

Eight Year Turf Field Day Hubbard, Oregon — June 20-21, 1990

by Anthony Meyer

Each year for the last eight years on the third Thursday of June is Field Day at the Research Farm near Hubbard, Oregon, which is sponsored by Bill Rose, President of Turf Seed, Inc., and Dr. Bill Meyer, President of Pure Seed Testing, Inc. Tee 2 Green is the company that does the marketing of bent grasses. Also on display was Turf-Seed's wildflowers called "Bloomers" and Crystal Rose-Frickers, U. S. Coordinated Wildflower trial located on the research farm.

Marge & I flew out to Portland and participated Wednesday, which was for the growers, and Thursday for others interested in viewing the Performance Trials at the largest independent research facility in United States, 105 acres. The visitors were given an overview of turf grass development in the works. There has been tremendous improvements, especially in ryegrasses and tall fescues. They have developed endophyte enhanced turf grasses with improved insect resistance and stress tolerance. Varieties are now genetically darker and more dwarf, with lower fertility requirements. The National Turfgrass Evaluation Program has a unique uniform grading system that is used at Pure Seed, Inc. Research Farm so that they can make intelligent appraisals of the progress made.

The special guest speaker this year was Dr. Garrick Latch, director of the DSIR Grasslands Research Division in Palmerston, New Zealand. He has been working with newly discovered endophytes that are toxic to insects, but do not affect grazing animals. This is the first year that experiments are being made with pasturing sheep on endophyte induced grass in New Zealand.

We are certainly proud of our son, and the progress he has made in his research program.

Voting Delegate's Report

The By-Laws Committee of GCSAA is considering a possible change in the election process of our Directors and Officers. The following alternatives are under consideration:

1. Leave delegate voting just as it is.
2. Leave delegate voting as it is except eliminate secret ballots. All delegates will be required to cast a voice vote at the annual meeting.
3. Members vote individually by "mail in ballot" prior to the conference with election results announced at the annual meeting.
4. Voting members either mail in individual ballots in advance of the conference or vote individually during the conference with the election results announced at the annual meeting.

If you have any strong feelings concerning this issue please send them, in writing, to me prior to the end of the year. The association will be represented by myself in Las Vegas. Roger Stewart will serve as our alternate delegate. We are currently working at improving our voting strength prior to the annual meeting. We are presently the fourth largest chapter in the country which is impressive since we are not a statewide chapter like Florida or California. Please let us know your opinions so that we may represent the wishes of the MAGCS.

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