

favorite wildflowers for sunny, dry locations is *Asclepias tuberosa*, orange milkweed, a perennial that requires no attention.

Your question is provocative and stimulating. Perhaps our readers will supply examples of features at their courses so that we can publish a follow-up.

Q.—At our club we are considering the purchase of an hydraulic seeder. Recently we have heard that there have been poor results from the use of this type of equipment, especially when seeding in connection with the use of wood pulp. Can you help us in our thinking? (Maryland)

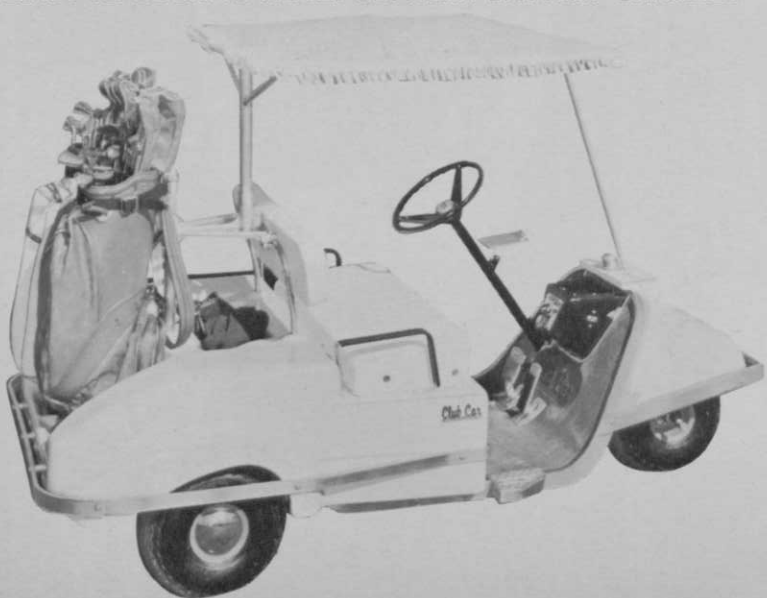
A.—Hydraulic seeding with the use of wood cellulose pulp has produced enough failures to cause us to stop and take a second look. When the "One-shot" method is used the tank is loaded with everything required: seed, limestone, fertilizer, inoculant (if a legume is included) and wood pulp. The agitated slurry is sprayed on the area and the job is considered finished. Seed germinates easily and quickly in the wood pulp. If rain falls frequently, or if the area can be irrigated, success is assured. But, if the seed germinates in the pulp, then dry weather ensues, the wood pulp mat dries and draws away from the soil. The isolated seedlings can not strike roots into the soil and—another failure is recorded.

Our firm recommendation is to follow the "Two-step Method." Step 1. Load the tank with seed, limestone, fertilizer and 200 lbs. per acre of wood pulp to "glue" the seed to the soil. Step 2. Follow at once with a full-rate application of mulch (1000-1200 lbs. of wood cellulose pulp or 2 tons clean straw per acre). This covers the seed to keep it cool and moist where, when it germinates, the roots strike into the soil at once.

Some contractors refuse to apply limestone thru the pump—they claim that it ruins the pump. Calcium is essential where Ca-deficient wood pulp is employed. This could be another reason for disappointments. □

