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Iowa State Holds Its 28th Annual Short Course

Top agronomists, manufacturers' reps and supts. from the Midwest and East were the principal speakers and panelists at the 28th annual Turfgrass short course held at the Iowa State University Memorial Union building, Mar. 13-15. Eliot C. Roberts of the University's agronomy and horticulture dept. was the short course chairman.

The theme of the first day's meeting was "Turfgrass Management: The Total Picture." Richard M. Phelps discussed the trend in course design; George W. Cummings gave a summary of maintenance practices; and Roger J. Thomas offered ten suggestions for keeping equipment in working condition at all times.

On the morning of March 14, Iowa State agronomists reported on research projects that are being carried on at the university. Eliot C. Roberts gave a general report; David P. Lage told of the results of foliar-root studies; Harold M. Pellett discussed bluegrass dormancy; Jerry H. Cheesman and Walter W. Fuchs, agronomy students, presented papers on new findings in the control of diseases; and A. E. Cott spoke on the relationship of soil, sand and organic matter in construction and showed a film, "Water Movement in Soil."

New Varieties Described

Cott presided at the afternoon meeting, the theme of which was "How to Grow Turfgrasses." John F. Cornman of Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., described turf management in the Eastern states; Robert R. Kolton told of several varieties in the offing; and a panel composed of James L. Holmes, Charles G. Wilson, Fred V. Grau and Cornman discussed the general aspect of turf management. Following the annual banquet on the evening of the 14th, Charles Meyers and William E. Fletcher showed films depicting the turf situation in Alaska and Hawaii.

The short course was wound up on the morning of Mar. 14 with a discussion of weed control. The following speakers covered these subjects: Soil Sterilization, Eliot C. Roberts; Weed Control through Renovation, Robert Wiley; Tall Fescue in Bluegrass Turf, Billie Hauber; and Results of ISU Crabgrass Control Trials, John J. Ptacek.