## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS TURFGRASS FIELD DAY

The Second Annual Turfgrass Field Day was held July 27th at Urbana, Illinois.

Bus tours to various test plots occupied the morning. At the Champaign Country Club arsenical pre-emergence control of crab grass in large areas has been effective for several years. Endothol is being used at this club for control of knotweed. Fairways, which are predominantly bluegrass, had been recently sprayed with this material and knotweed's reaction looked good. Charley Jones says he has found that some bent strains are subject to damage while others are not.

Fred Slife of Agronomy Department gave a run-down of his pre-emergence plots on the University of Illinois Campus Course. Most of these looked good. His statement, that it is no longer a question of being able to control crab grass, but which of many materials to use, was well illustrated. Mike Britton had some active Helminthsporium on a nearby green and drew quite a crowd demonstrating the symptoms of this parasite.

The afternoon tour terminated with a visit to the newly planted turf plots on the Horticulture farm. Harleigh Kemmerer has some very extensive plots laid out which were planted for the second time this spring. Last fall's plantings were washed out. Because of this misfortune there is not too much to see, but the extensiveness and the planning indicate that the foundation has been laid for some very worthwhile work.

The 181 attending represented a broad range of turf interest and came from all parts of Illinois as well as several of our neighboring states.

Following a chicken lunch the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation presented Dean Howard of the College of Agriculture with a check for \$1,400.00 to be used in turfgrass research.

Dr. Britton and the University were also presented a new Jacobson putting green mower to cut the new plots. The donators were: Illinois Lawn Equipment Inc. of Orland Park, Illinois and the Midwest Turf & Garden Supply Inc., Grayslake, Illinois.

## MIDWEST TURF FIELD DAYS September 14-15, 1961

Same program each day

- 9:30 Program begins on Experimental Putting Green, South Campus
  - W. H. Daniel Bentgrass varieties testing
  - W. H. Daniels Nitrogen residuals after 5 years use on bentgrass
  - Mel Hansen Calcined clay aggragates in rootzone mixtures 26 mixtures, 2 years results, demonstrations
- 10:15 A.M. Move west 2 blocks, south of old pavilion Turf renovation with chemicals

Residual of fall crabgrass treatments, seedling survival data

 10:45 A.M. — Assemble on Intra-mural field
3 blocks west, 1 north of Experimental Putting Green

Mechanical renovation demonstrated Crabgrass pre-emergence 1958-1961 plots Long turf chemical use report

- 11:40 A.M. See rebuilt field Purdue Stadium
- 12:15 A.M. Break for lunch on your own
- 1:30 P.M. Assemble at Agronomy Farm 7 miles N.W. of Lafayette on Highway 52

- Bob Seager Residual from mixed fertilizers 3 year report
- Bill Lobenstein Testing bluegrasses for performance

R. C. Pickett — Bluegrass variety performance -Park, Delta, Newport, Penn State K-5-47, etc.

Bill LeCroy - Zoysia selecting and testing

- W. H. Daniel Zoysia seedling performance (4 vears)
- W. H. Daniel Residual from sources of nitrogen (4 years)
- Mel Hansen Competition of tall fescue and bluegrass in athletic field sod
- W. H. Daniel Lawn mixtures 1950-1961 A review

Bob Seager - Zoysia grooming - illustrated

4:00 P.M. — Program closes

Join in a sit down discussion at plots

- Side trip Lafayette Country Club fairway program with arsenics
- From: W. H. Daniel, Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

## THE HEAT'S ON!

This article is taken from the USGA Eastern Turfletter

"The happiest people are those who are too busy to be unhappy"... so goes the old quote! Well, there are few busier summer workers than those whose profession is to maintain and manage turf grasses for golf. In summer, golf course men in many ways resemble the popular "one-armed paper-hanger"... they have numerous details to take care of ... some minute ... some rather sizeable ... but all exacting! For these busy men, their real barometer for happiness is the appearance of "their" golf course ... You can almost guess the condition the course is upon arrival when you step up and shake hands with the man in charge.

There are numerous obstacles in the path of happy turf, and happy superintendants. Some of the more important ones . . . diseases . . . wilt . . . scald . . . weeds . . . heavy soils . . . thatch . . . human error . . . grain . . . compaction. To state them is simple, but the diagnoses, the causal ramifications, and the corrections for each are not so simple to come up with . . . especially when these problems are compounded . . . i. e. disease on wilt . . . disease on disease . . mechanical injury on wilt . . . weeds in a new seeding . . . etc.

Let's examine the problem of SCALD . . . which is also defined sometimes as *WET WILT* . . . a problem which is prevalent in areas of this region at this writing. Scald occurs when we have a supersaturated condition of the soil, followed by high temperatures and high humidity. This Spring season was very rainy and soils have been too wet right along . . . then came occasional

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Under these conditions, the soil moisture and the moisture in thatch begin to heat up (Superintendants will swear it begins to BOIL) and the oxygen supply is cut-off . . . grass roots are standing in water and cannot function properly . . . they cannot breathe, so they become limp and discolored and if not recognized quickly as a condition of scald, then the grasses will die.

A symptom that usually accompanies scald is the scalping of greens . . . the soils are soft and grasses are puffy . . . and the mower sinks into the turf and cuts lower than it normally would.

What is the correction required to keep the grasses from dying when injured by scald? As contrary as it sounds, the first thing to do is to apply water . . . just a little bit . . . a showering or syringing of the turf . . . regardless of time of day or whether or not the sun is beating down on the turf. Oft-times a member of the Greens Committee will be concerned that watering while the sun is beating down on the turf is detrimental. It is not the time of day, but how much water is applied that is important!

Yet, it is necessary to syringe or shower the turf several times daily . . . and this is to COOL THE TURF . . . by cooling the turf, we slow down its rate of respiration . . . and by doing so, we reduce the urgent need for oxygen . . . also, there is some oxygen forced through the blades when syringed . . . and so the loss of turf is minimized.

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