



MASSACHUSETTS GRADUATES 25TH WINTER SCHOOL

A feature of the University of Massachusetts Fine Turf Conference at Amherst was the graduation of its 25th class in the Winter School for Greenkeepers.

The graduating class of 22, one of the largest in the school's 27 year history, included representatives from 10 states and Canada.

As has been common in past years the average age of students was in the low 30's with the youngest 18 and the oldest 62. The alumni of the school now rank over 400 in number and are active in most all phases of the golf business from golf course superintendent to club manager and golf professional.

Prof. Lawrence S. Dickinson, founder of the University Winter School for Greenkeepers, has been, through the years, one of the strongest advocates of an educational program to train men in the practice and science of turf management.

This year's course schedule included lectures and exercises by Prof. Dickinson on practical problems in turf and club management, and lectures and demonstrations by Professor Eliot C. Roberts on the physiology and anatomy of the grass plant in relation to problems in turf maintenance.

Other courses taught by the university staff in the 10 weeks of intensive training included agronomy (soils and fertilizers), equipment (use, care and repair), engineering (water systems and drainage), entomology (insect pests) and Horticulture.

The Graduating Class and Faculty (left to right), Row 1—D. Figurella, B. Krueger, L. Ryall, J. Mileski, R. Tarr, L. Callaghan, E. Wolfgang, J. Schaefer, G. Artis; Row 2—D. Street, R. St. Thomas, R. Montanye, A. Perkins, H. Romanki, T. McAleer, W. Dest, J. Murphy; Row 3—Prof. Hendrickson, D. Mitchell, J. Driscoll, F. Grube, J. Abdolla, R. Moquin, Mr. Allen; Top row—Professors King, Blundell, Dickinson, Roberts, Colby and Kucinski.

locating planting material of the chosen grasses.

Develop the nurseries so planting material will be available at a predetermined planting date. This assures you of plenty of fresh planting stock on the site as it is needed.

Q—There is a difference of opinion as to how the soil on our greens should be prepared. Some say to mix the materials in place on the greens. Others say it is best to complete the mix off the site and haul it to the prepared base. What is your answer to this problem? (Conn.)

A—Recognizing the effectiveness of several machines for mixing materials in place we are still forced to adhere to our statement that the most thorough mixing will be accomplished off the site. The chances are great for the development of pockets of sand or humus when the soil is prepared in place, in spite of the most careful operation of the equipment.

If the soil is agitated in place too vigorously it sometimes happens that the fines are floated to the surface and good structure is destroyed. The green then becomes very hard and compact soon after it is put into play.

Mixing off the site has been done successfully with a motor patrol grader rolling windrows of material over and over until mixed. It has been done also with a drag line or clamshell by repiling materials until mixed. Well-mixed material hauled to the site of the green and dumped and spread on the prepared base offers the best possibility for maximum uniformity and ultimate satisfaction.

Q—Please explain the different kinds of drainage that should be considered in building a golf course? (Ind.)

A—The first is surface drainage. The greatest sin in design and construction is to create, or to permit to remain, pockets which hold water which quickly scalds