

ON THE COURSE

the greenkeeping staff a chance to do all the jobs on the course for variety and experience. Once a man has been properly trained he will have the ability and confidence to work on his own without direct supervision. We have quite a young staff who are enthusiastic and like to talk about the profession. Three of them have the potential to eventually become good head-greenkeepers."

"My club is very progressive and have always been considerate in all their dealings with me. For the past few years we have been running on a tight budgetary system. Last year we did very well from green fees and were able to give the staff an acceptable pay increase as a result."

"Each year I present the committee with a budget for running the course which has to be approved. After this it is virtually up to me to keep strictly to my estimates. The Treasurer's monthly statements tell me whether I am under or over budget but basically my financial forecasts have always worked out quite well."

"I have a good Green Convenor who keeps in touch with me on a regular basis about course matters, I am also in daily contact with the club secretary. The committee leave me to get on with the job of running the course and we don't have too many green committee meetings which is the way things should be."

"I had always been involved with the affairs of SIGGA and at one time held the posts of vice-chairman and chairman of the West Section. When I moved to Ayrshire I eventually became Secretary for this area. Being keen on greenkeeper training and education locally I have been working closely with Harry Diamond in setting up a programme for the technical college and we have had discussions with the managing agents for the YTS. There is always plenty to do and we all have a contribution to make to the success of BIGGA."

"Part of a contented life for any greenkeeper is having a nice area to live and work in and for that I have no complaints. Another consideration is a happy family life with good educational facilities in the vicinity for the children. We are fortunate to have a superb sports complex nearby which is an added bonus. I am contented with my life style so what more could one ask for!"

BIGGA/SUPATURF 1989 EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE QUEENS' COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, 4th-6th April, 1989

The programme for the conference will be distributed to members shortly, but in the next few months, THE GOLF COURSE will profile a number of the speakers, commencing in this issue, with Professor J B Beard of Texas A & M University. Members are reminded that places can be secured at this stage by forwarding payment of £15.00 deposit to headquarters office.

DR JAMES B BEARD

Professor Beard was born in Bradford, Ohio and is married with two sons. His academic record includes periods at Ohio State University (B.S. Agronomy), Purdue University (M.S. Turfgrass Ecology and Ph. D. Turfgrass Physiology), and a N.S.F. Post-Doctoral at the University of California - Riverside.

He has held a number of senior positions and since 1975 has been Professor, Soil and Crop Sciences Department, Texas A & M University in which post he provides leadership and co-ordination of the research programme in stress physiology and culture of perennial grasses. Professor Beard has pioneered investigations concerning: turfgrass evapotranspiration, rooting, drought stress, metabolic basis of indirect heat stress, shade adaptation, wear tolerance, and thatch biodegradation. Discovery of the spring root decline phenomenon in C-4 grasses is of particular note. Other research emphases have been on the prevention of winter injury, ecology of grass communities, roadside establishment, and sod production. He is the author of 114 scientific journal papers and 286 popular technical articles.

His teaching activities have included two undergraduate turfgrass courses plus graduate grass ecology and stress physiology courses. He has been active in graduate and undergraduate curriculum development, and currently advises approximately 25 undergraduate students and has served as major professor to 36 graduate students. He was previously involved in extension activities, and lectures widely throughout North America.

He is the author, in collaboration with his wife, Harriet, of four books and a laboratory manual, and had given numerous invitational papers and served as an advisor at international conferences and symposia in the US, Europe, Far East, Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia. He was instrumental in the initiation and organisation of the First International Turfgrass Research Conference held in Harrogate in 1969. Professor Beard has been Chairman of the departmental Undergraduate Curriculum, Graduate, and Advisory Committees, and has served on many national committees including the Roadside Development Committee of the Highway Research Board, National Research Council, Research Advisory Committee of the O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Musser Foundation Board of Directors, Southern Regional Task Force on Plants to Enhance Man's Environment, and the CAST Task Force on Chlordane and Heptachlor.

Professor Beard has written a number of books including 'Turfgrass: Science and Culture' (1973), and 'Turfgrass Management for Golf Courses' (1983). He is a Past President of the Crop Science Society of America and Past Chairman of the American Society of Agronomy.

BIGGA is delighted to have obtained the services of such a distinguished speaker for the Cambridge Conference and Professor Beard has agreed to give two lectures on

- (i) 'Current Trends in the Maintenance and Science of Golf Course Turfs in the United States' and
- (ii) 'Basic Turfgrass Nutritional Strategies'

We look forward to welcoming him to Cambridge.

