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Southeastern and Florida Turf Groups Hold Joint Conference

More than 120 persons representing eight states attended the Third Annual Southeastern Turf Conference held May 21-24, 1949, in conjunction with the Florida Greenkeeping Supts'. Assn. at Tifton, Georgia, and Jacksonville, Fla. More than 100 visitors from eight southeastern states spent the morning of May 21st participating in a putting contest and choosing the three best greens from 106 Bermuda strains that have been maintained the same since 1947. In the afternoon a tour of the Southeastern Turf Research Center experimental plots was conducted by Dr. Glenn W. Burton and B. P. Robinson of the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton.

The tour consisted of discussions of the following experiments and answers of related questions:

1. Establishment and height of cut test.

2. Seed production in turf grasses — Centipede grass seed production.

3. Insect control in turf: Study of effect of chemicals on mole, crickets and earth worms.

4. Topdressing material test.

5. Testing Bermuda strains for putting greens and fairways.

6. The effect of various nitrogenous fertilizers upon seasonal growth of Centipede and Bermuda grass.

7. pH and nitrogen level studies on Southern grasses.

8. Breeding Bermuda and Centipede grass for turf.

An educational program was held in Jacksonville, Florida, on May 23rd and 24th in which the following speakers participated: Dr. E. O. Gratz of the Florida Exp. Station; Dr. O. J. Noer, Milwaukee, Wis.; Dr. Glenn W. Burton, Georgia Coastal Plains Exp. Station, Tifton, Ga.; Dr. Roy A. Bair, Everglades Exp. Station, Belle Glade, Fla.; Dr. David Stoddard, Belle Glade, Fla.; Walter Thames, Belle Glade, Fla.; Dr. E. G. Kelscheimer, Vegetable Crops Laboratory, Bradenton, Fla.; and M. K. Jeffords of the Southeastern Turf Advisory Committee. Equipment exhibits were held on May 23rd and 24th. A very interesting forum type meeting was held on the afternoon of the 24th. Dr. O. J. Noer was the leader of a panel discussion composed of Dr. Glenn W. Burton, Dr. Roy Bair and T. M. Baumgardner, Sea Island, Georgia. These men answered questions from the audience and called on other members of the conference who had had some experience in turf to give their observations and opinions.