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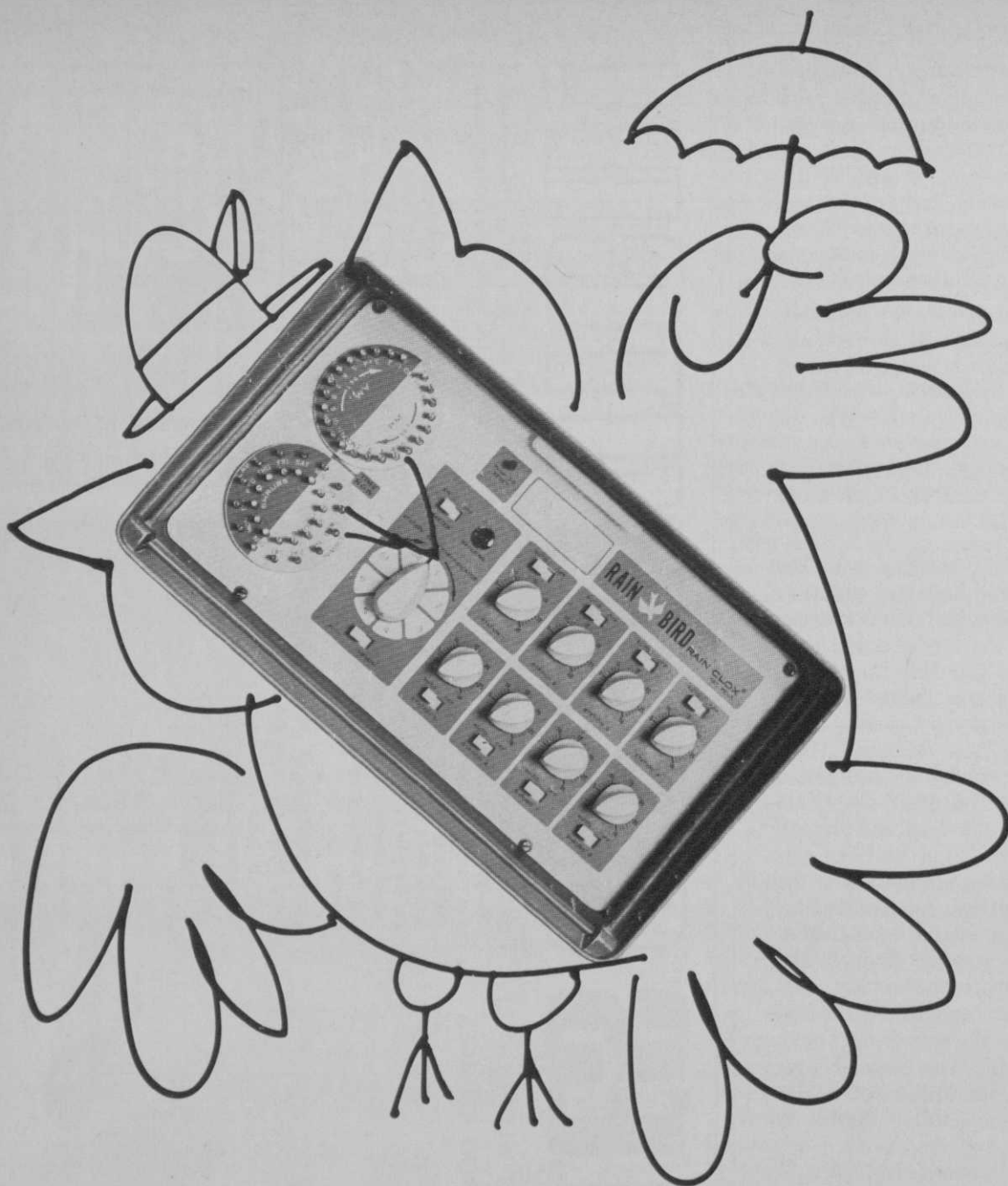
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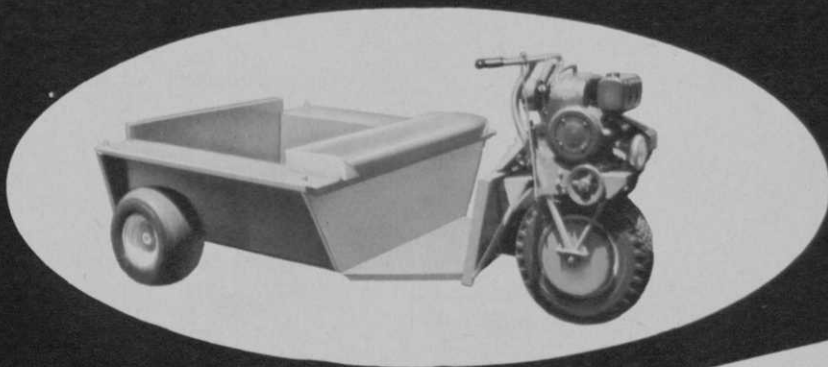
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Accent on management

by Ken Emerson



Should your club Be tax exempt?

Nearly every golf club, at one time or another, has seriously questioned the advisability of retaining its non-profit, tax exempt status.

The review usually comes about as the result of one of several lines of reasoning. Either the club would like to be able to adopt a more liberal "outside business" policy; wants to sell or lease a portion of its property, or reasons that since it is not making a profit anyway, why worry about retaining its exemption.

While it may be true that some clubs might logically choose to relinquish their non-profit exemptions, such rationalizing can be the result of too hasty an examination of the problem.

Before a club decides to relinquish its tax exemptions it should carefully analyze its purpose for being a private club in the first place.

