Jacklin’s acquisition fuels company’s growth

The Jacklin Seed Company, a division of the Vaughn-Jacklin Corporation, continued its rapid expansion by acquiring certain assets of the Jenks-White Seed Company. Jenks-White reported more than $6 million in seed sales last year. This was the second sizable asset acquisition in two months for the Post Falls, ID, seed firm.

Jacklin’s new facility, in Tangent, OR, will be operated as the Jenks-White division of Jacklin Seed Company. Jim Jenks, Howard Jenks and Dick Bailey of Jacklin’s Salem, OR, office, will manage the new division. The North Coast Seed Company and other related companies of Jenks-White Seed Company are not involved in the purchase.

Two months ago Jacklin acquired the operating facilities of the Gold Coast Seed Company in Nez Perce, ID. Jacklin grows, processes and markets proprietary and patented varieties of Kentucky bluegrass, environmental reclamation and other grass seed. It is one of several divisions of Vaughn-Jacklin Corporation, a nationwide wholesale distributor, manufacturer and grower of professionally used horticultural products and home and garden supply items.

Word from the seed companies—

Lofts Pedigreed Seed says that two erroneous statements were included in the January-December (Volume 8) of the Official Journal of the USDA’s Plant Variety Protection Office. Contrary to the journal’s statements, both Baron Kentucky bluegrass and Ram I Kentucky bluegrass are fully protected turf varieties.

The company also states that its tall fescue, Rebel, will be used as 90 percent of the mixture in the new driving range built for the Congressional Golf Club, host of the Kemper Open. The remaining 10 percent was Baron Kentucky bluegrass.

Jacklin Seed says that perennial ryegrass has come a long way in the past ten years from its use in pastures to fine turf areas. It is not only beautiful but quite winter hardy and almost as widely adapted as Kentucky bluegrass. Whatever way perennial ryegrass is used, the versatility of the new varieties such as Jackpot, Citation, and Elka guarantees good results with so little bother that lawn making and repair requires little effort, says Jacklin.

The company also announces purchase of the Nez Perce, Idaho, operating facilities of Gold Coast Seed Company. Officials at Post Falls, ID, Jacklin’s headquarters, said it would be operated as a department of that division. Jim Henderson, currently the general manager of Nez Perce, will continue in this capacity for Jacklin.

International Seeds is now marketing ‘Scenic’ Kentucky bluegrass (Poa pratensis), which is hardy, grows and spreads rapidly, and has about the same density as Merion. It is slightly less prostrate in growth habit than Merion, with finer leaves and darker green leaf color. It holds its green color well even under conditions of low soil fertility and it is quite drought tolerant.

Television viewers exposed to sod, promotion

Approximately 120 public television stations broadcast a sod installation demonstration in early July. The segment was part of a Public Broadcasting System television series “This Old House,” which describes all the phases involved in restoring a house.

The half hour episode was mostly concerned with landscaping and had a seven minute segment detailing the installation process and informing the viewers about the instant beauty of sod. Chris Beasley, of Tuckahoe Turf in Rhode Island installed the sod and explained how sod ties in with landscaping in general.

The American Sod Producers Association helped promote the show and encouraged local ASPA members to advertise in their local newspapers and television guides.