

Mid-Atlantic Supts. Enthused Over Bermudagrass Development at Beltsville Station

BY CHARLES K. HALLOWELL

The Beltsville Turfgrass field day was renewed on Aug. 6 under the direction of Felix V. Juska, research agronomist, Crops Research div., Beltsville, Md.

The program was arranged for the members of the Mid-Atlantic assn. of GCS and others interested in turfgrass improvement. Charles K. Hallowell, Mid-Atlantic director, USGA green section, assisted in planning the program.

Merion bluegrass seeded alone, Merion seeded with red fescue, and Merion seeded with Kentucky bluegrass were the three outstanding plots in the 4-year old lawn-seedmixture plots.

In the 44 plots treated with different chemicals to control crabgrass, lead arsenate plus Chlordane and the N-1-naphthyl phthalamic acid pre-emergent treatments had a high rating. While it is too early to draw final conclusions, plots having disodium monomethyl arsonate and phenyl mercuric acetate showed promise.

Bermudagrass selections secured from a variety of sources were the feature of the many plots being tested. Two heights of cut and two different sources of nitrogen had been applied on a portion of each Bermudagrass plot. Tifgreen received a high rating.

The 18 soil fertilization plots showed eight different chemicals, (most of which have been applied in duplicate) controlling weeds in varying degrees. Since first treatments were made on July 9, results were inconclusive.

Bentgrass studies which have been absent from the test areas since the turfgrass studies were taken over by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in 1953 will again be included in September.

During the meeting Paul C. Marth reported on gibberellic acid investigations and Bernard A. App described different insecticides.

Mid-Atlantic supts. were enthused over what has been started by Juska and were sure that in a short time there would be additional Bermudagrasses besides the U-3 Bermuda which would be of use on their courses. Similar studies, first at Arlington, then at Beltsville, conducted by the USGA green section in cooperation with the Dept. of Agriculture, developed such strains of bent as Arlington, Congressional, Cohansey, Old Orchard and Toronto.



Fay Wins Triangle Trophy

John E. McAuliffe, pres. of Triangle Conduit & Cable Co., awards Fay Crocker a trophy for her victory in the recent Triangle Round Robin played at Virginia Beach, Va., as Mrs. McAuliffe looks on.

A.S.T.A. Creates Lawn and Turfgrass Division

An outstanding development of the 47th annual convention of the American Seed Trade Assn., held recently in Cincinnati was creation and formal acceptance of a division devoted to lawns and turfgrass.

The new division organized in Cincinnati was designated Lawn and Turfgrass Division, enjoying parallel status with other major A.S.T.A. units. The development marks the coming of age of the specialized field of turfgrasses and lawn products.

At the mid-winter meeting of the committee in Chicago, it was voted unanimously to request division status, sparked especially by a strong resolution to this effect by the Atlantic Seedsmen group. In face of this enthusiasm the A.S.T.A. Board reversed a mild position against division status resulting from an informal survey.

Officers of the new division are: Ross McCausland, Wichita, Kans., chmn.; Robert Schery, Marysville, O., vice-chmn.; and Arden Jacklin, Dishman, Wash., secy.

Southern California Field Day

Water Management will be the theme of the Oct. 15 field day of the Southern California Turfgrass Council to be held on the UCLA campus. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m. Lectures and panel discussions will feature the morning session while a tour of the University turf plots will be made in the afternoon.