The biggest breakthrough in the greening of America began in 1970. That's when turfgrass specialists at Pennsylvania State University completed development of a remarkable fine-leafed perennial ryegrass with all the advantages of ryegrass. And none of the drawbacks. They called it Pennfine.

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See your John Deere utility equipment dealer—he has both the ideas and the product support programs to match his turf and landscape equipment. John Deere, Moline, Illinois.

JOHN DEERE on the move
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Wherever annual weed

"Out here, crabgrass is our biggest complaint, and Balan in the spring works like a charm."

"Around these parts, we're faced with goosegrass/crowfoot in the summer, then when our Bermuda-grass goes dormant, Poa annua's the problem. So we use Balan twice."

"Sometimes we use Balan in the early spring for crabgrass, but if goosegrass is a problem we apply Balan later to get it as it germinates."

"If you've a goosegrass/crowfoot problem, a shot of Balan early in the summer takes care of that problem; but nothing makes our courses look worse than green patches of Poa after the Bermuda's gone dormant, so we apply Balan in the fall, too."

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Grasses are the problem...

"Around here, our main problem is crabgrass in the fairways, so we use Balan in the spring. It's so economical we treat fairways and the roughs."

"Almost every course in the South has two main weed grass problems: Poa annua and goosegrass/crowfoot. Two applications of Balan gets rid of them both."

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My question or comment to the editor is . . .

Weeds Trees and Turf is glad to answer your questions or publish your comments on any green industry topic. Questions will be answered by industry experts in the Vegetation Management or Proscape columns. Comments will appear in the Letters or Viewpoint columns.
A recent editorial on landscape industry trade journals by Morton Herrman, president of the California Landscape and Irrigation Council, in its publication the Professional Landscape Contractor brought up a number of controversial points.

As editor of a landscape industry trade journal, I'd like to answer some of Herrman's charges. First, you can read what he had to say, and then I'll tell you what I think.

**Industry neglected**

"I feel that our segment of the industry has been sadly neglected by the California-based trade publications. For one reason or another their editorial staffs seem bound-to their desks, and are reluctant to pick up their telephones or leave their offices to find out what's happening in the industry. They seem more dedicated to soliciting advertising than in serving the needs of their readers in the landscape design and contracting professions. When was the last time you saw a story about an imaginative landscape construction project, or any kind of relevant, in-depth story on a landscape contractor or architect in one of our commercial trade publications?" Herrman.

**Mr. Herrman's remarks** should not be limited to California-based publications. He is right, to a great extent we are chained to our desks by the size of the task on hand and the staff available to do it. Trade magazines in the Green Industry rarely have more than two full-time editors. But, there is no excuse for not using the phone. We estimate that road time costs $750 per week, a significant sum for any organization. We have to use it where it makes the most impact, such as for major trade shows. In 1979, however, we plan to attend more regional shows to improve our ties with regional interests.

Trade magazines can very easily forget the reader and become solely a tool for advertisers. This is why a trade magazine should have completely separate sales and editorial departments. The editor must defend his professional goal to serve his readers at all times. But, you should remember that without advertisers there are no trade magazines. Subscriptions, although very important for magazine stability, usually represent less than ten percent of gross revenue. You can't disregard 90 percent of your business, can you?

I agree that the landscape contractor has not received worthy coverage at times in the past few years. We have made a concerted effort to cover problems affecting landscaping contracting this past year and profiled at least four firms. Please read the articles on the landscape contractor/architect/nurseryman relationship in 1978. The architect has a fine publication through the American Society of Landscape Architects. The Associated Landscape Contractors of America has made great strides in serving the specialized needs of contractors through new affiliation with state and regional associations. Perhaps California should strengthen its ties with the national groups and stop depending on state publications and groups entirely.

**Culture not our concern**

"I get so bored with the endless parade of tedious articles on turfgrass culture and rare ornamental diseases. How much more can you say about a blade of grass that hasn't been said before? We let the growers worry about plant culture and all those dreaded, little-known diseases. If a problem shows up on one of our landscape jobs, we call the grower who sold us the stuff, or some other professional who is far more qualified to diagnose and solve the problem than we are." Herrman.

A contractor who installs only and leaves the problem solving to someone else is making a terrible personal and professional mistake. Asking for help when needed is one thing, but leaving all "culture" to others goes against the principle that a person should strive to know all there is to know about his field. You are not a plumber or electrician who can install and forget. You are dealing with living organisms which are complex and susceptible to disease and insect attack, not inert wires and pipe.

Many people feel offended by seemingly over sophisticated articles written by our major extension agronomists and arborists. For this reason we try to rephrase such research in staff written material. Researchers are learning to write more on an understandable level, but they can't change overnight. They want to help and get their findings to as many readers as possible. However, it would be wrong to restrict this material to research journals only. Many readers need it.

You may pass the buck to the grower, but the general contractor is looking to you for answers. You must at least be able to make a general diagnosis to know which expert to call.

I greatly disapprove of layering knowledge in landscape contracting or any turf and tree field. There is a great deal to know about a blade of grass, especially when improved turfgrass varieties are considered. The contractor has to ask the grower for improved turfgrass in sod, not the other way around. When a certain tree species fails to survive in your area more than 20 percent of the time, you are the one to alert the growers and to signal a need for research on the problem.

The future of landscape contracting is in broadening knowledge, not dividing it. The design/build firm, the nurseryman contractor, and the arborist contractor are doing well today because they offer the most from a single source for customers. To grow in this way requires a vast amount and breadth of information. This information is what we, as trade editors, are trying to provide. Reject it if you like. But many readers want it, need it, and ask for more.
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**Ross Super Fruit Tree Stakes**!

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Focus continues on economical heat

Dependence upon fossil fuels for greenhouse operations could be greatly reduced if researchers continue to make progress in developing ways to heat greenhouses with solar energy, according to Professor Louis D. Albright, agricultural engineer at the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University.

Albright is hopeful up to 80 percent of the heating needs of greenhouses could be met with solar energy. The greenhouse industry currently spends more than a quarter of a billion dollars per year in fuel costs to heat about 10,000 acres of greenhouse space.

In an attempt to combat rising fuel costs Cornell researchers are developing a four-part system to heat greenhouses more economically. The system consists of the use of night covers, water bags, variable night temperatures, and a computerized environmental control unit which would automatically combine a number of energy-saving devices.

The researchers have already succeeded in reducing nighttime heating needs by as much as 90 percent by covering plants with a multi-layer, high-insulation night cover called a "thermal blanket." The blanket consists of five layers of cloth covered with aluminum foil. The air space created between the layers insulates the plants from the cold. The bag could provide a 67 percent savings in overall fuel consumption, according to Albright.

A second cover, designed to enclose the sides of the plant, is made of layers of cloth and a sheet of plastic containing air bubbles. The covers are drawn over and around the plants and provide an insulation R-value of 10 to 11, Albright said.

The researchers are also testing long plastic water tubes, called Q-Mat, designed to collect and store solar energy during the day and help heat the greenhouse throughout the night. The so-called "water bags" are placed between rows of potted plants, actually touching the pots, and can be easily adapted to a wide variety of greenhouse growing systems, according to Albright.

"It functions as a collector, a thermal storage, and a retrieval heat exchanger, all in one. Calculations show that the device could meet night heating needs, except those nights following very cloudy days," he said.

The third phase of the research involves studying the affects night temperature variations have on plants. In three tests with lettuce where temperatures were programmed to decline steadily from 77° to 59° during the night, researchers found the plants did just as well as when the temperatures were constant.

"The night temperature variation already tested is a big step in the direction of conserving energy and making greater use of solar energy," Albright said. "With the lowest greenhouse temperature at dawn, coinciding with the lowest outside temperature, late night heating needs are decreased."

In the final phase of the study researchers are developing a computerized environmental control system containing a microprocessor which would automatically combine the three energy saving devices already mentioned. A prototype of the control system is expected to be developed within a year and researchers at Cornell are hoping to construct two identical greenhouses in 1979 to test all four components in an integrated system.

"In effect, the greenhouse will become a programmable plant growth chamber, resulting in more efficient use of solar energy," Albright said.

Natural control found for Japanese beetle

An extremely potent natural control for the Japanese beetle has been discovered in the seed of the Indian-African neem tree, according to Dr. Thyril Ladd, of the USDA Science and Education Administration's Japanese Beetle Research Laboratory in Wooster, Ohio.

Neem said the oilseed extract, which has a garlic-like odor, repelled a group of beetles so strongly that they starved before taking a bite of sassafras leaves applied with the extract. The beetles were also repelled for 14 days from soy beans treated with the extract, while untreated plants in the same field were totally consumed.

Dr. Ladd said the seed extract "is a natural material and is not expected to be a hazard to the environment." Although there are only two neem trees known to be growing in the United States, one in Miami and the other in Coral Gables, Fla., there is a good possibility the tree will grow well in southern Florida.

Disease meeting to be in Columbus, Ohio

Cosponsored by Ohio State University, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and Chemlawn Corporation, A SYMPOSIUM ON TURFGRASS DIS-
EASES will be held at the University Holiday Inn in Columbus, Ohio on May 15-17.

Leading turfgrass disease specialists from the United States and Canada have agreed to participate. Anyone interested in current problems associated with control of turfgrass diseases is welcome to attend and should benefit from the speakers’ comments.

The proceedings of the meeting will be published and should serve as a valuable reference on turfgrass diseases. For further information, write: A SYMPOSIUM ON TURFGRASS DISEASES 1979, 2865 E. Orange Rd., Galena, OH 43021, or call: Dr. P.O. Larsen at 614/422-6987 or Dr. B.G. Joyner at 614/885-9588.

TURFGRASS
Pest slides available from NY Turf Assoc.

Two 35-millimeter slide sets, one concerning turfgrass insects of the Northeast and the other about turfgrass diseases, are available from the New York State Turfgrass Association.

Dr. Haruo Tashiro of the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station developed the 76-slide program concerning turfgrass insects and Dr. Richard Smiley, also of Cornell, compiled the 66-slide set about the identification and control of turfgrass diseases.

The sets can be purchased from NYSTA at a cost of $20 for New York residents and $25 for out-of-state residents. Checks should be made payable to the New York State Turfgrass Association and mailed to Ann Reilly, Secretary, 210 Cartwright Blvd., Massapequa Park, NY 11762.

TURFGRASS
High salt, pH tolerant grass found in Colorado

A new perennial grass variety that could be on the market as early as this year, thrives in situations where the soil pH is a very high, salty 8.2-8.5.

Fults Puccinellia distans is intended initially for use along highways, rights-of-way and roadside boulevards. There are also plans for use of the variety on fine turf areas such as golf courses with salty soils, or places that have alkaline irrigation water.

Northrup King Co., Minneapolis, presently has production and marketing rights. The company is contemplating seeking Plant Variety Protection under federal law.

Fults was discovered when Stan Metsker, then superintendent at the Boulder Country Club, Boulder, Colo., noticed patches of a grass growing in salty areas of the fairways. Professor Jesse Fults of the Colorado State University Weed Research Lab, identified the grass as Puccinellia distans, and was responsible for the initial collecting, purification and seed increase of the variety. The grass was ultimately named after Professor Fults.

Fults has been seeded in roadside trials in Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois, and has shown excellent persistence in salty areas where even tall fescue has failed to survive, according to Larry Vetter, manager of the Professional Turf Products Division for Northrup King.

A seed mixture for fine turf areas could also include Fults, plus Kentucky bluegrass, fine-leaved perennial ryegrasses, and/or fine fescues such as the salt-tolerant Dawson red fescue, Vetter added.

He said that a combination of these species will provide quick cover, good turf quality, and long-term persistence. It can also be seeded with bentgrass. Fults is expected to have uses on golf courses in areas where irrigation water is highly alkaline.

Fults is a low-growing bunch-type grass. Maximum unmown height, inclusive of seed heads, is between 12 and 16 inches. Plants are leafy and the leaves narrow. The color is dark green, which tends to darken on alkaline soils.

ASSOCIATION
New York Nurserymen elect new officers

Henry Weller, Congdon & Weller, North Collins, was elected president of the New York State Nurserymen’s Association at the annual meeting, January 11.

Jack Lander, Jack Lander’s Landscaping, Newburgh, was elected first vice president and Arthur H. Steffen, Arthur H. Steffen, Inc., was elected second vice president.

Frank Ferraro, Bianco & Ferraro, Washington Mills, is the new treasurer. Secretary is James Cross, Environmentalists, Inc., Cutchogue.

Alfred Krautter, Sprainbrook Nursery in Scarsdale, is director-at-large.

ASSOCIATION
Florida Turf-Grass elects new officers

Members of the Florida Turfgrass Association recently elected new officers at their 26th Annual Conference and Show in Orlando, Fla.

Those elected to serve in 1979 were C. Wayne Sloan (president), Harvey E. Phillips (vice president), and James D. Carter (secretary-treasurer).

Sloan is assistant vice president of community facilities for Gulfstream Land & Development Corp., Phillips is superintendent of the Belleview Biltmore Hotel & Golf Course, and Carter is president of Bingham Seed Co. Six directors were also elected at the conference.
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**FERTILIZER**

**Organic waste said to be incomplete**

A report recently released by Secretary of Agriculture Bergland says most organic wastes are incomplete fertilizers and must be supplemented.

Stressing the value of organic waste for controlling erosion and improving tilth, the report concluded that it cannot provide enough nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus.

The majority of wastes used are animal manures and crop residues. Other organic wastes, including sludge, and municipal and industrial, are not used according to the report.

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**LANDSCAPE**

**Management clinic to be in Louisville, Feb. 18**

The Landscape/Garden Center Management Clinic will be held at the Galt House in Louisville, Ky. Feb. 18-21.

The clinic will feature a wide variety of activities including panel discussions, speeches, award presentations, new product exhibits, and audio/visual presentations.