Most private clubs are granted their exemption as non-profit, social and recreational organizations under section 501 (c) 7 of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

This section of the code grants private golf clubs their exemptions when they are organized purely for pleasure, recreation, and other non-profit purposes; when no part of their net earnings inure to individual members; and when the facility is maintained for the use of the membership and supported by membership dues, fees, and assessments.

Admittedly the section is broad and some of the wording vague, but since most problems relating

to non-profit status are governed by its restrictions we should take a close look at some IRS interpretations.

The most troublesome area, in this respect, is the amount of outside, non-member business a club can accept before it jeopardizes its tax exempt status. Certainly, if a club's primary function is to serve its members, any non-member use is incidental. But how "incidental" can this use be?

In an effort to clarify this point, IRS has issued a number of statements. None has received more attention than Revenue Procedure 64-36—often referred to as the "5% Rule".

Rev. Proc. 64-36 was issued to provide, not a "rule," but a guideline for determining the effect of non-member use of a club's facilities.

Should a club's non-member income exceed the guidelines, it does not mean that there will be an automatic loss of exemption. It does mean that the agent should continue with his audit to determine the purpose and frequency of non-member use.

The club could also lose its exemption with less than 5 per cent of its income from non-member sources if the club, for instance, has actively solicited non-member use in competition with tax paying business, or has realized a profit as a result of this revenue.

Such a profit need not necessarily be in the form of a money dividend. It could also take the form of a dues reduction.

A profit might also be assumed if it could be determined that the non-member business made it unnecessary to raise dues.

In addition to revenues from

non-member use of a club's facilities, there is also the problem of selling or leasing club property.

Generally speaking a single sale of club securities or real estate will not endanger a club's exemption. IRS has issued several rulings on this aspect of non-member income and they generally hold that a one-time transaction, incidental to the general purpose of the club, will not jeopardize a club's non-profit status.

There is an important exception to this rule.

When the sale of club property is made in disregard of the purpose for which the club was formed—made with the obvious intent of making a profit, exemption will likely be denied.

Whether or not a club retains a non-profit status depends therefore, on its understanding of its purpose as a club and on the manner in which it tries to fulfill that purpose.

A well-run private club should not lose money. Its members can expect their profits in one of two forms. Either in services in which they all share, or in dollars. If it is the latter, and there is a member choice, then they must expect to pay taxes on those dollars.

In the same way, a club can either cater exclusively to members and guests or it can expand its services to include a greater or lesser portion of the public. If a club serves the public on more than an incidental basis, then it must assume the responsibilities of those businesses that cater to the public.

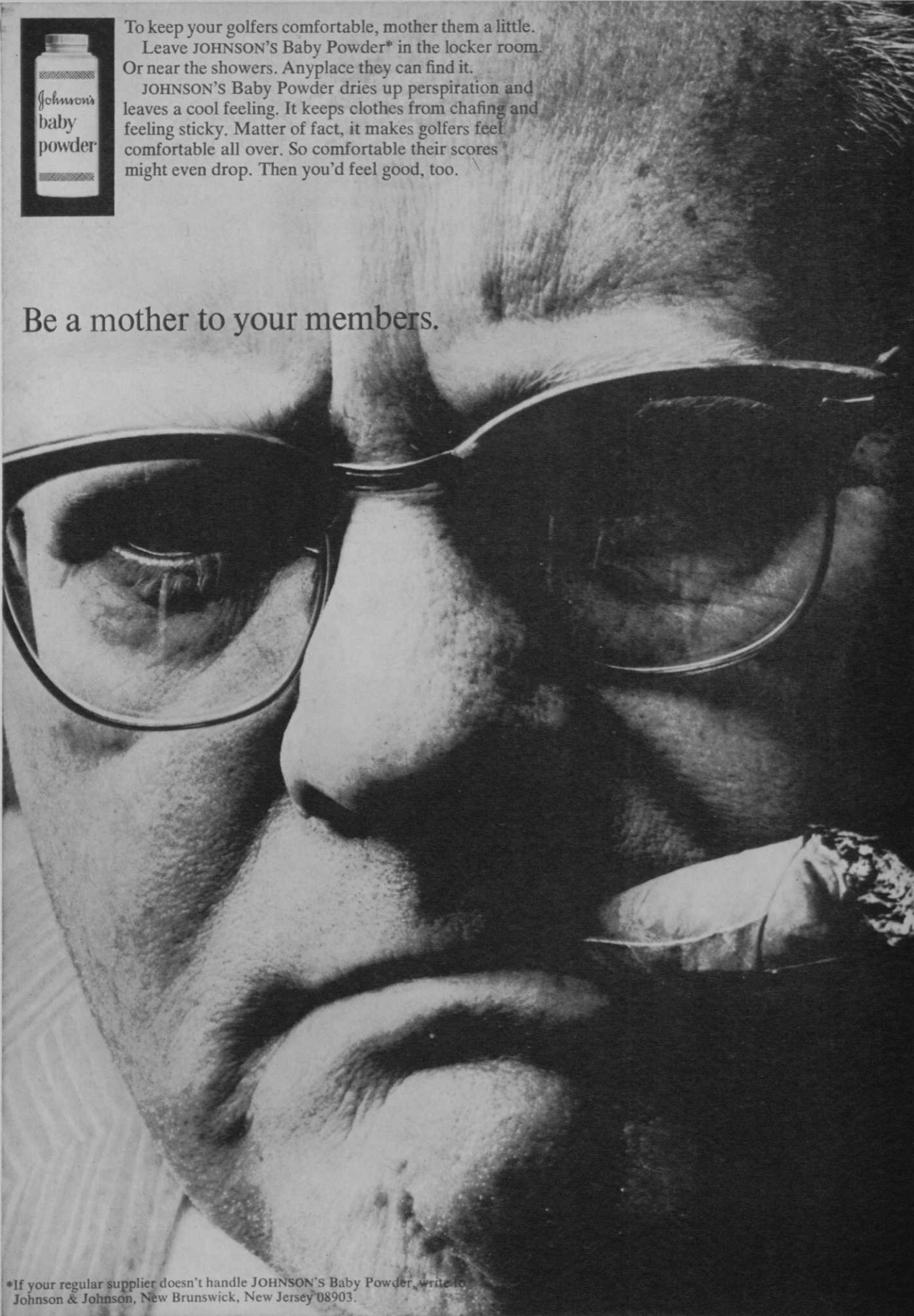
There is nothing morally wrong with either philosophy. It is simply a matter of member policy as to which course a particular club will follow. □



