

California, may find the use of nut shells a very fine product for car paths. Walnut and almond shells should do just as well as pecan shells.

Discuss Soil Heating at Purdue Conference

Nearly 600 persons attended the 27th Midwest Regional turf conference Mar. 2-4 at Purdue University. This is the fifth consecutive year that attendance was near the 600 mark.

Plant physiology received major attention at the conference. Talks given by Dr. M. R. Teel, director, American Farm Research Association; Prof. A. C. Leopold, Department of Horticulture, Purdue; J. B. Beard, Department of Plant Science, Michigan State University; and J. M. Latham of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, touched on this subject.

Thatch control in various turf areas occupied a half-day session. Equipment, grass characteristics, the effect of wetting agents and the response to fertilizers were discussed.

H. B. Musser, Prof. Emeritus, Penn State University, and executive director of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council presented a key talk: "Nitrogen — Yesterday and Today." He stressed the value of having limited quantities of available nitrogen present at all times for grass utilization.

Use Electric Cable

Soil warming for turf areas (in which an electric cable is used) received first-time attention at any turf conference in the U.S. when it was discussed at Purdue. Three years of work by W. H. Daniel, Purdue turf researcher and John Barrett of the Ag Engineering dept. at Purdue University show that soils can be kept thawed with low heat. It was also explained that with high heat, grass growth can be promoted through the winter.

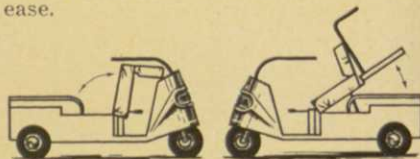
All of the Midwest talks are summarized in a proceedings booklet which will be available within two months. Persons not attending the conference may secure copies for \$1.00 from W. H. Daniel, executive secretary, M.R.T.F., Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

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