

involved with the use of chemicals, there are several factors that hinder the development of the program. At the present time, only a very limited amount of work is being done on the tremendous problem of chemical control of poa annua. If the possibilities are thoroughly investigated greater facilities for research are required to establish a well-organized program. Purdue and Rhode Island have already begun a study of several chemicals and possibly other stations have done likewise, but the problem is too great to leave to a few. I trust that those concerned with these programs will comment on their chemical control programs.

A second problem concerned with chemical control of poa annua is the need for an ideal type of chemical. It is not only important that the technique for controlling poa annua with a chemical work effectively, but it must be economical, certain, and easy to conduct. Failure to meet any one of these points may limit use of the chemical in spite of its ability to give results.

A third factor that makes for difficulty in developing a chemical control program, is the lack of good test locations. This may sound silly to some of you since there is so much poa annua. But it is really difficult to find large areas for testing that have a mixture of poa annua and permanent grasses, and can be subjected to unknown chemical treatments that may be fatal to the grass and a man's job. Trial and error is usually the way to determine safety of a chemical.

Although my topic is control of poa

annua problem, our research program at New Jersey attests to our faith in the value of other techniques. For example, we have two fundamental projects which we hope will give us some information on how we can better control poa annua or make it serve us. We are investigating the possibility of altering the poa annua content of a turf by rate and time of fertilizer application. Also we are observing the effect of turf cultivation on the amount of poa annua in turf.

We have gathered considerable data on these studies; however, it has not been possible for us to draw any final conclusions to date. We shall be only too happy to tell you of our findings as soon as the work is completed.

In the meantime, I trust that no one will rest his poa annua case with the hope of chemicals to be developed in the future. We must never forget that on many areas poa annua can still be discouraged considerably by use of other principles such as proper establishment of turf areas and correct watering. Without doubt, the poa annua problem has been accentuated by over-watering. There are many interesting experiences to be told on this subject.

Controlling poa annua with chemicals has greater unexplored possibilities than any other approach to the poa annua problem. Wonderful accomplishments may be in store for us in this field, and the sky may be the limit, or dismal disappointment may be in store. Certainly, we shall never know unless time and money are spent investigating the many new herbicides that have been developed recently.

RUTGERS HAS BIGGEST ENROLLMENT FOR 1952 TURF COURSE



A total of 117 students enrolled for the 1952 Rutgers One-Week Turf Course held Jan. 21-25. Ralph E. Engel, Assistant Ext. Specialist in Turf Management, in charge of the one week course reports interest and attendance on the part of park superintendents and nurserymen accounts for considerable amount of the increase. Unusual interest was shown in after dinner talk by a consulting engineer of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority who related incidents and showed pictures of the construction of the turnpike.