A number of prominent individuals in both the landscape and garden fields are also scheduled to speak at the clinic. Landscape architect and author Gary O. Robinette will discuss “Landscape Design to Reduce Maintenance Needs,” Paul Uenaka, of the Springdale Garden Center in California, will cover “Professionalism in the Garden Center Business,” and Dave Bowen, of High Yield Management in Boulder, Colo., will discuss “Motivating Employees for Profit.”

Pre-registration fee is $70 per person for the total four-day program and $55 for the two-day landscape and garden center clinics. Registration at the clinic costs an additional $5.

The clinic is being co-sponsored by the National Landscape Association and the Garden Centers of America.

For further information contact the Landscape/Garden Center Management Clinic, 230 Southern Building, Washington, D.C. 20005.
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CULTIVAR PERFORMANCE IN SOD BLENDS AND MIXTURES

Dr. Robert W. Schery, The Lawn Institute

The modern-day sod grower not only must be a good businessman, but he should have sophisticated appreciation of trends within the industry. One trend gaining momentum is the planting of top-flight proprietary cultivars, marketed as seed of exceptionally high quality ("sod quality" is the watchword for premium quality seed in the trade). With a wealth of proprietary cultivars from which to choose nowadays, blends (multiple cultivars of a single species) and mixtures (multiple species) are more and more employed. In the Chicago area, perhaps nearest thing to birthplace for the modern sod industry, Ben Warren confirms that almost all sod is blended today, although not many years ago it consisted almost entirely of a Merion monoculture.

Both artistry and practicality are involved in sod production; combinations must reflect costs, but even more so performance of the end product. While most sod purchasers know rather little about individual lawngrass cultivars, they are appreciative of sod quality. Sales advantage does accrue from the publicity constantly being accorded the new proprietary cultivars. Thus some "pull" results from demand for elite grasses, although equally important is the "push" provided by sod growers wishing to demonstrate leadership. In any event, no longer is there only Merion, but rather a swelling list of topflight cultivars (table).

The blend and mixture concept

Utilizing a diverse assortment of genetic strains for turf is not a new idea. Indeed, nature has employed a mixture of species since time immemorial in her native prairies. And for years seedsmen have combined species for home lawn seeding, better to provide some grass suited to varying conditions, knowing that the typical home owner is not expert on what to choose specifically. Thus there has been some ryegrass for quick cover, some fine fescue for shade, along with bluegrass as a sod-forming basic. Independent opinion from college extension has always backed this idea, in realization that a monoculture is difficult to maintain without professional management. Throughout Europe mixtures are standard for seeding wear-tolerant athletic fields, and reports abounded at the most recent International Turfgrass Research Conference on mixtures and blends. Thus theory and practical results seem to concur, and lawnseed mixtures enjoy widespread usage.

As demand for lawn quality increased, conflicting eddies occurred in the stream of progress. Monocultures of elegant types, especially Merion, became "high fashion", although they are the most difficult to keep impeccable. Style called for uniformity, practical wisdom for diversity! Old-time "common" grasses carried a good measure of genetic variability within them, harvested as they

Research by Jacklin Seed Co. and Turf Seed shows some evidence of disease reduction by including perennial ryegrass in a bluegrass mixture.
were from an assortment of locations and biotypes. But a single selection, chosen for especial elegance and perpetuated apomictically (i.e. almost all seeds carrying the same heredity as the parent plant), risked an epidemic from any weakness that might surface. A new strain of disease, for example, could spread like wildfire, wiping out the population. Dr. A. J. Turgeon of Illinois, in his presentation to the Third International Turfgrass Conference in Munich in 1977, pretty well sums up prevailing opinion:

"Combining different turfgrass species and cultivars provides a turf with a broader genetic base than where single cultivars are planted alone. The presumed benefits of mixtures and blends include: better adaptation to local environmental conditions and a reduced potential for disease development. The disadvantages are: reduced uniformity of the turf and the eventual dominance of one component grass in some cases."

Of course the solution has encompassed a two-fold approach. First of all, newly bred varieties are screened for tolerance to commonplace ills. Thus modern cultivars are by and large not only better-looking, but more disease-resistant, denser, lower-growing, and all-around better adapted for lawns than were the old pasture-type common grasses. Secondly, two or more cultivars (as well as mixtures of species) are mechanically blended to introduce genetic diversity. It is not difficult to come up with compatible cultivars which give the illusion of single-strain monoculture, but which carry a good degree of assurance against epidemic disease or other threats to performance. It seems as if the future lies in this direction for the sod industry.

Practicality of operations

Theory favoring blends and mixtures is well and fine, but a sod grower needs to know just what combination is best for his particular operations. Hard and fast answers are few and far between. Even where a cultivar is well known, as with Merion and Fylking bluegrasses, were planted in combination. With adequate fertilization, aggressive Merion seemed on the verge of squeezing Fylking out of the stand, — until along came stripe smut and turned the tables. It well may be that if two cultivars are so very much alike as to be all but indistinguishable, that in time one will drive the other out of the population (a principle of ecology, the law of competitive exclusion, states that two quite similar organisms cannot co-exist indefinitely in a stable environment). Under standardized lawn maintenance perhaps the greatest advantage from blends comes in the initial years, after which the grass population will become dominated by one or another cultivar that has proven supremely successful under prevailing conditions? But since we can't predict which cultivars will triumph any better than we can forecast the weather or chance of new strains of disease, it makes sense to start a "full field" of candidate grasses, letting survival-of-the-fittest make the decisions.

Turf experts attempt to recognize cultivars for their compatibility in blends. Ordinarily, it would seem inadvisable to combine an aggressive cultivar with an extremely weak competitor. Michigan State experts recommend for blending only "strong" cultivars that resist all diseases (viz. Adelphi, Majestic, Touchdown bluegrasses, for example). New Jersey recommendations call for at least one cultivar in a bluegrass blend to have leafspot and stripe smut resistance. But I am amazed constantly how much of a secondary grass seems to show up when a dominant one gives ground, either seasonally, or because of unforeseen environmental changes. As a matter of fact I wonder whether even the experts can be sure of distinguishing one cultivar from another in a mixed turf; sometimes it is relatively simple, as with cultivars that green up differentially in early spring or exhibit differing morphology at a particular time. But when the whole population is growing lushly and being regularly mowed, I myself am seldom sure in making stand counts. It is often difficult to distinguish even between species (I remember trekking a golf course some years ago with one of the most eminent turfmen of the times, who could not say what species we were examining on a particular fairway!).

Certainly, in compounding blends and mixtures, one looks for grasses that offer complementary features. Should a cultivar be sensitive to cold, drought, harsh mowing, or whatnot? It is well to have others present not so sensitive to that particular factor. VPI utilizes this approach in the mid-Atlantic region, even calling for at least ten percent common bluegrass to supplement the improved cultivars in case low maintenance should prevail. New Jersey (Rutgers) suggests for park-type turf 60-75% bluegrass (including at least two improved cultivars), 10-20% fine fescue, 10-20% "turf-type" perennial ryegrass. Indeed, there is some evidence that certain grasses may buoy others. Jacklin research has noted that Citation seed, has noticed that having bluegrass with perennial ryegrass sometimes helps restrict disease on a bluegrass component. Dr. Meyer, at Turf-Seed, has noticed that having bluegrass with perennial ryegrass reduces incidence of red thread and fusarium! Of course all risk can't be avoided simply by planting a blend or a mixture, for inadvertent weather changes and other unpredictables are sure to make a mockery of the best laid plans.
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REGAL

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(Murphy's law, — if anything can go wrong it will, — applies to turfgrass culture as well as to other endeavors).

Each sod grower has to gain experience with seeding formulae suited to his operations. We have noted that a cultivar may be quite aggressive under certain conditions, but not under others. For example a Touchdown Kentucky bluegrass may withstand low mowing especially well, or a Nugget bluegrass make a superlative turf in northerly locations where dollarspot is at a minimum. Certain strengths can be found in any cultivar; after all, cultivars were bred for superiority of at least certain characteristics. Even if a cultivar is eventually dominated by others, it is not “wasted” in the seeding mixture. The game is “survival of the fittest”, and what if fittest under one circumstance may be entirely different from that under another mode of care or in another location. Which of a series of similar cultivars is “carrying the ball” is of no great concern in establishing sod. Just so long as grasses of good pedigree are planted nothing unsightly will crop up, and the sod will perform strongly.

**Some particulars**

The differences between species in a mixture are, of course, more profound than those distinguishing cultivars. But, again, it is not always possible to predict which species will dominate. I remember a number of years ago at the University of Rhode Island, two identical seedings were made on opposite sides of a walkway, the only difference being that one side had the fertilizer raked in, the other not. In one case bluegrass dominated, in the other fine fescue! On the Lawn Institute grounds we have from time to time seeded bluegrass-fine fescue combinations, and for no very apparent reason end up sometimes with a predominately fescue population, other times with one almost entirely of bluegrass. Sowings of Fylking bluegrass, Manhattan ryegrass and Jamestown fescue were made across contiguous background seedings of Glade and Majestic bluegrasses. Both Glade and Majestic have remained low and very attractive by themselves (seasonally there are some differences), have blended well with Fylking, have somewhat dominated the fescue, but have been dominated by the ryegrass. Under other conditions I am sure that results could differ dramatically.

“Under standardized lawn maintenance, perhaps the greatest advantage from blends comes in the initial years, after which the grass population will become dominated by one or another cultivar.”

Dr. Blazer, of VPI, believes strongly in the influence of management. With a mixture containing ryegrass he advocates quick initial mowing to keep the ryegrass from shading slower, smaller bluegrass (he would also restrict the amount of ryegrass in the mixture). He believes that ryegrass grows at lower temperatures than other species, so mowing should begin early and continue late in the season to help offset ryegrass dominance. He notes how bluegrass profits from cooler temperatures, abundant nitrogen, and restrained watering, as compared to many summer “weeds” (he utilizes clover as his example, but the analogy would apply equally well to crabgrass and other hot weather species). He has enabled bluegrass to conquer quackgrass simply through regulation of mowing height. Engel, in New Jersey, notes that irrigation of bluegrass-fescue combinations tends to eliminate the fescue. In the benign coastal climate of Santa Ana, California, all combinations of bluegrass-perennial ryegrass had the same appearance after some months, no matter the proportions sown.

One doesn’t have to be an ecologist to realize that height of mowing, timing of fertilization, irrigation regimen, soil pH, and so on, can all influence which species in a seeding mixture will gain dominance. The same seems true for cultivars. Penn State research (Sheffer, Watschke and Duich) has shown variable bluegrass cultivar response to changes in mowing height. Certainly Dr. Murray’s (USDA) investigations indicate differential adaptability of bluegrasses to strong acidity. While it is unlikely any sod grower would fail to adjust pH to a favorable near-neutral stance, it might be reassuring with sod sold in acid-soil regions to know that cultivars such as Fylking, Glade, Plush and Ram I are present, — bluegrasses which are especially tolerant of acidity.

A pretty fair national dossier on the more prominent cultivars results from ratings in various regions. This affords a clue as to what to expect, even if not certainty. One impressive piece of direct evidence favoring blends over monocultures comes from the Rutgers “Blend-38” sowing,
needs not be neglected. How turf is managed is still of monumental importance, no matter the cultivars planted. A well prepared soilbed, consistent irrigation after transplanting, fertilization, considerate mowing, and occasional help with pests, are not too much to ask of a turf custodian.

"Engel, in New Jersey, notes that irrigation of bluegrass-fescue combinations tends to eliminate the fescue."

**Commercial considerations**

It is apparent that the new proprietary turf-grasses offer considerable opportunities, not only for superior sod, but for promotional recognition. Advertising and publicity sponsored by proprietors elicit cognizance of top cultivar names. One has only to glance through the advertisements in magazines such as this to realize how far-reaching are these promotional efforts. Response is strong among leading horticulturists, who in turn influence others through articles, columns, and everyday leadership. Lawn service organizations, though seldom involved with planting lawngrass, are an increasingly potent force for spreading basic information and varietal acclaim.

Kentucky bluegrass remains backbone to the sod industry, except for the deep South where St. Augustine and other warm-weather species may be offered. No better sod-forming species than bluegrass can be had; its roots and rhizomes knit a sod of remarkable strength. Some cultivars yield sod of slightly greater shear strength than others, but changed conditions generally overshadow natural differences. Experience has clearly shown that a little bluegrass is sufficient to bind a great amount of bunchgrass or species which rhizome weakly (e.g. Chewings fescues, Michigan; tall fescues, Virginia-Maryland and southern Illinois). The length of time necessary to mature a sod will vary with the climate; it may take two growing-seasons in the Rocky Mountain states, but as little as a few months in California flatlands.

"In general, combinations rate better than individual cultivars in the same combination."

For the most part the sod industry seems to have resisted inclusion of perennial ryegrasses in sod, a bunchgrass not strongly sod-forming. But from the business standpoint perennial ryegrass would seem to have potentiality for speeding up sod maturation, since the species sprouts and grows so rapidly. Now that many sod growers are turning to woven nettings to hold sod together, so that it may be lifted and sold at an earlier stage of maturity,
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we may see greater interest in such "turf-type" perennial ryegrasses as are listed in the table. These cultivars are just as attractive as is Kentucky bluegrass, and as was mentioned may be synergistic in preventing disease. In order to obtain adequate bluegrass representation, perennial ryegrass must be limited in the seeding mixture, and the stand managed to retrain it from overwhelming slower bluegrass. Seeding rates for sod generally

"Now that many sod growers are turning to woven netting to hold sod together, so that it may be lifted and sold at an earlier stage of maturity, we may see greater interest in turf type perennial ryegrasses."

run about 80 pounds to the acre. Higher rates could provide greater density more quickly, and especially with larger-seeded cultivars such as perennial ryegrass (with only a fifth as many seeds to the pound as most bluegrasses have) seeding

rates may require proportionate increase. No material difference in fertilization should be required with differing blends and mixtures, fertilization needs being tied more to soil conditions than to kind of grass or seeding rate.

All in all it does appear as though the sod industry has reached a vantage point from which it can benefit broadly by utilizing the new proprietary cultivars for blends and mixtures suited to various regions. Such sod should have enhanced sales appeal. Cultivars like those listed in the table would certainly seem worth considering.

