THE PENNSYLVANIA TURFGRASS COUNCIL INC.

Organization

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council is a non-profit, independent organization, legally chartered by the Courts of the State. It is composed of duly certified representatives from trade and other organizations, departments of the State Government, and industries, in each of which some phase of turfgrass production or management is an important part of their operations.

Technical Advisory Committee

The Council depends for advice on technical matters relating to turfgrass production and management on a Technical Advisory Committee composed of all Staff Members of the Pennsylvania State University who are actively associated with research, resident instruction, and extension service, in the turfgrass field. Dr. J. M. Duich is chairman.

Objectives

The rapid expansion of interest in, and use of turfgrass on hundreds of thousands of acres in lawns, athletic fields, roadsides, parks and playgrounds, golf courses, and other areas, has created an ever increasing demand for sound and specific information on the many problems incidental to turfgrass establishment and maintenance. It also has created a very large actual, and even greater potential market for equipment, seed, fertilizer, soil modifying materials, chemicals, and other products and services used in turfgrass production.

Huge sums of money, in aggregate, are spent annually on the establishment and maintenance of turf-grass areas. The quality of the turf on many of these indicates that too large a proportion of the total outlay is not used to the best advantage, because of a general lack of understanding of the basic principles and their practical applications, which are funda-

mental to good turf production.

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council was formed and has undertaken to meet this challenge. Its major objectives are:

- To collect and publish complete and accurate information on the extent of the turfgrass industry in the State.
- To inform the public of souces of sound information and how it can be obtained.
- To encourage and support publication of needed information by educational and research institutions.
- 4. To advance research and technical education in the turfgrass field by support (financial aid and otherwise) of a strong research and education program at the Pennsylvania State University, by grants of funds from monies the Council collects for these purposes.
- To support in every possible way the technical training of professionals in turfgrass management
- To lend support and assistance in the formation of local turfgrass associations.
- To fully examine the critical evidence of the value and usefulness of consumer products, and disseminate the results of findings through publications of bulletins, news releases, and other means.
- To urge state educational, research, and regulatory institutions to provide regional facilities and additional manpower to properly service the turfgrass field.

 To cooperate with similar organizations in other states to secure broader recognition of the importance of the turfgrass field, and greater uniformity in recommendations on the many phases of production and management.

 To confer with industry on ways and means of securing more widespread use of good equipment, quality materials, and recommended prac-

tices.

Accomplishments

 The Council promoted and partially supported the first complete survey of the turfgrass industry in Pennsylvania. The survey was conducted by the Crop Reporting Service, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Results have been published in special Bulletin CRS-42, 1966 TURFGRASS SURVEY.

 A complete list of all available publications by the Pennsylvania State University on turfgrass production and management has been placed in the hands of all Council members for reference to the membership of their individual organizations. Distributed press releases on topics of timely interest in the turfgrass field.

3. Major publications prepared and distributed by the

Council include:

 A guide for preparation of specifications for Turfgrass Establishment.

 Directions for Organizing and Conducting a Turfgrass Association.

c. The ABC of Crabgrass Control.

 d. Biennial Brochures on Council Organization & Activities.

 The Council sponsored the following research projects being conducted at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, and granted funds for their support in the amount of \$114,200.00.

Soil Modification \$39,500 Nitrogen Availability 32,500 Herbicide Studies 24,900 Disease Control 17,300

The Council also has contributed \$2000 in support of the Turfgrass Survey, and \$600 for enlargement of the research service building and establishment of the Valentine Memorial.

 The Council assisted in organizing turfgrass curricula in Technical High Schools and in development of a training manual for VoAg teachers of turfgrass courses.

We have sponsored the Annual Turfgrass Conference at the Pennsylvania State University in collaboration with the Department of Agronomy.

We have fully supported the development and expansion of the Winter Course (2 yrs.) at the Pennsylvania State University for training students in practical turfgrass management on the golf course and other extensive turfgrass areas.

 The Council has provided direct assistance in formation of 2 local turfgrass associations.

 The Council inaugurated issues of quarterly bulletins to disseminate useful information to Council members.

 The Council has prepared a program of increased facilities and manpower and is presenting it to the proper authorities.

 The Council is aiding other Turfgrass Associations to obtain surveys of the extent of turf in their states

Grants and Gifts

The activities of the Council are supported entirely by grants and gifts from individuals, organizations, and industries, who recognize the need for, and value of the program which has been undertaken.

The business of the Council is conducted by the Officers, the Board of Directors, and Standing Committees, with the approval of the Membership. No officer or other member of the Council receives a salary or other remuneration. This permits the use of

the entire resources of the organization for support of research and other activities that will promote the objectives of the Council.

Applications for membership on the Council by qualified Pennsylvania organizations are welcomed and will be given every consideration. No initiation

or membership fees are assessed.

Grants of funds can be made either for a specific purpose, such as support of a specific research project, or for the furtherance of the general program of the Council. All grants are made under a firm Memorandum of Agreement which obligates the Council to apply the funds only to the specific purpose as stated in the memorandum.

Note: Editor -

There has been no survey made in a midwestern state. Illinois would be a logical state. According to Mr. Grau it would take a lot of planning and organization to make it work the first time. After that it would be a routine thing through the Crop Reporting Service. All other crops are surveyed annually by C.R.S. on a tax-supported basis—why not turf?

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