

## Initial Lawn Mowing Practice Determines Seedling Development

Research at Pennsylvania State University by Agronomist J. M. Duich has determined how to best mix Kentucky bluegrass and perennial ryegrass seed so that they produce an uniform appearing lawn with favorable genetic diversity. Balanced mixtures of these different grasses are difficult to obtain because of the more vigorous seedling growth of the ryegrass compared with the bluegrass. Early mowing practices have been found to influence these competitive relationships.

The consumer wants quick turf cover, contributed ryegrasses, and high turf quality, from bluegrasses.

Mowing started two weeks after planting - about nine days after the emergency of the ryegrass - is favorable to bluegrass stand development. At this time, there is usually about a fifty percent turfgrass ground cover.

Mowing at a one and one half inch height, starting two weeks after planting, produced a fifty-fifty mixture of bluegrass and ryegrass at two months when the seed mixture consisted of ninety five percent bluegrass and five percent ryegrass. Mowing at a one half inch height, starting two weeks after planting, produced a fifty-fifty mixture at two months when fifty percent bluegrass and fifty percent ryegrass were used.

Early close mowing favors bluegrass at the expense of the ryegrass. This makes possible the development of high quality turf using less bluegrass and more ryegrass in the seed mixture. Increasing the ryegrass results in more rapid development of lawngrass cover and greater consumer satisfaction.

The Lawn Institute

## TURFGRASS AND ORNAMENTAL CHEMICAL SEMINAR

### ADVANCED COURSE -- November 28 to 30, 1989

(This seminar is oriented to more in depth look at specialized problems for professional turf and ornamental applications. The course outline is given below.)

### FUNDAMENTAL COURSE -- February 21 and 22, 1990

(This seminar is designed for entry level turf people. It will also serve as a refresher course for turf professionals. A thorough update on applied knowledge for the end-user will be the emphasis in this seminar. It will be limited to turf chemicals.)

#### Tuesday, November 28, 1989

10:00-10:45 a.m. *Turfgrass Insect Biology* -- Jeff Lefton, Extension Turfgrass Specialist  
 10:45-12:00 noon *Turfgrass Insect Control Update* -- Tim Gibb, Extension Entomologist  
 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch -- on your own  
 1:00-2:45 p.m. *Soil Chemistry and Pesticides* -- Jim Ahlrich, Soil Chemist  
 2:45-3:00 p.m. Break  
 3:00-4:00 p.m. *Pesticides and Organic Matter* -- Ron Turco, Soil Microbiologist  
 4:00-5:30 p.m. *Application, Equipment Problems, and Calibration Problems* -- Drew Martin, Pesticide Program Specialist

#### Wednesday, November 29, 1989

8:00-9:00 a.m. *Broadleaf Weed Control Update* -- Jeff Lefton, Turfgrass Extension Specialist  
 9:00-9:45 a.m. *Nutsedge and Post-emergent Crabgrass Control* -- Jeff Lefton  
 9:45-10:00 a.m. Break  
 10:00-12:00 noon *Steps in the Diagnosis of Pesticide Plant Damage* -- Gail Ruhl, Plant Diagnostic Lab Director  
 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch -- on your own  
 1:00-2:00 p.m. *Crabgrass and Goosegrass Control Updates* -- Zachary Reicher, Turfgrass Research Scientist  
 2:00-3:00 p.m. *Bentgrass Disease Review* -- Don Scott, Turfgrass Pathologist  
 3:00-3:15 p.m. Break  
 3:15-3:45 p.m. *Patch Disease Update* -- Don Scott  
 3:45-5:30 p.m. *Fungicide Programming and Understanding Resistance* -- Don Scott

#### Thursday, November 30, 1989

8:00-8:45 a.m. *Turfgrass Fertilizers* -- Clark Throssell, Turfgrass Research Scientist  
 8:45-9:45 a.m. *Fertilization Strategies* -- Clark Throssell  
 9:45-10:00 a.m. *Turfgrass Management Teaching Program at Purdue*  
 10:00-10:15 a.m. Break  
 10:15-11:00 a.m. *Midwest Regional Turfgrass Foundation Activities* -- Jeff Lefton  
 11:00-12:00 noon *Poa Annua Controls and Growth Regulator Usage* -- Clark Throssell  
 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch -- on your own  
 1:00-2:00 p.m. *Ornamental Bed Weed Control* -- Phil Carpenter, Ornamental Horticulturist  
 2:00-3:00 p.m. *Ornamental Insects and Their Control* -- Tim Gibb, Extension Entomologist  
 3:00-4:00 p.m. *Ornamental Diseases and Their Control* -- Paul Pecknold, Extension Plant Pathologist  
 4:00-6:00 p.m. *Administer 3b and 3a Exam* -- Dick Kercher, Indiana State Chemist Office

**Seminar Location - CCH Credits -** Advanced Course (Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN)  
 Category 3B/10 - 9 units (requested)  
 Category 3A - 7 units (requested)

A brochure with a complete program description and cost will be sent to various mailing lists by November 1. If you do not receive a program please call Jo Horn at 317/494-8039.

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