without problems. The top five varieties, including pounds to tear were: Nugget, 168; Pennstar, 167; Fylking, 158; Pp-1, 155; and A-54, 146. Belturf, Merion, Captain, PSU k-107 and Jamestown Red Fescue all rated 140 or above.

— Most sod varieties exhibited an increase in sod strength between June and August.

— In a mixture study of six varieties — Fylking, Merion, Newport, Park, Prato and Windsor in 11 different combinations — those blends containing Fylking tended to rank higher in sod strength.

— An evaluation of sod strength for 11 mixtures of Merion, Pennlawn Red Fescue and other varieties in demand for areas having both sunlight and shade) disclosed that mixtures containing as little as 30% Merion on a seed number basis gave comparable sod strength to the five highest ranking variety mixtures.

Studies of sod heating since 1966 indicate that:

— Mowing at 0.75 inch and removing the clippings are the most effective ways to reduce sod-heating injury.

— A high nitrogen rate (5 lb. N/1,000 sq. ft.) applied five days before harvest was detrimental to the sod. Respiration rate and percent kill were significantly increased; root production was significantly decreased.

Reports From Europe Trip

Dr. Beard and Dr. Paul E. Rieke reported on their trip to the International Turfgrass Society in Harrogate, England, and a subsequent inspection of turfgrass areas in a number of European countries.

Some general conclusions, they reported, were that the British are considerably behind the U.S. in turfgrass culture and maintenance; that Sweden, in some respects, is ahead of the U.S., particularly in the area of sports turf maintenance.

Solna Stadium in Stockholm, they reported, exhibited excellent grass, despite the fact that 90 games of soccer are played on the field a year. At Soderstadium, also in Stockholm, the field is in use 260 days of the year, to include flooding and freezing it for winter sport games.

At least a couple dozen stadiums were equipped with underground heating systems. Dr. Beard could think of only two or three in this country, one being at Green Bay, Wis., home field of the Green Bay Packers.