

# News

## TURFGRASS SEED

### Record year for ryegrass

The 1977-78 fiscal year which ended June 30 was a recordbreaker for ryegrass seed producers, as 268,141,136 pounds of ryegrass seed moved into the marketplace, according to Oregon Ryegrass Commission statistics. That figure far surpassed the previous record of 251 million pounds set in FY 1972-73.

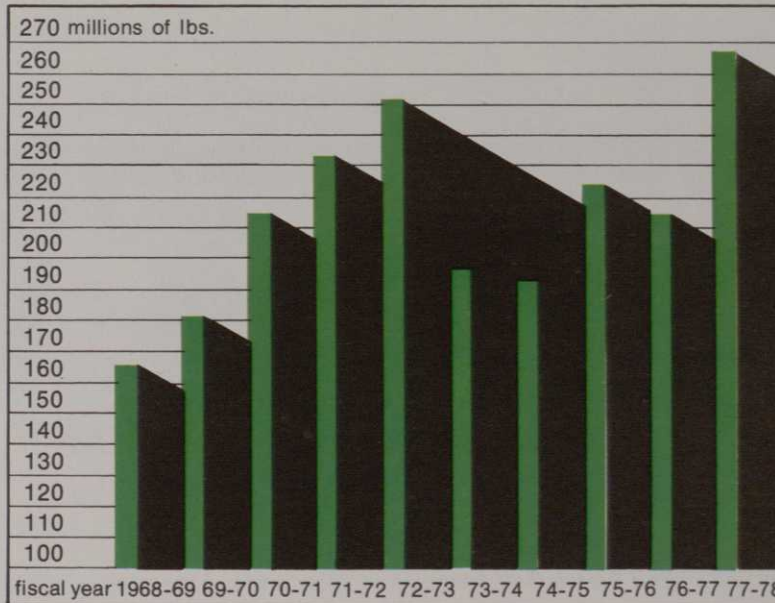
The 1977-78 figure shows a substantial increase over that of the previous year, which was 218,570,928 pounds of seed. The average for the "modern era" of ryegrass production in the 1970's, according to commission spokesman Wally Hunter, is about 217 million pounds per year. (All of these figures represent a combined total for perennial and annual varieties of ryegrass.)

"Most significant to golf course superintendents," Hunter told GOLF BUSINESS, "is the impact that the fine-bladed ryegrasses are having. About 8 years ago, a superintendent could choose from only three or four fine-bladed ryegrasses, and those were mostly in the development stage. But now there are Pennfine, Derby, Yorktown II, Loretta, Citation, and others.

"The superintendent now has a choice of fine-bladed varieties. He previously had little choice, and then only of unproven varieties with little production available. Now he can upgrade the quality of his turf by winter overseeding and get fast germination and establishment combined with good color. When transition comes in the spring, the ryegrass fades fairly rapidly and doesn't compete too vigorously with the bermudagrass."

Hunter added that the main reason for the large increase in product movement was that "use of ryegrass is broader than it once was. One person uses it and is pleased, then tells another. A superintendent especially will listen to another superintendent. So use begets use."

The product movement figure for ryegrass seed for the fourth quarter of FY 1977-78 was 46,843,615 pounds.



Ryegrass seed product movement graph shows great leap to a record year in FY 1977-78. Source: Oregon Ryegrass Commission

## OSHA

### Workers gain access to injury/illness logs

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration recently announced revised rules that will give employees, former employees, and their representatives access to *The Log and Summary of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses* which all employers with 11 or more employees are required by OSHA to maintain.

The new rule was scheduled to become effective 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register on July 21. Assistant Secretary of Labor Eula Bingham said that under the new final rule, "Employees will be more fully alerted to actual and possible hazards in the workplace and thus would be significantly assisted in their efforts to protect themselves from hazards."

Although the main thrust of the revision was towards tracing the effects of toxic substances, such as in manufacturing plants, it will also

enable workers in other kinds of businesses to check the accuracy of log entries and to identify patterns of injuries or illnesses requiring further investigation.

Prior to the revision, regular access to the log was limited to OSHA safety and health officers, representatives of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Secretary of HEW, and states under OSHA-approved state plans. Employees had access only to an annual statistical summary.

## PESTICIDES

### FIFRA accord ready for vote

State inspectors, in states with approved U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans, would be the primary enforcers of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act under an agreement reached in a House-Senate conference committee.

State primacy and other compromise measures reached in

the committee must still be approved by both houses and signed by the president before becoming law. Congressional sources said the conference committee's report probably would be adopted after Labor Day without much opposition.

Under the terms of the compromise, the 30 states with approved pesticide use plans would be given primary enforcement powers. EPA will review other states' plans to see if they comply with FIFRA. States without approved plans would be subject to EPA inspections.

EPA could intervene in states with approved plans when:

1) a state does not act within 30 days on a pesticide-use complaint or other information sent to them by EPA,

2) the EPA administrator determines that the state does not or cannot carry out its responsibilities under FIFRA,

3) an emergency arises requiring federal intervention.

"It is clear that EPA has to show good cause before taking away enforcement authority," a Senate committee staffer said. The conference report also includes an agreement for use inconsistent with the label. Although it would still be illegal to use a pesticide in a manner not permitted by labeling, exceptions to this would provide some freedom of choice. They include:

- using a pesticide at less than label concentration or dosage
- applying a pesticide against target pests not listed on the label, providing the application is to a labeled crop, animal, or site and the label does not specify use against only target pests
- using a method of application not listed on the label
- and mixing the pesticide with fertilizer if not specifically prohibited by the label.

