WEED-FREE SEED IS ONE KEY

When sowing lawnseed, weeds are not a bargain, at any price. That's why it's so important to get agriculturally grown, carefully-cleaned seed. Glade and Fylking bluegrasses from the Jacklin Seed operations are two such. These famous cultivars have responded beautifully to the Washington state's climate, freed there from volunteer grass competition so prevalent in their native habitat. Fylking originated in southern Sweden, Glade in New York state.

Common bluegrass was introduced into eastern North America during colonial times. It quickly usurped broken ground as far west as the Great Plains, but had not crossed the arid basins west of there to reach eastern Washington. Thus when Jacklin Seed grows Fylking or Glade foundation seed, only the select cultivar will be found in their fields. Constant watchfulness keeps almost all weeds out of the stands. Should a few foreign seeds be picked up by chance, they would be eliminated quickly at the seed cleaning plant (where chaff and ''dirt'' are removed from the fully ripened grass seed by an intricate series of blowings, screenings and other separations).

The outcome is essentially pure Glade or Fylking lawnseed, golden treasure from the West much of which is sent back to Kentucky bluegrass' initial stamping grounds in the Eastern United States. There it transforms into the high-class, disease-resistant lawns expected these days from seeding or sodding. If you're a buyer of lawnseed, note on the label the exceptionally high germination and purity of Glade and Fylking; it's usually 95% or better, compared to the 75-85% that is standard for common Kentucky bluegrass. Observe, too, almost complete absence of weed seeds or other contaminants.

Doyle Jacklin, Agronomist Jacklin Seed Company

## SO WHAT'S A BILLION?

The FDIC News, which is published by employees of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., suggests that most people have lost sight of how much a billion really is.

"One million seconds ago, the first atomic bomb had not yet been exploded. One billion minutes ago, Christ was still on earth. One billion hours ago, men were still living in caves. Yet one billion dollars ago, in terms of government spending, was yesterday."

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