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Turfgrass research review

by Dr. James B. Beard

Latest developments In new grasses

There are a number of new turfgrass varieties which have recently been released or will be released in the near future. The purpose of this article is to bring together a summarization of the origin, development, adaptation, characteristics, and management requirements of many of these newly developed turfgrass varieties. This information was obtained from the originating institution or company. Some of the varieties have not been widely tested throughout the United States. Therefore, it is suggested that the reader confer with his own state agriculture experiment station concerning the performance of a specific variety which he is interested in under the soil and environmental conditions of his area.

Name:

KINGSTOWN VELVENT BENTGRASS (*Agrostis canina* L.)

Development: Selection made at the University of Rhode Island in 1929 from a back cross of Piper velvet bentgrass. The variety was released in 1963 and seed was commercially available in 1964. It has been under evaluation in Rhode Island since the early 1930's. It was not tested elsewhere until smut free seed was obtained in 1964. It is currently in test at sites in northern United States and Europe.

Adaptation: Kingstown is adapted to New England, northern United States, Canada and northern Europe. It has excellent winter hardiness and very good shade tolerance, especially when associated with wet soil conditions. The drought tolerance of King-

stown is good, being comparable to most bents. It is not adapted to areas having high summer temperatures.

Characteristics: Kingstown has a semi-brilliant, dark green color and an erect growth habit with profuse tillering. The density exceeds that of any creeping or colonial bentgrass. It is finer textured than either the colonial or creeping bentgrasses. The establishment rate of Kingstown is slightly slower than Pennncross and the thatching tendency is high. It has good resistance to most diseases. The wear tolerance is moderate and the rapidity of recovery is slow. During the winter, Kingstown goes dormant and has a brown color.

Use and Management Requirements: Kingstown is the only pure selection of velvet bentgrass that is commercially available from seed. It is recommended for use on golf greens, hobby lawns and shade mixtures. The recommended management requirements for Kingstown include a cutting height of between 3/16 and 1/2 inch and a low fertility requirement somewhere between three and four pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per year as a maximum. Kingstown should be watered as other bentgrasses. Because of its fineness and great density it tends to thatch unless topdressed fairly frequently. The mowing qualities are excellent.

Name:

BOREAL RED FESCUE (*Festuca rubra* L.)

Development: Selection made by C.R. Elliott of Canadian Forage Seeds Project, Canada Department of Agriculture. The original selection was made from commercial red fescue seed fields in northern Alberta which had ori-

ginally been seeded to the Olds variety some ten to fifteen years earlier. It is a polycross. The variety was released February 16, 1966, under Canadian license No. 1022 and the seed was commercially available in January of 1968.