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THE GREENER KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS
TABLE 1 — Examples of modern-day lawn cultivars that might be used for sod blends and mixtures. They are specially selected or bred for particular uses, tend to be lower-growing, more attractive, and less prone to disease than common lawn grass.

**Bluegrass** (*Poa pratensis*) — Easily cared-for, best sod grass; prefers good soil; modern cultivars tolerate most diseases. Adelphi — dependable, with all-around merit Arboretum — persistent low-maintenance “old-fashioned” selection Baron — vigorous in early years, widely adapted and much used in mixtures Birka — attractive, persistent under low maintenance Bonnieblue — moderately competitive, high quality Ennundi — rates well everywhere, seems compatible Fylking — non-aggressive beauty in dependable supply Glade — good general qualities, plus shade tolerance too Majestic — especially decumbent, not too aggressive and blending well Merion — long the standard; new hybrid in the offing Nugget — very dense, endures shade, stronger northward Plush — broad adaptability with heat and drought tolerance, gaining acclaim Ram I — good persistence, excellent in blends Sydsport — robust, vigorous, of good general quality Touchdown — high-rating, unusually dense under low mowing

**Fescues** (*Festuca rubra*, in variety) — Great in shade, poor soil and low maintenance. Banner — dense, multi-clone polycross from eastern USA Chewings bloodlines Ensylva — spreading fescue, low-growing and well-adapted to mixtures; from Holland Highlight — elegant beauty in a dense Chewings variety; bred in Holland Koket — enjoys high ratings; a strong performing Chewings type from Holland Ruby — a spreading variety, much used in bluegrass mixtures; from Holland

**Perennial Ryegrass** (*Lolium perenne*) — Fast-starting and aggressive, attractive cover quickly. Blazer — one of the newer releases showing much promise Citation — an excellent “turf type” polycross with muted aggressiveness Derby — polycross with all the good features typical of modern releases Diplomat — a complex polycross from Rutgers with excellent credentials Fiesta — a promising release similar to Blazer Manhattan — outstanding, hardy, pace-setter for “new breed” NK-200 — unusual winter-hardiness adds to general attractiveness Omega — classical elegance combines with good performance Pennfine — an aggressive polycross from Penn State rating among the best Regal — a fine new polycross in the image of Derby Yorktown — an excellent all-purpose polycross of “aristocratic” mein
Derby is the dark green beauty which joined Manhattan and Pennfine on the "highly preferred list of ryegrasses." That was last year. Now Derby is setting a new standard of excellence.

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HOW TO PREPARE AND MAINTAIN A BASEBALL FIELD IN THE WEST

Most of the baseball turf that Dr. Kent Kurtz, Cal Poly in Pomona, Calif., sees is hybrid bermuda, some Kentucky bluegrass. "In this immediate area, the Tifgreen bermuda stands up to the close mowing better than the bluegrass because of the higher summer temperatures," he says. "I have seen some pretty decent bluegrass infields in some of the college stadiums."

Not too much baseball is played during the winter months, even in California, but most of the fields are overseeded with either annual or perennial ryegrass, Kentucky bluegrass or a mixture.

The Anaheim stadium is Tifgreen bermuda and the San Diego stadium is Tifway. The Dodger’s stadium is Tifgreen, overseeded every winter with a Kentucky bluegrass, perennial ryegrass mixture. Going into the spring period, mowing heights are lowered and the Tifgreen takes over again.

Choosing the right grass is important, Dr. Kurtz stresses. "There are a couple of fields out here that have used tall fescue in the outfield, 100 percent, college fields, that is. Their whole point was to get a grass out there that would slow the ball down."

"There’s not any reason why tall fescue could not be used as an outfield turf," he adds. "It’s a grass that’s really transition zone. You’ve got to seed it heavy, 12 pounds per thousand, to crowd the clumps close together. If you mow it at about one inch, you should have a pretty adequate field. Out here it’ll stay green all year round.

"We’ve recommended it to some high schools, for the outfield, not the infield, because it doesn’t go dormant and performs well under stress and drought and it is fairly wear tolerant.

"Dormant season for most bermudas here is late November through about mid-February. It depends on the area. In the desert, it’ll be a little longer, maybe the last of October to the first part of March. Near Phoenix, it’s October through March.

"At the University of Arizona, they overseed the infield with annual ryegrass. So does Arizona State. They play a lot of winter ball there. They overseed at rates of 8-12 pounds per thousand.

"Mowing heights are not necessarily higher after overseeding because it is done in the winter months when it is cool. There’s no reason to go really high, maybe up to about an inch, or an inch and a quarter. There’s not much stress, it’s cool at night, and doesn’t get much over 70 during the day.

"Bluegrass and perennial ryegrass more or less subside during the summer. They don’t really die out, they just kind of subside and let the bermuda take over during the hot weather. It’s a pretty good marriage. A lot of the bluegrass and ryegrass comes back in the fall.

"Drainage is a problem on baseball fields. Some fields are sloped from the pitchers mound to the edge of the infield and you get a puddle behind second base. On some major league fields that are covered during a rain, the water ends up being dumped behind the infield. That’s generally the poorest drained area of the whole field. I would recommend tiling extensively, whether you’re starting a new field or improving an old one."

Soils

"We have soil types ranging from sandy loams to clays. Out here, what we do that they don’t in the Midwest and East, is amend the soils with organic materials. It depends on the soil type, but if you have a heavy clay, for example, and are starting from scratch, we would recommend probably somewhere in the area of 6-9 cubic yards of a decomposed bark material, nitrified bark. Worked in with the soil mix itself, the bark will improve percolation and infiltration of the water.

"For the skinned areas, we’re using crushed brick, a reddish material. It consists of 70 percent crushed brick (its a baked brick), 28 percent crushed vitrified clay, and 2 percent plaster sand. The sand is added to keep the consistency from tightening up after the material is put down. Otherwise it becomes too hard.

"The Angels in Anaheim Stadium use it. We’ve used it on our university infields and some of my former students are using it on their fields.

"It’s about a four-inch layer of this crushed brick over a base, in many cases clay. The base happens to be decomposed granite material in the Anaheim stadium, but the manager isn’t too happy with it. It just happened to be there.

"Starting from scratch, on the average major league infield, it would take about 150 tons. The stuff is running about $15.50 a ton plus shipping.

"The material is put down in three layers. The skinned area is ripped first, and then a layer of crushed brick is spread and worked in. Another layer is put down and worked in, and then another.
It takes a period of three days or so to finish the job. If you just dump it on the surface it will blow away.

"It requires about 25 tons a year for maintenance, after the initial applications. The material does work very easily. Prior to a game, the material is wetted lightly to keep dust down. Then it is very easy to drag and level off. The red color, from an aesthetic standpoint, provides a very nice contrast with the green turf.

"Over in Tucson, I've seen some basepaths primarily of sand materials, with a little soil. In other areas, they use a material referred to as "river bottom" soil.

**Fertilizing**

"Rates should be based on soil test, combined with visual observation. Many superintendents can look and say it either needs it or it doesn't. Hybrid bermuda will take up to 12 pounds of actual N per thousand per year. Whether it needs that much is another question. That would be the high side. On the low side, you're talking about six pounds.

"I generally tell people not to go over one pound of actual N per thousand per application. That's only if they're using soluble products, something like ammonium sulfate or nitrate. If they're

Continued on page 30

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**ADVICE FOR EASTERN FIELD MANAGERS**

Dr. Henry Indyk, Rutgers University, Cook College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, offers some advice for baseball field managers in that part of the country.

Dr. Indyk doesn't like a completely skinned ball field. He feels that play is better on turf, there is not a mud situation under wet conditions nor is there dust when the wind is blowing. However, he warns that a poorly maintained turf field can be worse than one completely skinned.

Initial construction specifications are very important. Proper grade needs to be established for water movement off the field, and a good drainage system for water to move through the soil.

He recommends using a 75-80 percent sand mixture in the infield for good water percolation. For the skinned areas, a 60 percent clay, 40 percent sand mixture will provide a firm surface for the players.

The skinned areas should be dragged with a light scarifying action to make the area smooth and to fill in uneven spots from play action. On a field with proper grade and contours, the water will move laterally, rather than ponding.

A good Kentucky bluegrass blend should be used. The density, quality and texture of the field is critical. A good height of cut for the infield is three-fourths to one inch during the season, with the outfield mowed a bit higher, perhaps.

The mowing height should be raised to one and one-half to two inches after the season to allow the turf to recover. Because the infield is mowed closer, it should be mowed frequently to avoid cutting any excessive length of leaf blade at any one mowing.

Fertilization practices should be similar to that of any well-maintained turf, but care should be taken not to get the turf too lush during the playing season. More wear and disease problems will result.

Dr. Indyk recommends a tall fescue mixture if the field endures a lot of use with low maintenance. A mixture of perhaps 75 percent K-31 tall fescue, with the remaining 25 percent split between Kentucky bluegrass and one of the perennial ryegrasses would provide a durable cover.

One of the big problems, Dr. Indyk feels, as far as general community fields, is that too often there are inadequate provisions for maintenance. A good field needs an organized, well planned, and well budgeted maintenance program.
With the Cushman 3- or 4-wheel Turf-Truckster® vehicle, you get a lot more than proven, economical turf transportation. You get the heart of a system that lets you do eight important turf jobs with one versatile power unit.

**PIN-DISCONNECT**
The secret of this versatility is the Cushman Pin-Disconnect system. Just put the attachment you need on the Turf-Truckster chassis, secure it with the large pull pins and you're ready to go. No special tools, no trailer to tow, no equipment to load and unload at the site.

**GREENSAVER® AERATOR**
The efficient, low-cost way to quickly aerate greens, tees or other turf areas. The Greensaver drum aerator attaches easily to either Turf-Truckster equipped with hydraulic system and dump kit. Three interchangeable drums let you use 1/2" or 3/8" coring tines, as well as slicing tines. You change drums according to varying soil conditions. The coring drums collect cores as you aerate up to 10 times faster than walk-type units.

**SPIKERS**
The Cushman Quick Spiker attaches to a Turf-Truckster with PTO, hydraulic system and dump kit. You spike a precise 57-inch swath, even over undulating ground, and raise or lower the unit hydraulically. The Trailing Spiker gives you the same width and precise results, but its built-in lifting mechanism is controlled by a pull rope.

**SHORT BOX & FLATBED/BOX**
These hauling and dumping attachments are mounted quickly with two pull pins. Bolt-on sides and tailgate convert the flatbed to a dump box. Both boxes can be dumped easily with either a manual or powered hydraulic dumping package. And either box is capable of hauling up to 1,000 lb. payloads.*

**SPRAYER**
Use this versatile attachment to spray greens, hard-to-reach roughs, fairways, trees, bushes. The polyethylene tank holds up to 100 gallons of chemical solution. The three-way boom provides an accurate spray for proper application and less chemical waste. The Turf-Truckster transmission and variable speed governor assure uniform ground speed. And the optional handgun lets you "fog" an area or spray up to 40' in the air.

*Rating for vehicle equipped with 9.50-8 rear tires.
WE GIVE YOU A TOTAL TURF-CARE SYSTEM.

SPREADER/SEEDER
The Cushman Cyclone Spreader/Seeder mounts on either the Short Box or the Flatbed/Box with a hopper that holds up to 300 pounds. All controls can be operated from the driver's seat, to broadcast over areas up to 40 feet wide, depending on materials.

TOP DRESSER
The Cushman Top Dresser eliminates the need for self-powered units and time-consuming walking. The moving bed and rotating brush operate at a controlled speed to maintain an even spreading pattern over a 31-1/2 inch swath. The big hopper can hold up to 1,000 pounds of material, from rock salt to fine, powdered materials.

QUICK AERATOR
The Cushman Quick Aerator is designed to slice greens and aerate fast. It attaches to either Turf-Truckster with just three pull pins. And is hydraulically lifted from the driver's seat for easy movement from green to green. Three tine types are available for varying soil conditions: slicing, coring (two sizes) and open spoon.

CUSHMAN RUNABOUT
The economical answer to basic transportation and light hauling requirements. The new 18-hp Runabout now carries two men, plus equipment and supplies, while the 12-hp model carries one man. Both feature a big pick-up box, exceptional maneuverability, and 3-speed transmission. The Cushman Runabout is the way to help your men do more work, and less walking.

Ask your Cushman Turf Dealer to show you all the time- and money-saving advantages of his turf-care equipment. Unlike other companies, Cushman gives you more than transportation. We give you a total turf-care system.

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using something like slow release IBDU, there's no reason they can't go up to four pounds per thousand of actual N without burning the turf.

"We tried it on both bluegrass and bermuda and found if we went four pounds, whether it was IBDU or ureaformaldehyde (UF), probably three applications per year, at four pounds would be best. Maybe applications in March, July and November, three applications well spaced throughout the year.

"The problem with slow release products is that when you run into cooler fall weather, you're not going to get much release, because the microorganisms are not as active. Even though they say the products don't require soil temperature, as far as we're concerned, they do.

"Two applications of a low release product, say in March and July, followed in the fall with a couple of applications of soluble products, would provide a better response. We use a soluble carrier in the winter here, basically because it is readily available."

**Irrigation**

"Water availability hasn't been a problem for the last two years. We have more now then we know what to do with.

"A lot of our sports fields are going to the tensiometer method. The tensiometer is hooked into the automatic watering system and the turf is irrigated on the basis of the soil's wetness, or dryness.

"Almost all of the fields are on automatic watering systems. Pretty much Toro and Rainbird. Both companies are local here.

"There's a lot of problems with irrigation, though. You set your time clocks, but that doesn't mean that you can forget it. Irrigation needs a lot of coordination, between both players, coaches and the entity that owns or operates the field.

"Sometimes, with soils like the heavy clays, on the automatic system, you can repeat cycles. Put a little bit on, come back in an hour or two, put a little bit more on and then a few more hours come back with another shot. The clay will absorb moisture slowly, but it will take it in. Otherwise, water runs off and doesn't do much good."

