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Water Management Emphasized At Rutgers Short Course

A total of 79 individuals registered for the Rutgers One-Week Course in Turf Management held Jan. 30 through Feb. 3.

Among the variety of lecture topics, two subjects were given extra emphasis. First, water management on turf occupied an entire morning session. Dr. James R. Watson took time before his move from the Pennsylvania State College to Texas A & M to talk on "The Influence of Compaction and Watering on Turf". He presented data showing an increase in disease and crabgrass with the excessive use of water. Dr. Fred V. Grau followed with comments on "The Proper Watering of Turf". He stressed the fact that water is too often used in excess on turf. Also, he suggested that mechanical treatments such as aeration be used to open compact soils to better penetration of water.

The second major topic was fairway renovation. Dr. M. A. Sprague of the Farm

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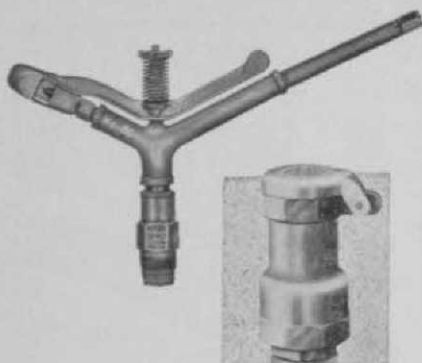
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Crops Department of Rutgers University opened the session with a talk on the fundamentals of renovation. Mr. Ed Casey and Mr. Leonard Strong followed with discussions of their respective fairway renovation programs. Both Mr. Casey and Mr. Strong pointed out the difficult problem of getting the turf grasses started ahead of poa annua. The value of completing the seeding in late August or very early September was stressed.

A labor management panel composed of Sherwood Moore, Frank Svehla, William Riley, Al Rathjens, and Ed Casey was conducted by Dr. E. E. Evaul. A very fine discussion developed that gave rise to many practical ideas with regard to better conditions for labor.

Mr. Carlton Treat gave a very instructive talk on "Factors to Consider When Purchasing Equipment." In addition, he conducted the question and answer period. Mr. Warren Bidwell presented some practical ideas that might be used when growing flowers for a golf course. The fine work done by the greenkeepers on their various subjects was a very valuable contribution to the course.

The New Jersey Greenkeeping Superintendents Association presented two power mowers to the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station at the Rutgers Turf Course Dinner. These fine gifts demonstrate the excellent support the New Jersey greenkeepers have given the turf program in their state. The group was entertained at the banquet by Dr. O. J. Noer's Mexican travel pictures.

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Aug. 8—Turf Field Day, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N. J.

Oct. 16-17—Third Annual Turf Field Day, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.