(more news on next page)

NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION BOX SCORE					
January-July 1978		REGULATION COURSES	EXECUTIVE COURSES	PAR 3 COURSES	TOTAL
OPENED FOR PLAY	New	30	8	2	74
	Additions	28	6	0	
STARTED CONSTRUCTION	New	32	3	2	64
	Additions	23	2	2	
PROSPECTIVE		64	8	4	76

IRRIGATION

**Toro and Texas A&M launch 4-year study**

The Toro Co., manufacturer of turf maintenance and irrigation equipment, has entered into a contract with Texas A&M University to help finance a 4-year study of water use rates for turfgrasses.

David T. McLaughlin, Toro's chairman and chief executive officer, said his company will contribute approximately \$17,000 to the study, the principal objective of which is to develop a method for predicting water requirements for turfgrasses under a wide range of growth conditions.

The university will contribute about \$29,000 to the project, mostly for special instrumentation including leaf and soil psychrometers, dewpoint recorders, infrared thermometers, and a multiple point potentiometric recorder. The school also is building a water stress simulation chamber and a high light intensity preconditioning growth chamber especially for the study.

The study was designed by Don Johns, a graduate student; Dr. James B. Beard, well-known authority on turfgrass culture and a turf specialist at the university's Texas Agricultural Experiment Station; and Dr. James R. Watson, Toro vice president and chief agronomist. Beard will direct the study.

Watson said the information gained from the study would be valuable to golf course superintendents seeking grass species with lower water requirements, as well as for determining overall water



*Golf architect Robert Trent Jones, Jr. (center) points out design features of the future Keystone Ranch Golf Course to Sandy Tatum (left) and Will F. Nicholson, Jr., president and vice president of the United States Golf Association. Now under construction at the Keystone resort 72 miles west of Denver, the course will be the highest in the United States. Opening is planned for spring or early summer in 1980.*

requirements of a particular region.

For Toro, he said, "It will help to make it possible to design irrigation systems capable of delivering the precise precipitation requirements anticipated under varying environmental conditions" — to design irrigation systems which will utilize water with maximum efficiency.

**More data needed on use of effluent**

As was first reported in the July issue of GOLF BUSINESS, a statistical study on the use of effluent water for irrigation is being conducted jointly by the American Society of Golf Course Architects Foundation, the National Golf Foundation, and the United States

Golf Association's Green Section. As of mid-August, about 50 persons had filled in and returned the questionnaire printed in the July issue, according to Al Radko, national director of the USGA Green Section, but further data is needed to make the study meaningful.

There are probably 75 or more golf courses in the United States now irrigating with recycled water, Radko said, "but the numbers are clouded by the fact that most of these haven't wanted to advertise that they are using effluent water." Once the practice becomes more widely known and accepted, he added, more courses will come forward to volunteer information about their operations.

If your golf course uses effluent water for irrigation and you did not return the questionnaire in the July GOLF BUSINESS, please

contribute to this important survey by filling out and mailing the form below. The data will be used only in combination with that of others; replies of individual golf courses will be kept completely confidential.

GOVERNMENT GOLF

**Is beer necessary for course success?**

Brighton (Colo.) District Judge Abraham Bowling recently granted a preliminary injunction against the Colorado Department of Revenue, enabling the sale of beer to continue at a golf course at the Adams County Regional Park complex in Henderson.

The Revenue department had denied the transfer of a 3.2 percent beer license to Adams County Golf Inc., a nonprofit corporation formed by county commissioners to operate the beer concession at the county owned and operated golf course. Beer had been sold at the course under an agreement with license-holder and former golf pro Jim Bailey, and the facility was reported to be operating in the black for the first time in 4 years. The revenue's denial of the transfer was based on the reasoning that because the county is the local licensing authority as well as the principal of the nonprofit corporation, it would in effect be regulating itself.

Judge Bowling found, however, that the loss of the right to sell beer at the golf course would cause "irreparable injury" to the county because of a reduction in the number of rounds played at the facility and, therefore, loss of revenue. Here's to the judge.

**PLEASE RETURN QUESTIONNAIRE TO:**

Mr. Al Radko  
National Director  
USGA Green Section  
P.O. Box 1237  
Highland Park, NJ 08904

- 1) Do you presently use recycled water on your turfgrass?  
Yes  No
- 2) Are you considering recycled water as a possibility?  
Near future  Distant future  No
- 3) What is your source of recycled water? Industrial   
Military installation  Municipal  Housing  
development  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Number of acres irrigated with recycled water:  
Greens \_\_\_\_\_ Tees \_\_\_\_\_ Fairways \_\_\_\_\_ Rough \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

- 5) Type of facility: Private  Daily fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal  Military  Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Size: Regulation  Executive  Par 3

- 6) Do you know of any other golf facility using recycled water? No  Yes  Type of course \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_  
(If more than one facility, please attach list.)

- 7) If you use well, city, or pond water for irrigation, how many gallons do you use annually? \_\_\_\_\_

Form filled out by: (optional)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Golf course \_\_\_\_\_

City and state \_\_\_\_\_