**Aerification**

"I would say that this is a very important aspect of baseball fields, because you don't want them to become too hard. They are subject to compaction.

"The turf areas of the field should be aerified at least twice a year, maybe four times a year for the infield. The plugs can be dragged in, if its a sandy type of soil, and the debris is picked up. If it is a poor soil, remove the plugs and then topdress with a material that's porous and will get into the aerification holes and keep the field open for drainage. It's particularly important in the infield.

"You want to keep the field as level, smooth and uniform as possible. The major leagues have got to do this, they're dealing with a lot of money.

"If they have a concert or something in the Angel's Stadium, they meticulously comb the field five or six times, looking for glass, can pop-tops, anything that would jeopardize a million dollar player. They just cannot afford to have an accident through carelessness."

Continued on page 32
CIL Sulphur Coated Urea
The Number One Controlled Release Nitrogen Fertilizer

CIL Sulphur Coated Urea is being tested against other controlled release nitrogen fertilizers at 14 different universities in the U.S. and Canada. Photo above shows one of the test sites with CIL Sulphur Coated Urea treated grass in foreground.

Efficient
- Release of nitrogen is controlled by moisture. Temperature and bacterial activity are not important factors. Excess moisture however, does not markedly speed up the release of the nitrogen.
- Soil pH does not alter pattern of release.

Background photo:
CIL Sulphur Coated Urea prills actual size.

Efficient
- Tested on grass plots under scientifically controlled conditions, CIL Sulphur Coated Urea outperformed all conventional slow release nitrogen fertilizers tested, in both the appearance and growth of grass obtained.
- CIL Sulphur Coated Urea releases nutrients as soon as it is applied and continues to do so evenly over 4 to 5 months. Result is more complete utilization of nitrogen applied, and no build up of nitrates in the soil.

Economical
- Low cost per unit of controlled release nitrogen.
- Available in bulk or in 55 lb plastic bags.

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Please advise who can supply me with blended products made with CIL Sulphur Coated Urea.

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A dependable source of supply of quality products, in commercial quantities, from Canada's largest chemical company.

Canadian Industries Limited
Weed control

"Weed control is one area that I feel a lot of managers are missing, particularly in the hybrid bermudas. We get a lot of annual grasses, crabgrass, annual bluegrass, and some of the perennial grasses like dallisgrass.

"I think the thing that they are missing is not timing application of preemergence material properly, at least as far as Poa annua and crabgrass. In this area, we put on a preemergence herbicide about now, early to mid-January. The farther up the coast you go, the later it is. In San Francisco, we're talking about March.

"We can use Kerb to clean up annual bluegrass and crabgrass on a postemergence basis. Of course, you can't use it on any other type of grass, but it really cleans up the bermuda.

For broadleaf weeds, a good broad spectrum product like Trimec or Tresan, with 2,4-D, dicamba and MCPP works good. Once or twice a year, you can go in and really clean up the broadleaves. There's no fiddling around with first one chemical, then the other.

"I think most people don't realize though, that if a weed is not actively growing, then the thing isn't going to die."

Verticle mowing

"Verticutting, particularly on hybrid bermudas should be done at least once a year. Late fall, to early winter is the best time, prior to any application of preemergence materials. Once the pre-emergence herbicide barrier in the soil is broken, the field is vulnerable to crabgrass.

Lines

"I heard from one of my student former students who is now managing a college field, that the NCAA prohibits the use of lime as a lining material. He had to switch to another powdery material.

"Using lime, especially on fields that are heavily used, seems to be a problem, because the material has to be reapplied all the time. They used to burn the lines with weed oil and then put the lime in the pocket that resulted. Weed oil is kind of greasy if someone slides into it and could be caustic, if someone had an open wound. Lime is also caustic.

"Some fields are actually painting on their white lines, either with a white latex paint, or they're taking hydrated lime mixed with water and spraying it on.

"Another former student of mine is using a sprayer that takes aerosol cans. He likes it. Says it costs more but is a lot easier to control. There's no mixing and its quicker.

Problems

"Most school systems' grounds personnel are not really trained. The people have just been around a long time and sort of inherit the job.

"We have quite an educational program with our conferences and so forth. I chair the sports turf section every year and we try to keep the managers up to date.

"I would say the local high schools and parks leave the most to be desired. The city we live in, I don't think the park fields have received an application of fertilizer in the last eight or nine years.

"I took my students over to a little league field here and renovated the entire field. The city said fine, we'll give you the equipment and you do the job, so we did. We brought brick dust in, and we brought in fertilizer and sod, and redded the whole thing.

"Normally though, with Proposition 13 passing, things are even going to be worse. There's not going to be much maintenance done. Or if it is, its going to be skimpy."
WE WROTE THE BOOK

When it comes to landscape irrigation, we wrote the book! Weather-matic systems are used around the world to provide a cost-effective way to water residential grounds, parks, green belts, athletic fields, golf courses, highway medians and other landscaped areas requiring irrigation.

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“I could sure use a rugged mid-sized rotary that really maneuvers.”
A lot of our customers have been wanting a mid-sized mower that's built tough to take it, and that's highly maneuverable at the same time.

So our engineers came up with the amazing Turfcat.

It's amazing because it's absolutely packed with features that help you get your medium-sized mowing jobs done faster and better than ever.

First, you have a choice of a 50" or 60" deck. (They're interchangeable.) Fully articulated, they closely follow ground contours so you get a smooth, even cut with practically no scalping.

Deck design lets you trim close, and also gives super clipping dispersion. The deck raises and lowers hydraulically for curb climbing and transport. And you can adjust cutting height from 1" to 4".

Then, the three-wheel, wide track design gives the Turfcat great stability on slopes. And the foot-operated hydrostatic drive lets you steer and maneuver while changing speeds or going from forward to reverse.

How about hill climbing? It's a breeze with the power delivered by the husky 18-HP Kohler overhead valve engine. And you can expect a long engine life filled with good fuel economy.

Plus, the Turfcat is quiet. All controls are within easy reach. And it might very well be the most comfortable riding rotary in the world.

Ask your Jacobsen distributor for a Turfcat demonstration. And have him explain about the many fine features that customers want.

The more you listen to what he has to say, the more you'll know we've been listening.

We hear you.
The task of eliminating all or most vegetation in a particular area is part of every Green Industry occupation. Whether the vegetation to be controlled is on a golf course, along a highway, underneath utility lines, a path through a park, drainage ditch banks, or beside cemetery markers, the job is similar.

Consequently, every Green Industry manager should have a basic knowledge of herbicides available for total control. This knowledge should include characteristics of the herbicides, precautions for guarding desirable vegetation and water supply, and plant factors which allow them to be controlled. Such knowledge helps assure efficient and safe control of unwanted vegetation.

Herbicides are designed to fill in where mechanical control is difficult or uneconomical. Although chemical weed control is not new, most advances have taken place since 1945 when the selective characteristics of 2,4-D attracted considerable attention from chemical manufacturers. As a result, the number of primary herbicides increased more than ten fold between 1950 and 1970.

Such growth in the herbicide and insecticide markets caused unease with environmental groups. The result was a vague law which has slowed product development for most of this decade. However, there are indications of growth in the total kill herbicide area recently. New combinations of existing products and new registrations for agricultural products are providing a larger selection. New products like Roundup (glyphosate) are restoring reliance on chemicals for vegetation clearance.
THE SPYDER

DO YOU PALLEITIZE YOUR PRODUCTS - SOD, FERTILIZER, SEED, GARDEN PRODUCTS?
DO YOU DELIVER YOUR PALLEITIZED PRODUCTS?
THEN YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE SPYDER MATERIAL HANDLER!

A LIGHTWEIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT
The Spyder’s welded tubular steel frame is designed for maximum strength with minimum weight. It’s load carrying capacity is 3500 pounds, the capacity of most standard forklifts, but the Spyder weighs only about 2700 pounds.

THIS LIGHTWEIGHT CREATES MANY BENEFITS.

EASY PORTABILITY
Traditionally, job site unloading has been performed by truck mounted cranes, towable or trailer transported forklifts, and even by hand, with each method having its own particular advantages and disadvantages. The Spyder, we believe, combines advantages of each method to provide you with a totally new concept in job site unloading.

In less than a minute the Spyder loads itself at the rear of your truck or semi-trailer bed without loss of valuable cargo space, and is transported with no road contact. Just like a truck mounted crane, but not like a towable forklift. When you arrive at the job site the Spyder unloads itself, then unloads the load. Pallets can be placed away from the truck at whatever distance necessary, like with any forklift, but not like a truck mounted crane.

We also provide a custom-designed lightweight trailer for convenient towing behind a car or truck if this method better meets your requirements.

THE BENEFITS DON’T END HERE.

MINIMAL MAINTENANCE
The Spyder is totally hydraulic. A 23 HP, two cylinder, air cooled Kohler engine is belt connected to two variable displacement hydrostatic transmission pumps and one fixed displacement gear pump. These pumps provide oil to three hydraulic motors and three sets of hydraulic cylinders. Any of these components, including the engine, can be replaced on the Spyder in about an hour. Each machine comes with a parts manual which lists not only our part number, but the manufacturer’s name and their part number also. All parts on the Spyder can be shipped air freight from the factory, if you cannot obtain it locally. The idea is to minimize downtime.

WE LISTEN TO OUR CUSTOMERS
CUSTOMER ORIENTED IMPROVEMENTS
Recent improvements include a quick tension release on the belt drive. Just pull a lever while sitting on the operator’s seat and all tension is taken off the belt drive for easy engine starting or belt removal. A newly designed drive wheel hub moves the center of the drive wheel directly over a large roller bearing for increased load carrying capacity and greater resistance to shock loads.

THE BEST IS YET TO COME

CREDIBLE COSTS
There are many costs involved with owning and operating any piece of equipment. At times your initial investment cost may be high, but low maintenance and operational costs offset this. At other times it’s just the opposite.

The Spyder, compared to other job site unloading equipment, offers a rare combination of relatively low initial cost, low operating costs, and low maintenance costs.

NOW IT’S UP TO YOU

PROFIT POTENTIAL
When you consider all the information written here about the Spyder, and then consider how practical it would be in your own application whether it be unloading sod, fertilizer, seed etc., be sure to go one step further. Contact me by mail or phone and let me send you a brochure or answer questions you might have regarding your particular application.

We have sold over 500 Spyders across the U.S., Canada, England and Trinidad. We are establishing dealers and outlets throughout the U.S. and Canada. Two new manufacturing facilities are currently in the advanced planning stages. One in England and the other in Texas. THE REASON? THE SPYDER IS HERE TO STAY!!!

If you have delivery problems, let us show you how the Spyder can solve them.

For more information on the Spyder call or write: Mike Whitt - Sales Manager Foxcroft Development Associates 5402 Edgewood Rd. Crystal Lake, IL 60014 815-459-3351

Circle 118 on free information card
Nonselective weed control

Selectivity and plant susceptibility

Most total kill herbicides are selective at lower rates. The more susceptible a plant is to a herbicide, a lower rate of herbicide is needed to kill it. Certain factors cause some plants to be more susceptible than others. A few are:
—faster growing plants and plants in growing phases (young) are more susceptible to herbicides.
—shallow-rooted plants are easier to control (no deeper than two inches).
—how easily a plant adsorbs a herbicide.
—exposure of growing points to herbicides. According to Klingman and Ashton in their book "Weed Science", the growing points of most broad-leaf plants are located at the tips of shoots and at leaf axils, whereas the growing points of grasses are located below ground and at the base of the plant.
—the sensitivity of a plant's chemistry to the particular herbicide.

Application precautions

Residual herbicides have half lives many months long. This quality is desirable in reducing the number of applications for weed control, however it also increases the persistence of these toxic substances in water sources. Application near wells, lakes and streams should be done with caution. The label will specifically list ditch banks if the herbicide can be used near water. Some brush and weed killers are also used for aquatic weed control, such as Diquat.

Drift can cause problems with herbicide sprays. Droplet size, wind conditions, and direction of spray must be watched carefully. Granular applications should also be made carefully to keep the herbicide away from desirable vegetation.

It is absolutely essential that the label be read thoroughly and its directions followed exactly. A herbicide must be respected, not feared.

Herbicides available

Many total kill herbicides are combinations of contact and soil products. The basic types of applications are:
—foliage spray
—soil treatment
—stump treatment
—bark treatment
—trunk injection

Foliage and soil application are the two primary types concerning Green Industry managers.

Herbicides have been designed to act quickly, slowly (over the winter), for long periods of time or for less than three days. Manufacturers also offer combinations of herbicides which provide quick kill and long term results.

All residual qualities are based upon persistence and continued toxicity of a herbicide in the soil. They may be affected by the amount of rainfall after application, the amount of clay and organic matter in the soil, and temperature. Most manufacturers have improved herbicide formulations to reduce leaching to a minimum.

Addition of surfactants to contact sprays may improve their effectiveness. Oil [No. 2 diesel] can be used with some herbicides to improve sticking and penetration through tree bark.

Most herbicides are in the form of wettable powders, emulsifiable concentrates, solutions and granules. Granules are designed for soil application, although some granular products can be mixed with water. Water is by far the most common carrier of herbicides.

Application rates are based upon pounds per acre, or in some cases per 100 sq. ft. (an acre is 43,560 sq. ft.). Liquid applications are usually made with 40 to 100 gallons of water per acre. Aerial spray mixtures contain less water. Mixing instructions are on each label. Wettable powders and
Vegetation Problems?

Spike lasts longer than most other herbicides with fewer pounds per acre!

When applied in accordance with label directions, commercial field use has demonstrated that Spike remains effective longer than other products tested, preventing regrowth and permitting lower application rates in succeeding years.

Spike resists lateral movement!
Spike is non-volatile, control stays where it is needed instead of “shifting” into unwanted areas, enabling specific placement.

