

Editorial Information

The Construction and Maintenance of Ornamental and Sports Turf 3-day Conference/Course at Cornwall Technical College, Poole, Redruth

The first day of this 3-day course was January 27th.

The first lecture was given by Mr. J. R. Escritt, of the Sports Turf Research Institute and was entitled "The Construction/Renovation of Ornamental and Sports Turf Areas". The second lecture of the day on "Aeration" was by Mr. D. A. Tait of SISIS Equipment (Macclesfield) Limited and was illustrated with colour slides.

After lunch Mr. Tait presented a demonstration of variety of SISIS equipment including the Duo-Rotorake, Auto-Turfman, Auto-Outfield Spiker and many hand operated implements.

Finally, Mr. Escritt spoke on "Up-to-date approaches to Turf Maintenance and Improvements".

World Leaders in Grass Machinery Make Reciprocal Marketing Arrangement

A marketing agreement has been reached between Ransomes, Europe's largest manufacturer of professional grass cutting machinery and Hahn Inc. of U.S.A., specialists in turf and lawn equipment.

Under the agreement, Ransomes will have exclusive world-wide marketing rights outside North America and Japan for the complete range of Hahn's turf products, and Hahn will have exclusive marketing rights for Ransomes grass machinery products in U.S.A.

To complement the arrangement a convertible loan of $\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars has been made by Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd., to Hahn, thus ensuring a financial link between the two companies.

Managing Director of Ransomes, Mr. Geoffrey Bone, explained that this agreement marked an important development in the marketing strength of both companies. The wide range of specialised grass cutting and turf maintenance machinery now available will considerably strengthen the position of distributors throughout the world.

Editor's Note

Hahn of Evansville, Indiana, U.S.A. manufacture lawn and turf equipment for the professional and domestic user and agricultural machinery. Their annual turnover is approximately \$4,000,000.

Pennfine News Release

Once again a major turfgrass introduction has been announced by the Penn State University team led by Dr. Joseph Duich, professor of turfgrass science. Only two years after the blockbuster introduction of Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass, Dr. Duich has announced the release of a new fine-leaved ryegrass that promises great things. Called Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), its field tests reveal a number of qualities that ryegrasses have never before exhibited, among them:

It cuts more cleanly than any other fine-leaved perennial ryegrass on the market. Cutting doesn't produce the fibrous "paintbrush" top that quickly turns brown. Instead, Pennfine takes a smooth, attractive cut.

Its leaves are finer than other varieties tested, averaging 2.5 mm for the first mature leaf while others ranged from 2.7 to 5.6 mm.

It has better heat tolerance, density and overall disease resistance. In fact, it ranks first in tolerance to snowmold and leaf spot (*Helminthosporium*).

Turf superintendents are closely following reports of this new variety's performance, since it seems to offer a means of adding new early-season and late-season beauty to turfgrass stands. As it comes up earlier and persists later than the bluegrasses and fine fescues, Pennfine can lengthen the "good looks" season of any turf.