(Turfgrass Variety Cost cont'd.)

releases. Conversely, when an accession succeeds and is properly marketed, it becomes a valuable asset.

The foregoing does not include the "ability to do the job" in terms of technical know-how, knowledgeable personnel at each level of development and suitable land sites. Also required are small lot seed processing equipment and plot machinery. Obviously a development program for more than one, or even a few varieties, must operate on a continuing basis for reclaiming costs.

The time frame to go through the foregoing process averages about ten years.

Source: Grass Clippings (Jacklin Seed Company)

Part #18-7530

by Tony Rzadzki, Asst. Supt. Cantigny Golf Club

Many of us have Toro Sand Pros. I'm sure by now, unless you have a machine less than one year old, that you have replaced part #18-7530 or it's counterpart #18-7550 (Inc. Ref. #390).

Since we officially opened this past June, our machines have been used daily as opposed to the occasional use two years prior. I had forgotten how often this little bar with it's unique pivot ball breaks. I imagine that this pivot feature is quite essential in some engineer's mind. Well maybe it is, but when your machine is chronically down and you are waiting for a part that breaks as consistently as the sunrise; then "the mother of invention" must step in.

Last month as usual, I wasn't told that part #18-7530 had failed once again. It was 6 in the morning and a Sunday too! I told my operator to go — find something to do — and come back in half an hour.

What usually happens to part #18-7530 is that the pivot ball assembly pulls loose of the bar and remains bolted in the rake head or main bracket, leaving the rake assembly dangling there. Well in a half an hour part #18-7530 was history. We don't even replace it or stock it anymore.

Take the bar off of the machine, and drill out a 21/64" with a 5/16" x 2" bolt. That's it. Place washers where the bar will pivot against the rake and double nut or lock nut the bolt snugly but loose enough to still move and pivot the rake as it should.

By the way, the pivot ball assembly (without the ball in it) is very hard steel. Be sure that your drill bits are sharp and drill slow. Be patient, the money that you'll save is worth a little extra time in the shop.

Maybe if enough of us do not need to buy part #18-7530 then the Toro engineers will redesign this part. Then maybe our future children (or grandchildren, knowing how expedient Toro engineers are) can benefit from our endeavors.

If you have any questions feel free to call anytime, 668-3323, ext. 502.