Spike gets many vines, brambles and woody plants!
More than 5 years of development, testing and commercial use have proven Spike’s effectiveness against a wide spectrum of vegetation, especially the tough perennials, tenacious vines and so-called hard-to-control species, like mullein, pigweed, curley dock and kochia.

Spike gets many of the brush species the others leave behind!
The most persistent vegetation control problem is brush. Spike helps solve that problem almost any time of year.

Spike provides versatility and easy application!
Commercial use has demonstrated equal effectiveness for both of Spike’s principal product forms... wettable powder for spray application, or granular for mechanical application.

Wherever weed and brush control is the problem... in storage yards, parking areas, tank yards, around buildings and warehouses, along road shoulders and railroad spurs... the ideal remedy is SPIKE. It does what it promises!

Order Spike from your Elanco Distributor today. Spike should be the foundation of your vegetation control program.

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That's the way we build the Ryan Commercial Mower: to last. We use a rugged, 2-cycle engine with electronic ignition and a quick-response governor that keeps the power coming even in tall or thick grass. (Because it's a 2-cycle, you get constant engine lubrication without the danger of oil starvation when mowing on slopes.) We put that engine on a 12-gauge steel housing and surround it with a tubular steel frame, to protect it while mowing under shrubs or bushes.

Nonselective weed control

Emulsifiable concentrates may require continuous agitation for even herbicide distribution.

Following is a list of products available for total control and brush control along with the suggested retail price, application rate, and residual period.

Amchem Products Inc., Brookside Ave., Ambler, PA 19002

Amitrole T

Liquid contact spray of 2 lb. of amitrole per gal. Apply at 1-10 gal. per acre (depending upon plant species) mixed in 50-100 gal. water. Recommended especially for deep-rooted plants such as poison ivy. Price $16.20 per gal. for 1 gal. can or $15.45 for 5 gal. can.

Amizine (wettable powder)

Combination of amitrole and simazine for season-long control. Mix 20 lbs. in 100 gal. water for one acre spray. Very little leaching. Can be used near larger shrubs and on ditch banks. Price $4.77 per lb. in 5 lb. can and $4.55 per lb. in 50 lb. drum.

Amizine (liquid)

Same as Amizine w.p. but liquid applied at 8 gal. per acre in 40 gal. water. Price $11.61 per gal. in 1 gal. can and $10.88 per gal. in 5 gal. can.

Fenamine

Liquid formulation of amitrole, fenac and atrazine with both contact and soil action. Single application per season. Rate is 4 gal. per acre in 100 gal. water. Major uses include ditch banks and under paving. Price $18.00 per gal. in 1 gal. can and $17.30 per gal. in 5 gal. can.

Fenavar (granular)

Soil residual herbicide containing fenac and bromacil. Apply at 75 to 150 lbs. per acre. Price is $49.25 for 25 lb. drum.

Fenavar (liquid)

Contact and residual liquid containing fenac, bromacil and amitrole. Application rate is 5 to 10 gal. per acre in 50 to 100 gal. water. Price $17.15 for 1 gal. can and $16.30 per gal. for 5 gal. jug.

Weedone IBK

Liquid containing 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D for brush control. Apply 1 to 4 gal. per acre in 40 to 100 gal. water. Check state regulations for use of 2,4,5-T. Price ranges from $18.98 per gal. for 1 gal. can to $17.76 for 55 gal. drum.

Weedone 170

Replaces Weedone IBK where 2,4,5-T use illegal. Contains 2,4-D and 2,4-DP. Applied at same rates as Weedone IBK. Contact herbicide for use on ditch banks, utility rights-of-way and highways. Price ranges from $17.83 for 1 gal. can to $16.61 for 55 gal. drum.
For general post-emergent weed control in non-crop areas Crystal Chemical Company makes Phytar 560 and Broadside. Both are Cacodylic Acid type herbicides, and Broadside also contains MSMA. Both products can be used for fast knockdown of weeds along highways, rights-of-way, around buildings, fence rows, playgrounds, drainage ditches, golf courses, and railways. Phytar 560 is safe for use around ornamentals and non-bearing citrus orchards, while Broadside's effective root-kill is ideal for controlling tough perennials. Both provide complete weed control without soil sterility. So don't let unsightly and hazardous weeds control you. Control them with Phytar 560 or Broadside.

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Ford rear blades for grading, leveling, ditching, backfilling, snow clearing, other jobs. Eleven models, 6 to 10-foot widths. Swing offset feature, standard on selected models, lets operator offset the blade right or left quickly and easily.

Tough Ford backhoes provide all the power you need for craning and digging. Sizes include 12-foot, 14-foot, 15-foot, 17-foot, and 15-foot with 4-foot hydraulic extendible dipperstick. Factory-installed 2-lever or 4-lever controls available on all but the 17-foot backhoe (4-lever only).

Ford 3-point hitch and hydraulics with twin lever controls. It's the Ford design for fast, precise landscaping. Response is smooth and accurate with fine increments of adjustment. Permits three types of response: 1) Blend of draft and position control. 2) Draft control. 3) Position control. Available on selected models.

Ford LCG (low center-of-gravity) tractors. Ideal mowing and towing power. LCG design hugs the slopes, while optional dual rear or low-pressure, wide-base tires pamper turf. Shown with Ford flail mower. (Photographed at Pebble Beach, CA.)
Ford tractors and equipment are available in a wide variety of combinations to match your job needs. Ford tractor power includes Ford industrial tractors, Ford all-purpose tractors, Ford LCG (low center-of-gravity) tractors. Most are available with options to match your special requirements. Here are a few of the many landscaping and grounds maintenance jobs that Ford tractors and equipment can do for you.

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Ford rotary cutters. Level medium to coarse growths in a fast, once-over operation. 60-inch, 72-inch, 84-inch, 100-inch and new 120-inch and 144-inch Ford rotary cutters. Gauge wheels standard. Options include straight, suction or hook blades, skid shoes, chain guards, etc.

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Like more information? Mail this coupon. We'll send you descriptive sales literature on the equipment that interests you.

Circle 104 on free information card
Nonselective weed control

American Cyanamid, Box 400, Princeton, NJ 08540

Cytrol
Combination of amitrole and ammonium thiocyanate. Liquid is applied at 2 to 4 gal. per acre mixed in 30 to 60 gal. water. Apply during active growth to annual and perennial weeds and grass. Contact action only. Keep away from water and livestock. Price based upon distributor.

Weed Killer 90
Same as Cytrol but in wettable powder formulation. Apply 2 to 4 lbs. per acre in 30 to 60 gal. water.

Ciba Geigy, P.O. Box 11422, Greensboro, NC 27409

Princep 80 W
Wettable powder containing simazine. Long term control through root adsorption. Often used to control weeds under pavement. Rate is 20 to 50 lbs. per acre in an equal number of gallons. Water. Price is $2.65 to $3.15 per lb.

Princep 4L
Liquid formulation of simazine for long term control of vegetation. 5 to 10 gal. per acre of mix containing 1 qt. Princep per gal. water.

W.A. Cleary Corp., P.O. Box 10, Somerset, NJ 08873

Diuron 4L
Emulsifiable concentrate applied at 4 to 8 gal. per acre in water for vegetation control on golf course paths, fence rows, and around buildings. Price set by distributor.

Crystal Chemical Co., 1525 N. Post Oak Rd., Houston, TX 77055

Broadside
Liquid containing cacodylic acid and MSMA for contact spray of brush and grassy weeds. Rate is 1 to 2 gal. of concentrate in 100 gal. water per acre. Price $11.90 per gal. in 1 and 5 gal. jugs.

Herbicides are used before asphalt is laid to prevent deterioration by vigorous weed species.

Phytar 560
Liquid formulation of cacodylic acid for contact spray on rights-of-way, ditch banks, sidewalks, fences, etc. Rate is 1 to 2 gal. concentrate in 100 gal. water per acre. Price $13.35 per gal. in 1 and 5 gal. jugs.

Diamond Shamrock, 1100 Superior Ave., Cleveland, OH 44144

Dalapon 85
Soluble dalapon salt which has contact and soil action with 1 month residual. Good control of foxtail and established perennial weeds in non-crop areas. Mix 15 lbs. of salt in at least 40 gal. water for one acre. Repeat spray after two to four weeks. Bulk price is roughly $1.25 per lb.

Dow Chemical, P.O. Box 1706, Midland, MI 48640

Dowpon C
Combination of dalapon and sodium TCA. Surfactant required. Dalapon has systemic action on plants. Apply 15 to 45 lbs. per acre in 100 gal. water. Price is $1.72 per lb. in 15 lb. quantity and $1.57 per lb. in 45 lbs. quantity.

Esteron 245
Lavender 2,4,5-T for control of woody plants. Not for use on turf or near water. Apply 1 to 3 gal. per acre in 100 gal. water. Prices range from $24.83 to $23.80 per gal. Also available for an oil mixture for basal bark treatment and dormant spray.

Esteron Brush Killer
Liquid combination of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T for control of mixed growths of woody plants and herbaceous weeds. Rate is 1 to 4 gal. concentrate mixed with 100 gal. water per acre spray. Price ranges from $18.90 to $17.88 per gal.

Kuron
Liquid silvex (2,4,5-TP) for control of woody plants and weeds (not stoloniferous grasses). Rate 1 to 3 gal. concentrate in 100 gal. water or oil per acre. Also acts as aquatic herbicide. Can be used as dormant and basal bark spray. Price ranges from $27.22 to $25.38 per gal.

Tordon 101R Forest Herbicide
Ready-to-use liquid herbicide containing picloram and 2,4-D. Applied full strength to stumps and cut brush to prevent regrowth. One gal. jug cost $9.60. Only picloram product not restricted use.

E.I. Du Pont De Nemours Co., Biochemicals Div., Brandywine Bldg., Wilmington, DE 19898

Amate
Soluble powder of ammonium sulfamate for control of woody plants and short term weed control. Two or three applications per year. Mix 60 lbs. powder in 100 gal. water per acre. Non-volatile and non-flammable. Comes in 50 lb. drums.
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Manufacturer's Representative for Big John Tree Transplanter and Complete Line of Arborist Supplies

Circle 142 on tree information card
Cylinder and crankcase assembly of The Green Machine 22.5 cc engine, 1.2 H.P. in a 6-lb package. Over 5 years of field exposure have helped create new standards of 2-cycle performance.

side look at a classic.

In 1972, The Green Machine introduced a gas-powered string trimmer employing a new concept—extreme light weight combined with amazing torque. It proved the ideal tool for high production weed and grass trimming, as well as brush cutting and tree pruning. From the start, Green Machines set new industry standards for quality—and new records for time-saving and money-making. The reasons are basic: ingenious design and a fanatic devotion to excellence.

For instance, The Green Machine model 3000 engines have been dynamometer tested—at full throttle and full load—for 200 hours. That's equal to 600 hours of field operation. Actual field operation of 1000 to 1500 hours is commonplace.

Chrome and hone
To understand what's behind Green Machine performance, just take a look inside a model 3000 engine.

You'll see a precision die-cast cylinder with polished chrome-plated bore—plus such refinements as piston-port fuel timing and almost five square inches of scavange porting. Running inside that chrome-protected cylinder, you'll see a precision die-cast aluminum piston, micro-honed and fitted with double, positively-located rings.

You'll also see a crankshaft and rod assembly of high-carbon steel, precision-machined, and aligned to ±.001-inch tolerances, running with high-speed ball-type main bearings and needle-type rod journal bearings.

Easy starting with P.F.S.
Long engine life is a recognized Green Machine virtue. So is easy starting. Thanks to a proven, reliable fuel pump and carburetor design. Plus an important Green Machine exclusive: Positive Fuel Shut-off. Engine "kill" is accomplished by stopping the fuel supply to the engine, rather than by cutting the ignition. This means that all of the fuel in the carburetor and combustion chamber is burned off after each running.

Fresh fuel is used for each start. Conventional "ignition kill" allows the fuel and oil mixture to remain in the chamber and carburetor where it can become stale and even, with time, create a residue that prevents starting.

Nine heads and blades
Green Machine introduced the first professional-quality Tap-For-Cord automatic string-feed head. A total of five different string trimmer heads are now offered as well as four quick-change blades.

A string trimmer...and more
The Green Machine is a great string trimmer—and a great brush cutter, and tree pruner. With accessory metal blades, one man can clear up to an acre of brush a day, cutting easily through vines up to ¾-inch thick. Tree branches up to three inches thick can be sliced through easily—in a single stroke.

See what's in it for you
The Green Machine is saving time and making money for thousands of users in every field: park and municipal, highway, cemetery, estate, golf course, institution, landscape, farm, school, rental yard. Crews equipped with little more than mowers and Green Machines are completing massive grounds-keeping chores in hours, instead of days. See what The Green Machine can do for your business. Contact your dealer or write for our new, colorful brochures. Take time now to look into a classic.

HMC, 22133 S. Vermont, Torrance, CA 90502

The Green Machine®
A yard-care classic.

Circle 131 on free information card
Nonselective weed control

Du Pont continued from page 44

Hyvar X
Wettable powder containing bromacil for season-long weed and brush control. Very effective on perennial grasses. Mix 15 to 30 lbs. in 100 gal. water for handgun spraying an acre. Available in 4 and 50 lb. quantities.

Hyvar XL
Liquid formulation of bromacil for use diluted 6 to 12 gal. concentrate in 40 gal. water per acre or undiluted as basal spray for brush. Comes 1 to 30 gal.

Karmex
Wettable powder containing diuron for season-long control of weeds and as a soil sterilant. Rate is 20 to 60 lbs. of Karmex in 40 to 100 gal. of water per acre. Available in 4 lb. bags and 50 lb. drums.

Krenite Brush Control Agent
Contact herbicide liquid containing fosamine ammonium. Rate of 1½ to 3 gal. concentrate in 50 to 300 gal. water per acre. Apply in late summer or early fall for slow defoliation during winter. Can be used near water. Comes in 1.5, and 30 gal. amounts.