Adaptation: Boreal is adapted to the northern climatic regions similar to that of most creeping red fescue varieties. Its winter hardiness is significantly superior to Pennlawn. Boreal tends to be darker green during the winter.

Characteristics: Boreal has a darker green color than Pennlawn and is also more rapid in establishment. Its growth habit and texture are similar to Pennlawn. It excels in seedling vigor and establishment and tends to have a stronger creeping root system than most other commercially available varieties, including Pennlawn. The mowing quality and disease resistance of Boreal is comparable to Pennlawn under the conditions of northern Alberta.

Use and Management Requirements: Boreal is a general purpose variety for turf use. The management requirements are similar to most common red fescue varieties.

Name:

KENBLUE KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS (*Poa pratensis* L.)

Development: Selection made by R.C. Buckner of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and the United States Department of Agriculture, ARS. Kenblue is a blend of seeds from farms located in central Kentucky. The fields from which the seed was selected were over eight and under fifteen years of age and had been established with Kentucky grown seeds for numerous generations.

Continued on next page

Adaptation: Kenblue is adapted to the northern, cool humid region of midwestern United States. Its cold, heat, drought and shade tolerance is similar to or slightly better than turfs seeded to common Kentucky bluegrass of Kentucky origin.

Characteristics: The establishment vigor, density, color, growth habit, texture and disease tolerance of Kenblue is similar to or slightly better than turfs seeded to common Kentucky bluegrass of Kentucky origin. At Lexington, Kentucky, Kenblue has shown some tolerance to sod webworm injury in comparison to Merion and Newport.

Use and Management Requirements: Kenblue is a general purpose variety for turf use. The use and management requirements of Kenblue are similar to that of turfs seeded to common Kentucky bluegrass of Kentucky origin.

Name:
PRATO KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS (*Poa pratensis* L.)

Development: Original selection was made by D.J. Van der Have of Holland. The variety was released in the United States in 1964 by Northrup, King and Co. and is now commercially available. The original selection was made from a collection of plants from eastern Holland. The initial testing of Prato began in the United States in 1956. It has been evaluated from the east coast to the west coast.

Adaptation: Prato is adapted to the bluegrass region of the United States and Canada. The winter hardiness and heat tolerance of Prato are satisfactory while the shade tolerance is average.

Characteristics: Prato has a bright, medium green color and a relatively fine leaf texture. Prato possesses prolific tillering with an above average number of leaves per tiller. Under turf conditions the leaves are medium narrow with the lower leaves tending to be prostrate and below the mowing height. The rhizome vigor is moderate with relatively short internodes. The establishment rate of Prato is intermediate between Merion and Park Ken-

tucky bluegrass. The thatching tendency of Prato under high management is above average. Prato is tolerant to several species of *Helminthosporium* and resists "melting out" and thinning of turf. It possesses some tolerance to rust and mildew but is susceptible to stripe smut, although not as susceptible as Merion. Prato has above average wear tolerance, very satisfactory for high intensity use areas.

Use and Management Requirements: Prato is recommended for use in blends with other fine textured turfgrasses. Prato will perform well under both short and high mowing heights. It requires an average fertility level. The water requirements are also average. Mowing quality is satisfactory.

Name:
ARCTARED RED FESCUE
(*Festuca rubra* L.)

Development: Selection made by H.J. Hodgson, J.G. Dickson, R.L. Taylor, L.G. Klebasadel, and A.C. Wilton of the Alaska Agricultural Experiment Station. The original selection was from a single plant collection made in Matanuska Valley near Palmer, Alaska in 1957. The variety was released February 1, 1966, and a limited quantity of seed will be available in 1969. The variety has been under evaluation for turf use the past ten years at Matanuska Valley, and five years at Tanana Valley, College, Alaska.

Adaptation: Arctared is well adapted to Alaska but only limited information is available for other areas. The outstanding characteristic of Arctared is its superior winter hardiness in comparison to other commercial varieties tested including Olds and Pennlawn.

Characteristics: Arctared possesses very rapid germination and establishment. It produces a dense medium texture turf with a medium green color which is somewhat lighter than Duraturf. It begins growth earlier in the spring than any variety tested. No diseases have been observed on the variety at Palmer, Alaska.

Use and Management Requirements: Arctared is adapted to a wide range of different turf uses in Alaska. □

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