices that have been planned for the executive staffs of the major turfgrass organization of Ontario, plus the federal and provincial extension staffs.

January - Faro, Portugal.
Participated as a speaker for two 1/2 days at a 5-day European PGA Tour Greenkeepers Conference. It was fully organized and sponsored by the European PGA Tour. The greenkeepers from each of the competition sites were invited to attend. It was a unique group assembled from countries throughout Europe who have common concerns. The interaction was very beneficial for all in attendance. The Asian and United States PGA Tour groups could learn from the approach.

January - Anaheim, California.
Presented a talk on the Institute's research on rolling of putting greens at the GCSAA International Turfgrass Conference and Show. A large, standing-room-only crowd showed a major interest in the first research to be conducted on this practice. A summary paper appeared in the last TURFAX™. The week could be summarized by too-many meetings and too-little time, especially to get around the exhibit floor. Was good to visit with Institute Affiliates from Australia, England, France, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Sweden, and U.S.

February - Matteson - Chicago, Illinois.
Gave a half-day Turfgrass Research Seminar on (a) high-sand root zones stabilized with the randomly oriented, interlocking mesh element system and (b) rapid turf establishment via the washed sod technique. The washed sod method is generating a lot of interest.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE:

Do not confuse low temperature kill or hardiness with chilling injury or low temperature discoloration. They are distinctly different physiological processes.

Low temperature kill involves the death of any turfgrass that occurs as a result of internal tissue ice formation at temperatures below 0°C (32°F). Chilling injury occurs only on warm-season turfgrasses at temperatures of 12 to 18°C (54-60°F) that cause a loss of chlorophyll/green color in the shoots/leaves, but the turf is only winter dormant and not killed. Note: Warm-season turfgrass species and cultivars that retain their color longest into the autumn tend to have the poorest winter low temperature hardiness.

Winterkill is a general, all-encompassing term. Be sure to identify the specific cause of any kill. The major causes are: (a) direct low temperature kill, (b) winter desiccation or drying, and (c) winter diseases.