Krovar
Wettable powder containing bromacil and diuron for season long control of weeds. Rainfall needed for most effective use following application. Rate is 19-40 lbs. per acre in 40 to 100 gal. water. Comes in 5 and 50 lbs. quantities.

Velpar
Contact and residual herbicide containing hexazinone. Powder is dissolved in water and applied at 6 to 12 lbs. per acre for season-long control. Rainfall aids soil activation. Available in 4 lb. bags and 50 lb. drums.

Elanco Products Co., P.O. Box 1750, Indianapolis, IN 46206

Spike
Total vegetation control herbicide containing tebuthiuron. Available in wettable powder and granular formulation. Soil residual of 12 to 15 months. Rate is 5 lb. acre and maintenance rate of 1½ to 2 lb. acre. Apply prior to heavy rainfall. Price suggested 50 lbs. box wettable powder $536, 4 lb. box wettable powder $43.75, 50 lb. of 1 percent granular $29, 50 lb. 5 percent granular $82.

Surflan
Wettable powder containing oryzalin applied prior to emergence of weeds around established ornamental plants. Rate 5 lb. acre applied as spray. Five lb. bag costs $35.

PBI Gordon, 300 S. Third St., P.O Box 2276, Kansas City, KS 66110.

Vegemec
Emulsifiable concentrate containing prometon and 2,4-D acid. Season long control of most annual and perennial broadleaf weeds and grasses. Mix 1 part Vegemec with 8 parts water and use large droplet spray. One gal. concentrate will control vegetation in a 900 sq. ft. area. Available in 1 and 5 gal. quantities. Price $8.70 for single gal. and $8.15 per gal. in 5 gal. size.

Monsanto Agric. Products Co., 800 N. Lindberg Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63166

Roundup
Liquid contact herbicide of glyphosate with no residual activity. Application should be made at proper time which varies among plants. There must be enough green foliage and metabolism should be on a down turn. Mix 2 to 5 qt. in 20 to 60 gal. water for one acre spray. Available in 1 and 5 gal. containers. Price is $66 for single gal. and $64 per gal. for 5 gal.

Occidental Chemical Co., P.O. Box 1185, Houston, TX 7701

Borocil IV
Water soluble granule containing sodium metaborate tetrahydrate and bromacil. Provides season long control of annual and perennial broadleaf weeds and grasses. Spread ¼ to 1 lb. per 100 sq. ft. Fifty lb. bag costs $40.

Hibor C
Granular nonselective weed and grass killer containing bromacil, sodium metaborate tetrahydrate, and sodium chlorate. Apply 1/5 to 1 lb. per 100 sq. ft. Single application per season. Price is $47 for 50 lb. bag.

Monobor-Chlorate
Granule providing 3 to 4 month control of grasses and weeds. Apply ½ to 4 lb. per 100 sq. ft. Must be watered in. Fifty lb. bag cost $18.50.

Monobor-Chlorate D
Same as monobor-chlorate with diuron. Same application lasts 8 or 9 months. Fifty lb. bag costs $23.75.

Ureabor
Granule containing sodium chlorate, sodium metaborate tetrahydrate, and bromacil lasting for a complete season. Can be mixed with water (1-3 lb. per gal.) and used as spray. One gal. of solution will cover 100 sq. ft. Should be watered in. Fifty lb. bag costs $27. Best applied prior to or just after emergence.

Ortho Div., Chevron Chemical Co., 575 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94105

Diquat
Contact herbicide and desiccant for industrial and aquatic weed control. Contains 2 lb. diquat per gal. Rate per acre is 1 qt. plus 4 oz. spreader in 50 gal. water. Label permits only use of Ortho Spreader X77 at $12.55 per gal. For smaller jobs, 4 tspns. diquat plus ½ tspn. spreader in 1 gal. water. Price is $50.50 per gal. in 1 to 54 gal. containers.

Continues on page 53
Solving irrigation and sprinkling problems takes a real Bird Brain.

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ARIZONA TURF EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY CO., INC., (ARTESCO), 1429 E. Hadley St., Phoenix, AZ 85034, (602) 257-0151
CARLSON'S UTILITY SUPPLY, INC., 5670 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85716, (602) 325-3569

California
A-1 TURF IRRIGATION SALES, INC., 827 N. Main St., Orange, CA 92668, (714) 635-5214
Also in Gardenia and Canoga Park

AUTOMATIC RAIN CO., P.O. Box 2226, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (415) 323-5161
Also in San Jose, San Rafael, Concord, Salinas and Santa Rosa
INDO PIPE & SUPPLY, 81-245 Highway 111, Indio, CA 92201, (714) 547-0968
KERN TURF SUPPLY, 711 Lake St., Bakersfield, CA 93305, (805) 327-4048
NOR-MAC, INC., 3418 Auburn Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95821, (916) 482-2924
Also in Chico
PACIFIC PRODUCTS, 8901 Fletcher Pkwy., La Mesa, CA 92037, (714) 465-5561
Also in Carlsbad
RAINMAKER PIPE COMPANY, 1011 E. Lindsay St., Stockton, CA 95201, (209) 944-5721
Also in Modesto
SMITH BENNETT CO., INC., 14650 Raymer, Van Nuys, CA 91406, (213) 988-3222
Also in Santa Monica and Ontario
SMITH PIPE & SUPPLY, 722 Rancho Conejo Blvd., Newbury Park, CA 91320, (213) 889-2593
Also in Oxnard
VALLEY TURF SUPPLY, 1408 N. Cedar Ave., Fresno, CA 93703, (209) 251-8223

COLORADO
CPS DISTRIBUTORS, INC., 560 South Lisan St., Denver, CO 80223, (303) 744-6571
GRAND JUNCTION PIPE & SUPPLY, 2870 Freeway East, Grand Junction, CO 81501, (303) 245-4604

HAWAII
PARADISE SUPPLY, 1075 S. Beretania, Honolulu, HI 96814, (808) 524-6633

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BOYD MARTIN COMPANY, 4554 Chinden Blvd., Boise, ID 83704, (208) 376-8991

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SPRINKLER IRRIGATION SUPPLY COMPANY, P.O. Box 6633, Albuquerque, NM 87107, (505) 881-4050

OREGON
AUTO-RAIN, 10115 N.E. 6th Dr., Portland, OR 97211, (503) 283-4184
RAIN SYSTEMS IRRIGATION SUPPLY, INC., 252 Taylor St., Eugene, OR 97402, (503) 484-0315

UTAH
BOYD MARTIN COMPANY, 1260 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84115, (801) 521-7202

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Circle 159 on free information card
Cushman makes a fine turf vehicle. But does it equal E-Z-GO? It's often difficult for you yourself to make an honest comparison. So we've done it for you. We took comparable top-of-the-line models, E-Z-GO's GT-7 and the Cushman Turf Truckster. Head to head, here's what we found.

Power Source: 18 horsepower OMC engine, tightly compartmentalized. Ground speed 0 to 22 mph.

Braking: Hydraulic internal expanding.
Payload: 1000 pounds.

Suspension System: Torsion bars, leaf springs, front and rear shocks.

Dump Construction: Single wall, no undercoating.

Headlights: Single.
Seating: Single seat for one passenger with back rest and hip restraint.

Price: Virtually the same.
is the same, or is there a g difference?

Power Source: A rugged, reliable 18 horsepower Onan engine with the power to carry a full payload up to 24 mph. Substantially larger engine compartment for easier maintenance.

Braking: Improved hydraulic internal expanding.

Payload: 1500 pounds. A massive 50% greater carrying capacity than Cushman. More cubic space for greater material volume.

Suspension System: Heavy duty torsion bars, leaf springs, front and rear shock absorbers, designed to support the bigger payload.

Dump Construction: Dual wall, double thick for heavier loads, longer life. Undercoating for even greater resistance to corrosion.

Headlights: Dual lights for greater night vision.

Seating: Dual seats for two passengers with individual back rests and hip restraints, constructed for larger men, greater comfort.

Price: Virtually the same.

Summary: E-Z-GO carries a greater payload, is easier to maintain, is larger, more durably built, and safer with a wider wheel base. E-Z-GO uses top quality components from companies, such as Bendix, Borg Warner, Dana, Onan, and Rockwell International.

For the complete story on the E-Z-GO GT-7, a demonstration on your course, contact your E-Z-GO distributor. For his address check your Yellow Pages or call or write Mr. William Lanier, E-Z-GO, P.O. Box 388, Augusta, Georgia 30903, at (404) 798-4311.

E-Z-GO TEXTRON
Polaris E-Z-Go Division of Textron Inc.
The Land Reclamation Report

The newsletter of mine site restoration and revegetation of other disturbed lands.

September 4, 1979, VOL. 1, NO. 3

LAWTONS
Almost all interim regs upheld; possible changes up to OSRM

Industry had few reasons to celebrate over the ministry's decision to renounce suffering from the impacts of U.S. Senate bill 681, which would end temporary interim regulations. The few trade associations present at the Trumpet Tower's September 4th meeting were allowed to sell up to OSRM

Almost all interim regulations were upheld; possible changes up to OSRM.

The New Biweekly Newsletter For Revegetation Specialists

Harvest Publishing Company, publishers of WEEDS Trees & Turf, Lawn Care Industry, Golf Business, and five state farm magazines, has expanded its coverage of the Green Industry with The Land Reclamation Report.

The Land Reclamation Report covers all breaking developments regarding erosion control, surface mining legislation, and research. No other publication covers large-scale revegetation with the agronomic expertise and concern that The Land Reclamation Report does.

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Mail to The Land Reclamation Report, Harvest Publishing Company, 9800 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44102.
Nonselective weed control

Ortho continued from page 48

Paraquat
Restricted use contact herbicide and desiccant. Applicators must be under the supervision of a certified applicator. Contains 2 lb. paraquat per gal. Rate per acre is 1 to 2 qt. plus 4 oz. spreader in 50 gal. water. Costs $42.25 per gal. Doesn’t stain sand or sidewalks. Used in sand traps. Diquat is replacing paraquat for many uses.

Rhone Poulenc, P.O. Box 125, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852

Chlorea Granular
Granular nonselective weed and grass killer containing sodium chlorate, sodium metaphosphate, and diuron. Rate of 1 to 2 lb. per 100 sq. ft. provides season long control. Will control deep rooted perennials. Rainfall helps effectiveness. Costs 75 cents per lb.

Velsicol Chemical Corp., 341 East Ohio St., Chicago, IL 60611

Banvel 4WS
Liquid dicamba formulation for control of brush and weeds. Contains 4 lb. banvel per gal. Used as ingredient for mixing with 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T. Costs $36 per gal.

Banvel XP Pellets
Ten percent dicamba pellet for spot application brush control. Apply 50 to 100 lb. per acre. Cost $1.85 per lb.

Banvel 3-20
Liquid containing dicamba, 2,4-D, and 2,4,5-T. Mix 1 gal. Banvel 3-20 with 100 gal. water per acre. Lasts 3 to 5 years for brush control. Costs $16.25 per gal.

Banvel 5-10
Oil soluble liquid dicamba and 2,4,5-T. Apply 1 to 3 gal. Banvel 5-10 in 100 No. 2 diesel oil per acre. For dormant or year-round application. Costs $20.50 per gal.

Banvel 5-20
Oil soluble liquid dicamba and 2,4-D. Can be used on drainage ditch banks where 2,4,5-T can’t. Same rates as 5-10. Costs $18.10 per gal.

Banvel 7-10
Water soluble liquid dicamba and 2,4,5-T. For brush control lasting 3 to 5 years. Mix 7 to 10 gal. Banvel 7-10 in 100 gal. water per acre. Spray to runoff. Cost $18.50 per gal.

Banvel 7-20
Water soluble liquid dicamba and 2,4-D for general perennial broadleaf weed control along highways, railroads and rights-of-way. Same rate as 7-10. Costs $13.50 per gal.

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FEBRUARY 1979/WEEDS REES & TURF 53
ASPLUNDH IS LARGE PART OF RIGHT-OF-WAY HISTORY

Much of the basic research and development of today's herbicides have taken place on utility rights-of-way. Few companies have more experience in this area than Asplundh Tree Expert Company, Willow Grove, Pa. The company has grown with both the electric utility and herbicide industries. What they have learned and how they use herbicides is worth noting.

Asplundh began trimming trees for the Philadelphia Electric Co. in 1928. Bob Poley at Asplundh explains, "There were two reasons for the three Asplundh brothers to set up a business only for the utility industry: an early misunderstanding with a property owner over permission to trim his trees and a growing need by the utilities for an outside contractor to trim and maintain clearance around wires and substations." The company has grown to more than 9,000 employees throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Timing has been a crucial factor in the success of the Asplundh Tree Expert Co. Of equal value, has been the company's willingness to change and update their operations. For instance, when the company couldn't buy the type of insulated aerial lift equipment it needed for working around electric wires, it began making its own. Now Asplundh manufactures an entire line of equipment related to line clearance work.

In addition, Asplundh's method of trimming has changed through the years. The company now uses a newer trimming method, resembling natural pruning so that the appearance and "chemistry" of the tree remains undisturbed.

"When Amchem Products, Inc. developed 2,4-D during the World War II era, the Asplundh Company, along with Amchem's Director of Research, R.H. Beatty, recognized its use for vegetation management in right-of-way maintenance.

Not only has Asplundh carefully monitored its own use of chemicals, the field men also work closely with chemical companies to test new products before they enter the market.

Therefore, when Asplundh decided to use a "total vegetation control" material, they tested to find a safe product.

Total control is desirable at substation and storage areas where a certain amount of landscaping is necessary, but the area is remote and it's uneconomical to control noxious weeds by hand. The greatest danger is using a product which can "leach" or spread to other desirable vegetation.

"Amizine (Amchem Products) contains amitrole and simazine and is one of the least hazardous materials to use around ornamental plantings for total control," says David Fritsch, a chemical supervisor at Asplundh. "Low levels rarely move outside the area in which they are applied."

According to Fritsch, utility companies maintain substations with large transformers on a crushed rock base which many people find aesthetically offensive. So, to make these areas more visually palatable, Asplundh chemically treats these transformer bases. This is one area where a total vegetation control product becomes a necessity.

