

have had a part in the development of this information on Merion bluegrass. We recognize that many of the answers are not backed by research. This is something to develop in the future and is a responsibility of the experiment stations and is one of their duties and privileges to their taxpayers who want good turf. Additional surveys such as this are planned for the future, not only with Merion bluegrass, but with all improved turf grasses.

Gets Members Help in Zoysia Program

By ERNEST SCHNEIDER

Supt., Evansville (Ind.) Country Club

Here in Evansville, Ind., located in the Ohio Valley, cool season grasses do not fare so well with our hot and humid summers. At the Evansville CC four of our fairways have as nice a stand of bluegrass as can be found in this district. But since the trend is going toward close cutting I know the life of those fairways will be short. For example, in 1950 we picked out three of our fairways and sowed them with 60% bluegrass, 30% Chewings fescue, and 10% Highland bent. Two were complete failures and one showed up nicely in fescue. Then in June 1952, we lost all the fescue in that fairway through helminthosporium.

In 1950 my Green chairman and I started a program of plugging fairways with our native Bermuda and some U-3. The winters of 1950 and '51 proved too much for the U-3, but most of our native survived.

Bermuda grows well in the Ohio Valley; we have about four strains, some as fine textured as the U-3, others much more coarse; all can stand our winters, but it does green up slow in the spring.

In the meantime, into the picture steps zoysia. I acquired a sq. ft. of Z-52 in 1950. I just planted it in a 4 ft. square and forgot about it. That fall it was a solid piece of turf, which really aroused my interest, because it received so little attention. Now with the help of my Green chairman, we are really promoting zoysia. We have taken our membership into the program and are giving them small amounts and helping them to start their own nurseries. Some of them are starting it in their flower beds and others who are more enthusiastic have sterilized their soil and treated it with Krilium. In the spring we will assist them in plugging it into their lawns. At present we have about 20 members doing this, and we hope to increase it to 100 members.

Now, we are not entirely unselfish in all this—when the time comes to plug a fairway, we will call on them for sufficient amounts.

Although there has been some criticism

in regard to zoysia, I know now it is the grass for us. I saw a plot planted with Krilium on 1 ft. centers which made perfect turf in 75 days. Then again I planted a plot in June, no special soil conditioner, very rarely watered it and it is practically solid.

This is the fairway grass which will stand both the hot and cold weather of the Ohio Valley and the close cutting demanded by the golfers. How long will it take to get a fairway of zoysia? We do not know, but we will start in the Spring.

Texas A&M Turf Meet Set for Dec. 1-3

Marvin H. Ferguson, who left the USGA Green Section to become asst. prof. of agronomy at Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, advises that the annual turf conference at Texas A&M will be held Dec. 1, 2 and 3 in the Memorial Student Center, College Station, Tex.

Ferguson says that Jim Watson and his associates have lined up an intensely practical program of speakers on subjects that can be applied profitably on any golf course in Texas or other southwestern states, and that a big attendance is expected.

Central Plains Foundation Turf Meet, Oct. 22-24

The third annual turf conference of the Central Plains Turf Foundation will be held at Kansas State college, Manhattan, October 22 to 24.

During the two days superintendents and officials will hear talks on turf machinery, turf management, pest control, seeding, soil problems, and care of trees and shrubs.

The Central Plains Turf foundation and K-State have been jointly conducting experiments on adapting grass varieties to different sections of the country, best mixtures of grasses, controlling crabgrass, and other turf problems. Results of the experiments will be explained at the conference.

Speakers at the conference will include Dr. Fred V. Grau, USGA Green Section; Dr. O. J. Noer, Milwaukee; Prof. Chester Billing, Nebraska university; Dr. C. L. Sarthou, Oklahoma A and M college; Harold Glissmann, Boys' Town, Neb.; and several Kansas State college scientists.

Turf foundation officers are Chester Mendenhall, Kansas City, Mo., pres.; Ross McCausland, Wichita, v-p; Prof. W. F. Pickett, Kansas State college, secy-treas.