American Sod Producers Association To Stage 2nd Nat'l. Field Day On July 30

"Calling all sod growers!" That's the gist of efforts this month by George B. Hammond, executive-secretary of the American Sod Producers Association. Hammond who lives at Columbus, O., and operates Paint Valley Bluegrass Farm has spent most of the last few weeks lining up exhibitors and making arrangements for the second national field day of the ASPA.

This year a major field demonstration, expected to attract a high percentage of the nation's growers, is being held at Shamrock Turf Nursery, Hanna, Indiana, on July 30.

Growers will see practically every type of sod harvesting and handling equipment on the job. Don Morrill, owner of Shamrock Turf Nursery, and host for the big day, has set aside a sod field for equipment to work. This is an area just beyond a stationary exhibit booth area. All makers of sod producing, harvesting, maintenance, and handling equipment are expected to exhibit. Most will also demonstrate their equipment.

ASPA's first field day last summer at Lansing, Mich., brought together the greatest array of equipment designed for the sod grower ever seen at any one location. Growers attending were astounded at the variety. This is logical since growers had just organized as a national group and the industry is relatively new. More equipment is expected this second year.

Ben O. Warren, Warren Turf Nurseries, Palos Park, Ill., president of ASPA, stresses that all growers are invited, and urged to attend, regardless of whether or not they are members of the association. No registration fee will be charged and a box lunch will be available at the noon hour.

Two tours of Shamrock Turf Nursery are scheduled for the morning of July 31, one at 10:00 a.m. and the second at 11:00 a.m. Host Don Morrill will conduct these and growers will see his 200 acres of Merion bluegrass plus a small acreage of the new Fylking which he is growing at this location. Registration will precede these tours and is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. However, late arrivals may register until noon.

Following the lunch hour, equipment field demonstrations will be held from 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. Each manufacturer

Event: ASPA Field Day
Where: Shamrock Turf Nursery, Hanna, Indiana
When: July 30, 1968
Sponsor: American Sod Producers Association
Host: Don Morrill, Shamrock Turf Nursery
Special Type Mower
For Irrigation Pipe

Green Valley Turf Company, Littleton, Colo., has solved the common problem of mowing under irrigation pipe. Manager of the 400-acre sod farm, J. R. "Rusty" Wilkins, and K. C. Ensor, president, designed a shielded irrigation pipe line mower to supplement the gang mower.

Basically the unit is made up with three 18-inch Jacobson turbo cones. Mounted on a regular tractor it can be used to mow at any time without moving irrigation pipe.

Green Valley irrigates at a rate approaching 2 million gallons daily from wells. Irrigation pipe of 1 1/4" and 2" sizes are used. Wilkins says the system consists of 5500 heads of 1 1/4" size on as many pieces of pipe, and 2500 additional heads and 6000 pieces of pipe of the 2" size. Rainbird sprinklers are automatically sequenced by time-control valves.