The creation of a fire break in highly flammable or potentially hazardous areas is another important use for such a product. "It can be used to destroy vegetation around refineries and tank farms where grasses and weeds could definitely present a fire hazard," says Burrell.

Asplundh is under contract with the Puget Sound Power and Light Company, Kirkland, Washington, to treat around utility poles in farming areas with a total control herbicide. For years farmers have been torching weeds in ditches banks bordering their property. While this is a quick way to get rid of the weeds, the fires often severely damage utility poles to the point that they must be replaced.

"Many methods have been used in the past to keep these poles from burning," says Asplundh. "Originally the utility tried putting metal shields

Continued on page 58

In the early days of electric line maintenance, Asplundh had one-man crews with little equipment.

An Asplundh worker uses amizine to control fence-line vegetation.
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THE BROUWER SAVES YOUR MONEY

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Dollar for dollar and acre for acre of immaculate weed-free turf, TRIMEC® is the most efficient broadleaf herbicide on the market... period.
Test it...prove it.
Weed-free turf costs less with TRIMEC®

Learn why no other broadleaf herbicide matches Trimec for efficiency, economy:

First, let's get one thing straight. We're not talking about dandelions and chickweeds. Sure, you have to kill them. But anybody can do that.

What we're talking about is immaculate turf. Flawless. Beautiful. Pure. The kind you're dedicated to producing, paid to achieve. And you can. Because that's what we do best. . . . immaculate turf.

To have it, you need just two things: the will to have it; and the broad-spectrum power of TRIMEC . . . the herbicide that wipes out practically all broadleaf weeds. We've identified at least 30 species that Trimec controls. If we find one it doesn't control, we'll be very much surprised!

But power isn't all. We promised efficiency. And that goes beyond mere broad-spectrum power. Efficiency entails economy, as well. And ecological merit. And conservation of your time and energy. In all of these ways, we say TRIMEC has no equal.

How can we be so confident? Because we have massive supporting evidence based on research and testing and years of field experience by turf professionals like you. The key to this impressive performance is in the Trimec patented formulation.

Why Trimec is unique
The Trimec formula, unlike any other in the world, uses ordinary components in an extraordinary way. We're talking about 2,4-D, MCPP and Dicamba, the familiar chemicals. But there's a marked difference in the way they're put together. The result is best explained by the word synergism. That is, the interaction of Trimec ingredients produces an intense yet gentle strength: weedkill power much greater than the sum of the components separately. This mathematical phenomenon (a kind of $2 + 2 = 5$ effect) brings important benefits:

1) Broad-spectrum power that kills practically all weeds.
2) A smaller chemical dosage per acre of coverage.
3) The consequent reduced threat to ornamentals through less root-absorption and less-concentrated "drift".
4) The lower cost of more efficient chemical usage.
5) Low-temperature efficiency: effective at 50° F. or cooler.

Unmatched efficiency
Normally, one light application controls nearly all broadleaf weeds, even hard-to-kill species. Trimec costs less per acre of immaculate turf than any other herbicide. You use fewer gallons, you seldom need retreatment, your total cost is lower.

Environmentally sound
The same qualities that make Trimec more efficient also make it more trouble-free. In use, biodegradable, precisely factory-formulated, Trimec eliminates "field chemistry" and the chance of mixing errors that could harm soil and ornamentals.

Trimec benefits
• Controls the widest range of broadleaf weeds
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• Wide safety margin for lawn grasses, ornamentals
• Minimum hazard from root absorption
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• Unique formula overcomes water hardness problems
• Treated areas may be reseeded within two weeks
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Search out the worst weed patch in your turf. On one half, apply your customary herbicide. On the other half, spray Trimec at the label recommendation. Record labor and material costs. Study the results. If Trimec is not everything we say, please report your experience to Gordon's Technical Service department.

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around each pole or manually kept the grasses cut very short around the poles. But the metal shield acted as a furnace, transferring heat into the pole and causing it to burn, and the manual labor for cutting the grass was time-consuming and expensive.

Thus, a total vegetation control product seems to be the answer to this dilemma. Application is fast and easy, costs are low and the Puget Sound Power and Light Company has lost an average of one pole per year due to fire damage since they've been using this method — compared to up to a thousand a year with previous methods. Run-off into ditches nearby must be avoided.

Asplundh crews apply the herbicide annually in the early spring as soon as the snow melts. Higher rates are used for first treatment of poles but the rates are lowered for retreatment in ensuing years. For more efficient application of the material, Asplundh modified a standard 300-gallon spray truck to include a boom and spring for the hose — to keep it off the ground — and a jump seat at the back for the person actually spraying. This way the crew is able to spray about 300 poles a day.

“When you consider that one pole costs about $500 to replace — not to mention the inconvenience caused by a lapse in service — you realize that the cost of spraying is merely incidental to the utility company,” says Asplundh. “They look at this type of work as preventive maintenance.”

Since many states have actual vegetation control regulations to prevent the spread of noxious weeds, a total control product also helps the utility companies stay within the boundaries of the law.

In addition, driveways, fenced areas and pole yards — where cable, cross arms and poles are stored — are three other places where total control is desirable.

Total vegetation control represents only a small portion of the chemical services performed by Asplundh, but — other than manufacturing — chemical spraying is the biggest sideline of the company’s line clearance work.
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Lynnfield, Mass., is a typical New England town. A suburb north of Boston, it offers its 12,000 residents more than their share of pleasures. But like any other American municipality today, it has its share of problems, too.

As costs for civic services escalate, cutbacks have become a way of life. Maintenance programs once taken for granted have been drastically reduced or eliminated entirely as more and more taxpayers demand less and less spending. The cold winds of Proposition 13 are blowing eastward.

But there's one service that can't be entirely eliminated — mowing of grass on town property.

In Lynnfield this not only encompasses street right-of-ways but also four ball fields, three parks, three active cemeteries and two ancient cemeteries where several Revolutionary War veterans slumber beneath majestic maples.

Under the supervision of A. David Rodham, director of Public Works, both Leonard Lilly, park and cemetery foreman, and Allen Caproni, highway foreman, schedule the activity of a seven-man mowing crew. During the growing season, this crew spends every weekday cutting grass. Until recently, it had time for nothing else.

But in June, 1978, a series of experiments were undertaken by Lynnfield with a growth regulator (Embark 2-S by 3M Co.) that promised to change this, freeing up mowing crews for equally important tasks, some of which had been shelved in recent years due to insufficient funds.

Registered by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1978, Embark 2-S has been marketed primarily for use along highway right-of-ways, golf course roughs, and cemeteries. Properly applied by qualified sprayers, it regulates the growth of certain species of grasses, including Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue, common bermudagrass and several California native grasses.

Although rates vary according to the species being treated, one and one-half pints of the chemical mixed with 15 to 50 gallons of water is the recommended application for one acre of Kentucky bluegrass and tall fescue, according to the manufacturer.

An application made at any time when grass is actively growing reduces the growth of grass for a minimum of five to eight weeks. In addition to controlling turf growth, the growth regulator suppresses seedhead formation.

Leonard Lilly explained the procedures he used in Lynnfield to reduce the need for constant mowing:

"We used a 500-gallon spray tank mounted on the back of a six-wheel flatbed truck. This is the same rig we normally use for protecting trees from insects and diseases.

"We poured in 100 gallons of water at a time, added the recommended amount of chemical and sprayed with approximately 175 psi.

"Lilly further stated that he applied this new plant growth regulator in a cemetery on June 10.

"There were no observable effects upon tombstones, shrubs or flowers. Following application, we mowed this area on July 14 for the first and last time."

In Freeman Park, a 10,000-square-foot expanse of grass, Lilly pointed out an especially lush patch of turf.

"We used to have to mow this moist spot once a week," he declared. "It was so thick that we had to spend an extra hour raking the clippings. They would smother the grass if left there."

After treating this area in mid-June, the grass grew no higher than eight inches. "We saved ourselves eight mowings just in this area alone."

Anyone who spends any time at all on public roads these days has seen what reduced mowing can lead to in terms of limited visibility and increased safety hazards that result from it.

Neglected, median strips — for instance — will rapidly deteriorate beneath a blanket of weeds that will choke out grass, shrubs, groundcovers and other desirable vegetation. In time, ailanthus, black locusts, poison ivy and other pest plants will take over as nature fills yet another vacuum.

Allen Caproni sees no need for this to happen in Lynnfield, because future use of the plant growth regulator should reduce mowings, thereby making funds available for broadleaf control.

"After all," he said, "this year we've cut the chemically treated areas only once in some cases and not at all in others. As a result, our work crew has had time to clear high brush from around the town ball field and accomplish other important jobs."
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MICHIGAN NURSERYMAN BOASTS OF TRICKLE IRRIGATION BENEFITS

By Dan Hager, Lansing, Michigan

Trickle irrigation may not be for everyone, but as far as David Farley of Farley Bros. Nursery, Inc., of Albion is concerned, it's the best way to go. Eventually his entire stock of deciduous shade trees will be watered by that system. He's also trying it out on spruce and pine.

Trickle irrigation is especially well suited to his type of operation, he feels. He grows his trees larger than most nurserymen and spaces them out more widely in the fields. His soil is also lighter than in many nurseries. It's been classified as a Hillside sandy loam.

But trickle irrigation is a booming technology that has developed far beyond the experimental stage. Most of the early bugs have been worked out. Michigan fruit growers are sold on it and have been converting their orchards to it by thousands of acres per year. For nurserymen it's a technology worth knowing about.

 Basically what the systems do is deliver very small amounts of water to the growing stock exactly where it needs it the most — directly to the root zone. Water reaches each such zone through a network of pipes, usually consisting of a large main line and smaller laterals running down the rows of trees. The key to the effectiveness of a trickle irrigation system is the emitter — the tiny opening in the pipe network at each tree, permitting minute amounts of water to trickle out at precisely the correct spot and at precisely the correct rate.

As might be expected, most of the development of trickle irrigation systems was done in arid regions of the world, where a little water has to do a lot of work. The basic concept appears to have originated in greenhouse applications in England, according to Dr. A. L. Kenworthy of the Michigan State University horticulture department, the pioneer trickle irrigation researcher in the Midwest. "The technology was picked up and used in Israel in the late '60s, where it was called drip irrigation," Kenworthy said. "Next it moved to Australia, then it came into the U.S. by way of California, and then to Michigan. As far as the eastern states are concerned, there is more trickle irrigation in Michigan than anywhere else. I'd guess there are 70,000 acres with it now in Michigan orchards."

Farley got involved in 1972. "As far as we know, we were the first in the world to use trickle irrigation in the field production of nursery stock," he said. "There's more interest in it now, and more nurseries are using it."

Farley worked closely with MSU doctoral student Harry Ponder, who wound up his dissertation on trickle irrigation in 1975 after doing all his field research at Farley's nursery. It dealt to some extent with earlier technology, some of which has become superseded in the fast-moving trickle irrigation world. Kenworthy says, "There is a lot of development still going on. They do take a lot of maintenance."

The problems are outweighed by the advantages, however, in the opinion of Farley and his foreman Barry Benson, both of whom take little prodding to start talking enthusiastically of their own trickle system.

"One of the most significant advantages is the capability of tailoring the root system, that's the specific area that excites me the most," Farley said. "We get a greater root system with a greater root surface. We not only increase the amount of feeder roots, we also get a greater amount of structural roots. We've determined to our satisfaction that we can influence the location of the roots, to where we have them nearly all in the soil ball."

To do so, however, takes precision — "the right rate of water, the right duration, and water directly at the tree. The principle is rather simple, though. The roots develop mostly where the water is, so if the bulk of the moisture is localized within the zone which will make up the eventual ball, the roots will proliferate right there."

That regulated supply of localized moisture leads to another advantage. "Trickle irrigation keeps the soil in a good moisture condition for digging," Farley said. "That's particularly helpful for our summer or early fall balling."

Trickle irrigation also minimizes transplant shock for the trees the first year in the field. "The risk of first-year loss is reduced," Farley said. "Daily watering from the time of planting does the trick." Farley is now able to keep his tree mortality down to about one-tenth of one percent the first year in the field.

The trees even start growing that first year. "Ordinarily their energy goes into the roots the first year to overcome the shock," Benson ex-
STOP

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GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM

If you are looking for a positive approach to turfgrass management that will produce better results than any other method available, one that will build your image as an authority on a truly professional basis, then you will want to consider the GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM.

There are available a vast number of fertilizers, weed killers, pesticides and other types of chemicals designed for general application but very few of these take into consideration local soil and environmental conditions.

Because of the wide use of these products, and due to the fact that they are manufactured for mass consumption on a national basis, the general public believes that these products are the 'cure-all' and therefore, the only method of obtaining desired results. But, the opposite has become more and more evident. Instead of grasses and ornamentals becoming more beautiful and stronger, they are becoming weaker and more susceptible to stress conditions, wear and tear, insects, disease, etc.

Over 30 years of extensive research has been expended by Agro Chem in developing a system to overcome such problems. As we investigated man's synthetic approach to improving the health and vigor of turf grasses and ornamentals, it has become evident that natural methods were far superior and that man's artificial approaches just create more problems.

The GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM has been developed through these years of extensive research. It is a system that actually works with nature, her rhythm and her many natural complexities; one that encourages plants to grow naturally stronger and more resistant to unfavorable environmental and soil conditions and other adversities.

Rather than trying to create a product to offset an adverse condition, which has been the standard method of developing products and processes to help grow plants healthfully, Agro Chem has directed its research & development towards finding out how plants, especially turf grasses, have been able to sustain themselves and continue to grow for millions of years without the aid of man. With every step of research new discoveries were made, unlocking the secrets of nature and resulting in a complete system that actually encourages plants to grow naturally. This means that they become hardier, sturdier, deeper green in color, have deeper, stronger root systems and become healthier than ever before possible. When the plant becomes stronger, it is more capable of resisting insect and disease attacks, adverse weather and other unfavorable conditions that are common to the life of all living organisms.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN MAGIC AS A COMPLETE SYSTEM INVOLVED THE FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS:

1. PROVIDING A COMPLETE NUTRITIONAL DIET IN THE PROPER CHEMICAL & PHYSICAL FORMS FOR THE PLANTS DESIRED.

   Each species of plant requires certain conditions for ideal growth. If these conditions are met, the plant will grow luxuriantly. Conversely, when these conditions are not met, plants will slow down in their growth, weaken, and eventually be replaced by other, less desirable plants that are more adaptable to a change in environmental conditions. This process is called "The Evolutionary Process"; where one plant will replace another plant as conditions change in a local soil or geographical area.

   Nutrient availability is one of the most important of these conditions and Agro Chem has determined exactly the nutritional requirements of the various turfgrasses to provide optimum vigor and growth. Nutritional requirements encompass a complex system that involves not only the primary nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorous, potash), but the secondary and micro nutrients (calcium, magnesium, sulfur, iron, manganese, copper, zinc, boron and many others), all contained in a natural form that can be absorbed by plants without weakening or damaging the plant, soil or micro organisms life within the soil.

   Strange as it may seem, most of the ingredients supplied to the soil artificially, by man, are in a form that is often quite toxic to the plant, soil and micro organism life, as well as being unnatural. Our research studies have shown us that many ingredients used to stimulate plant growth are applied to the soil without any consideration or knowledge of what the plant requires and how this whole nutritional system works in nature and without any regard to the entire natural cycle that makes nature work so well.

   Research has shown that nature is not so ready to accept these synthetic, unnatural applications. Even though there may be initial positive signs in growth response, many detrimental things happen with repeated applications. Thus, a natural system must take all this into consideration in order to get a natural growth response.

2. IMPROVING THE SOIL

In the turf grass field, the soil has been taken for granted and not much concern has been shown for its improvement or what soil conditions are best for growing turf grass. Agro Chem's extended research has shown that the soil is one of the most critical components of this natural system and it must be handled very carefully because the condition of the soil determines the quality and depth of the root system and the overall health and beauty of desirable turf grasses.

It has long been known, especially in the farming communities, that continual application of chemical fertilizers and pesticides to the soil reduces the productivity of the soil by killing soil microbes and destroying soil aggregates which causes many problems such as: Excessive amounts of unnatural erosion run-off and pollution of the underground water tables, streams, ponds and other natural water holding areas.

The soil, instead of becoming more productive and building up its organic matter residues and its micro organism activities, becomes drastically depleted of its organic matter content and often times becomes stratified, with layers of sand, silt and clay making the soil more compact and less penetrable by air, water
and nutrients. The soil becomes less suitable for the growth of desirable plants and encourages their roots to grow toward the surface instead of deeper into the soil.

3. THE IMPORTANCE OF SOIL ORGANISMS
Soil organisms are responsible for natural decomposition of dead organic matter and development of the essential organic matter and humus within the soil. A highly organic soil is a very productive soil which is capable of supporting optimum plant growth. Soil organisms include bacteria, fungi, and virus organisms, plus many other living creatures within the soil. These contribute to the soil complex and are responsible for the natural relationships between plants and soils.

The application of various types of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides has an immediate impact on the life within the soil. From continual use or misuse of such products, the soil can be changed from a desirable to an undesirable condition which diminishes the health and vigor of the desirable plants.

If these beneficial soil organisms are missing, they are replaced under the GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM. Such continual chemical applications destroy the beneficial microbes that play a major role in bringing nitrogen into the soil and making the complete chain of nutritional elements available for plant consumption. These microorganisms are responsible for the decomposition of plant litter (mat & thatch in lawns) and when the microbes are destroyed, mat & thatch does not decompose, but instead, accumulates at the soil surface, restricting the penetration of air, water and nutrients, which therefore restrict the penetration of roots into the soil. This situation encourages these roots to grow on the surface — creating additional mat & thatch accumulation.

Mat & thatch is an unnatural and undesirable condition because it holds moisture (like a sponge) on the surface of the soil. Sunlight warms it and creates a condition of high humidity and high temperature which is ideal for the invasion of pathogenic disease, insects and other unfavorable occurrences.

Considerable research was undertaken to look into the pathogenic organisms and insects that are responsible for the serious problem of turf grases. Insects, fungus and viral disease are constantly associated with turf grasses in nature; only when man interferes, using his artificial methods, do these pathogens commonly get out of control where attacks reach epidemic proportions. Once the growth characteristics and life cycles of such pathogenic organisms were understood, there was a much better chance of providing a natural control program without the use of extensive amounts of fungicides and pesticides. THE GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM is a natural control program and therefore, helps destroy such pestulance problems.

4. ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS
Because plants respire or breathe just as animals do, consideration must be given to the quality of the air and what it contains in the form of gases and other elements which could be regarded as pollutants. Air quality plays a vital role in the plant environment. This relationship has been studied and the knowledge gained by Agro Chem has been applied in the development of the GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM.

5. SOIL TESTING
"You don't know what you don't know". One of the prime reasons for the gradual weakening of the grass and the destruction of the soil is the misuse-application of fertilizers and chemicals which destroys the delicate balance of all the nutrients and other vital soil components.

Elimination of the "guessing" technique of applying plant nutrients and replacing it with the application of precise nutrients and soil building additives, formulated to soil test requirements — produces positive grass growth responses and helps nature rebuild the soil without the use of extensive amounts of fungicides and pesticides. THE GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM is a natural control program and therefore, helps destroy such pestulance problems.

SUMMARY
As can readily be seen, the GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM is a low cost and very unique. It is highly successful due to the consideration given each condition. In order to be totally successful in the system, one must have the basic knowledge of how nature works in growing the various plants on this earth. The benefits of the GREEN MAGIC SYSTEM are many and include the following:


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Trickle Irrigation from page 63

plained. “But under trickle irrigation, we actually get top growth that first year.”

The systematic application of adequate amounts of water reduces the stress that accompanies nature’s erratic watering pattern, and the trees thrive accordingly. Farley calculates that trickle irrigation boosts tree growth by about 20 percent ahead of normal.

Tree health is also improved by the systematic application of fertilizers, which are introduced into and distributed throughout the trickle irrigation network. There is also grower health involved in that setup — remarkable reductions in fertilizer costs because smaller amounts are used and they’re used more effectively. There is practically no wastage because of the targeted applications — just the root zones are fertilized, not the weeds out in the rows and not the nearby creek that gets the runoff. Farley estimates that fertilizer savings of 96 percent can be realized.

It may also be possible to effectively apply pesticides through a trickle irrigation system. Farley is cooperating with MSU entomologists in research on this application. More work will be done next summer. If the efforts prove successful, fruit growers are also likely to adopt the technique.

All these benefits have prompted Farley to plant each year’s deciduous tree crop with trickle irrigation — between 20 and 30 acres each year. He has a total of about 120 acres now under the system, with about 50 acres of older trees still with conventional watering. His evergreen shrubs, which constitute about one-third of his plantings, will continue to get overhead irrigation. He’s still making up his mind how big to go with trickle irrigation on his evergreen trees, most of which are still watered conventionally.

Farley is now phasing out the system of microtube emitters that he adopted at first. The microtubes are just that — narrow pieces of plastic tubing with very fine openings through the center for the transmission of the water.

But they have presented a lot of headaches and, according to Kenworthy, are not widely used in the industry any more. The fine holes are susceptible to plugging, either from very small sediment particles or mineralization. Farley found that his got fragile too readily and broke. And the birds loved them and apparently pulled some of them out from their connections to the lateral lines. “Maybe the microtubes wiggled and the birds thought they were worms,” Farley speculated. “Or maybe the birds were smart enough to know that if they pulled them out, they’d get some water flowing out.”

The microtubes also required extensive calculations in order to get the proper amounts of water to trickle out of them. The length of each such tube had to be cut exactly to compensate for differential pressure relating to distance from the water source and slope of the land.

A host of complex pressure-compensating emitters is now on the market, most featuring internal diaphragms and springs. Farley has settled on a less complicated, and hence cheaper, emitter made by Spot Systems of Redmond, Wash. It provides pressure compensation by spinning the water internally through a vortex pattern. “They work real well, and they’re relatively inexpensive com-
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pared to the other pressure-compensating emitters,” Farley said. “They’re more expensive than microtubes, but we can justify the extra cost by the better performance and the time saving.”

The latter is a major item. The microtube installation required from one to three weeks to allow for land survey, calculations, cutting and insertion of the tubes. With the vortex emitters, the workers can go right down the laterals, punch holes in them where they are adjacent to the tree trunks, and then insert the tiny emitters. And since these laterals are laid at the same time the trees are planted, the whole installation can proceed across a block of trees as smoothly and efficiently as a squad of soldiers across a parade ground. The trees are getting their water almost before they realize they need it.

The laterals are half-inch flexible polyethylene pipe, of relatively lightweight grade, which is adequate because the water flow through them is of low pressure. Farley snakes the laterals S-fashion around each succeeding tree down the row, with a pile of dirt over the pipe between each tree. The intent is to compensate for the detrimental effects of expansion. As the pipe expands and contracts through varying weather, the differential is taken up between the trees, with side movement, and each emitter remains where it’s supposed to be — right at the tree trunk. A wandering emitter would lead the roots to wherever it happened to be, and the localized, compact root ball would not develop properly.

For his main lines, Farley uses two-inch poly pipe, rather than rigid PVC pipe as he did earlier. Again the flexibility pays off. The poly pipe can be unreeled and knifed in like a cable layer beneath the surface. “Stay away from PVC pipe simply for the ease of installation,” Farley advised. “The subsoiler blade can put in the poly pipe at one-half mile per hour, and you’re really whistling Dixie.”

Farley also sticks to a maximum diameter of two inches for his main line. If more water is needed, he will install a second line of the same size next to it, rather than putting in a single larger pipe. He keeps friction loss to a minimum that way and avoids having to go to rigid pipe.

Filtration is critical to efficient operation of the system. Farley uses filters with at least 100 mesh per inch to keep even tiny sediment particles out. The vortex emitters can also be back-flushed for easy cleaning, in case sediment gets in.

A typical block of trees might range up to 45 to 50 acres off a single five-inch well with a five-horsepower motor, but Farley also installs time clocks and solenoids so that each block is broken into zones that are individually watered. Nutrients such as liquid nitrogen can be added to trickle irrigation systems either by injection pumps or pressure-drop devices.

The whole network is set up so that the trees get what they need, most efficiently and at a low cost. In a few years, every deciduous tree in the nursery will be getting the advantages of trickle irrigation.
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Q: What do you recommend for rehabilitation of campground sites and playground areas where heavy use causes deterioration and continual destruction of turf? St. Louis, MO

A: The symptom of the problem is poor turf cover and the causes may be:
1) Compacted rootzones.
2) Excessive mechanical damage to the turf.
3) Inadequate surface and subsurface drainage.
4) Improper turf varieties.
5) Improper maintenance practices.
6) Inadequate maintenance budget.

All of these are complicated by the fact that St. Louis is infamous for its adverse heat/humidity effects on turf. However, improvement in turf quality may be gained by isolating each deliterious factor and solving them individually as time and money permit.

The soil compaction problem is obviously reduced by aeration and in this case the greater the frequency the better. As a minimum, I would suggest at least twice in the fall; once soon after Labor Day and another just prior to the ground freezing. With the early aeration the plugs may be removed if they are unsightly or if rain would turn them to mud. If your budget and manpower permit, remove the plugs from those most trafficked areas and topdress heavily with sand. With the late aerification just try to get the holes as big and deep as possible so they become reservoirs for water that may aid the freezing, thawing, and heaving processes of winter. This natural process does much to relieve compacted areas and should be encouraged. Sand topdressings at any period when the turf is actively growing is recommended.

Surface and subsurface drainage may be important because you have little control over when people use the park or campgrounds, and their use when soils are too wet may contribute to the compacted rootzones. Consult with your local soil conservation service representative for the best spacing and depth of tile for your given soils.

The mechanical damage to the turf is difficult to control but may be reduced by keeping wheel traffic to an absolute minimum, provide paths or walkways in congested areas, and mowing turf.

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VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

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Question: I would like to hear an expert's true opinion on the use of tree spikes (gaffs) for climbing and its effects on the tree.

Answer: We do not recommend the use of gaffs or any other practice that unnecessarily disrupts the protective bark layer.

Recent evidence has shown that trees respond chemically and structurally to a wound and compartmentalize or "wall off" the area around the wound. Some species are highly effective at containing invading microorganisms that lead to internal decay, while others display a weak wound response.

I would suggest that you contact Dr. Alex Shigo for more detailed information on wound research. His address is: USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Durham, New Hampshire 03824.

Question: Will two inches of topsoil and a layer of sod cause any serious damage to a pure stand of Norway pine (Pinus resinosa)?

Answer: I do not have any specific information for Pinus resinosa, but we have records of as little as one inch of fill soil causing the decline of other species.

Of course, some species will tolerate fill over the root system better than others, but, in most cases, the roots of established trees will be injured by any change in grade.

Trees which have had fill placed over the root system should be watched carefully for at least ten years. Thinning and fertilization will help reestablish the equilibrium between the roots and shoot (stem and foliage) of affected trees.

Question: What can be done to control verticillium in maple trees? My maples are dying.

Answer: Several researchers are testing materials for chemical control or suppression of verticillium wilt. Dr. Peter Rice of The Royal Botanic Garden in Ontario has had encouraging results with Lignasan BLP. However, the treatments with Lignasan and with the other chemicals currently being tested are still experimental and are not recommended for commercial use.

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Manual of Woody Landscape Plants is a valuable reference for anyone interested in woody plants. The book provides concise, factual information on common and not-so-common woody ornamentals, ground covers and vines as well as the narrowleaf and broadleaf evergreens which are adapted to Midwestern and Eastern climates.  
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Continues on page 92
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HELP WANTED from page 90

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Take a good look at this good-looking fairway.

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