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## NCA CONFERENCE IN REVIEW

The National Club Assn.'s board of directors, following its meeting in Atlanta, re-elected Cyril F. Brickfield to a second term as president. Filling out the remaining offices of the association were: George C. Delph, Lancaster CC, vice president, and Joseph J. Donoghue, Losantiville CC, secretary.

A review of the need for continuing education was presented in a seminar entitled, "Diploma-itis—A Disease or a Cure?" by Richard M. Landmark, executive director, Council of Hotel Restaurant & Institutional Education.

Dorwin R. Moll, executive director, Oakhill CC, presented an in-depth review of Oakhill's successful change to a general manager type of management.

A review of current cases before the Wage and Hour Board by labor attorney Harry Keaton stressed the need for extensive and accurate record and timekeeping methods. Discrimination by sex, equal pay for equal work and Wage Freeze enforcement rounded out this timely seminar.

The relationship between the manager and board, presented in "Who's at the Helm?" reviewed the areas of delegation of authority and manager goals and objectives.

A two-hour film covered all aspects of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, including standards, record keeping and enforcement.

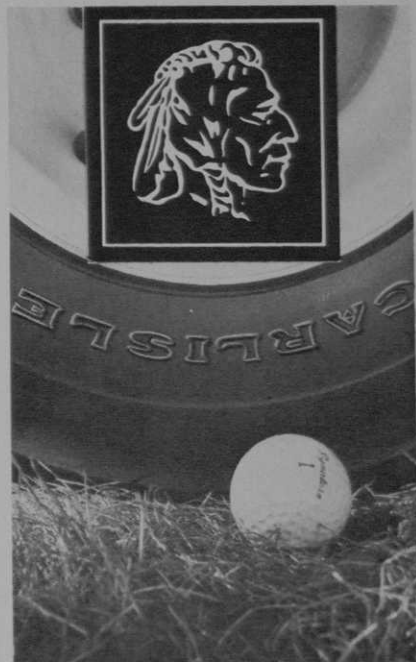
Congressman Joe D. Waggoner Jr. (D-La.) reported on HR 11200, which would permit additional income for clubs still operating "substantially" for membership purposes. Committee report will define "substantially" to permit up to 15 per cent of gross income in

outside business.

"What Price Privacy?" reviewed current civil rights cases now before the courts. Sol Rabkin, Esq., former attorney for the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith, reviewed the history of social clubs under the Civil Rights Act. He discussed licensing as a state service subject to the 14th Amendment. Douglas A. Smith, Esq., counsel for Washington State Federation of Clubs, reviewed *Gerber v. Hood* and liquor license problems of private clubs. Robert A. Yothers, Esq., attorney for the BPOE of the United States, discussed *Irvis v. Moose Lodge 107* and discrimination charges against Elks and other fraternal organizations. Herbert Emmanuelson, Esq., attorney for Mory's Assn., reviewed discrimination charges against Mory's men-only membership policy by the Women's Liberation movement and threatened revocation of liquor license.

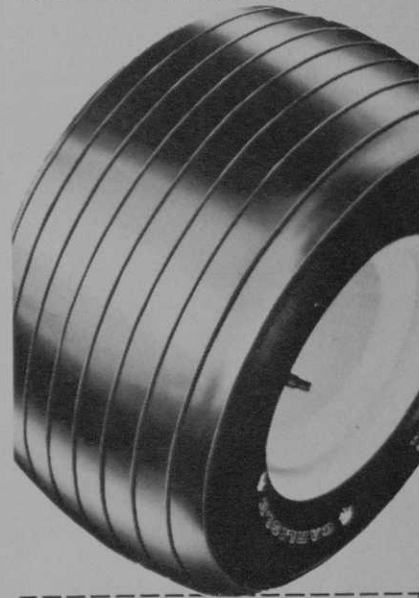
A report by Arthur E. Iredell and Lawrence P. Morgan, partners Harris, Kerr, Forster & Company, explored the state of the club economy and analyzed what has happened to clubs in the first year under the Tax Reform Act.

NCA's Tax Clinic, headed by the association's legal counsel, Jack P. Janetatos of Baker McKenzie, explored NCA's fight to exempt all clubs from price controls. Final regulations on the unrelated business tax are nearly complete, it was revealed, and are expected in mid-summer. New regulations are expected to remove all record keeping requirements in the main dining rooms, but retain existing requirements in private party rooms. Reciprocal privileges between clubs will be restored, profits will be taxed.



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DR. JAMES B. BEARD



TURFGRASS RESEARCH REVIEW

**ROOT GROWTH OF  
POA ANNUA NOT INFERIOR**  
*Rooting of Poa annua L., Poa pratensis L. and Agrostis palustris Huds. at three soil bulk densities. J. F. Wilkinson and D.T. Duff. 1972. Agronomy Journal. 64(1):66-68. (from the Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I. 02881).*

The objective of this research was to determine the root growth of annual bluegrass (*Poa annua* L.) in comparison to Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis* L.) and creeping bentgrass (*Agrostis palustris* Huds.) when grown under varying degrees of soil compaction. The bentgrass cultivar used was Penn-cross. The annual bluegrass and Kentucky bluegrass were cut at 1.5 inches; the creeping bentgrass at 0.5 inch. All three species were established from seed. Three degrees of soil compaction were established on a sandy loam soil. The specific bulk densities were 1.1, 1.25 and 1.4 grams of dry soil per cubic centimeter. These levels of compaction had previously been determined to be representative of conditions commonly found in the field. The experiment was established in a randomized block design of two replications. Following establishment, the turfgrass plants were watered as required to prevent wilt and were grown under controlled growth chamber conditions. Experimental data collected included root growth produced eight and 12 weeks after germination. Root weight was determined by the weight loss after ashing the samples.

No differences were noted in the comparative rooting ability of the three grasses, no matter which level

of soil compaction was compared. Root growth increased proportionally with the bulk density. Evidently the degree of compaction at a bulk density of 1.4 was not high enough to cause a restriction in root growth. Finally, the root weight decreased with depth.

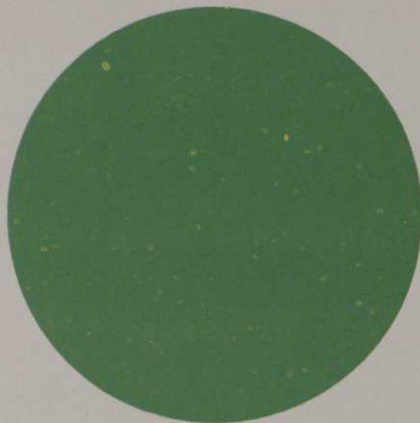
*Comments:* It is widely believed and is frequently stated in turfgrass literature that the root growth of annual bluegrass is inferior to that of Kentucky bluegrass and creeping bentgrass. Thus, one of the undesirable characteristics commonly cited for annual bluegrass is its shallow rooted nature. The data reported in this study, which is supported by an earlier study by Sprague and Burton in 1937, indicate that, contrary to the widely accepted belief, annual bluegrass is capable of producing a comparable degree of rooting to that of creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass. It is surprising how widely that concept has become accepted, even though no data supports this position.

Why has annual bluegrass become known as a shallow root species? It is frequently observed growing in compacted soil conditions where no bentgrass or Kentucky bluegrass is found. Under these conditions it would naturally have a more restricted root system. Perhaps this is how the idea that it is a shallow rooted species developed among individuals making only casual observations. Perhaps other species such as creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass could not have even produced as extensive a root system as annual bluegrass under those compacted soil conditions. Unfortunately, this possibility is not supported by the data reported here,

*continued on page 17*

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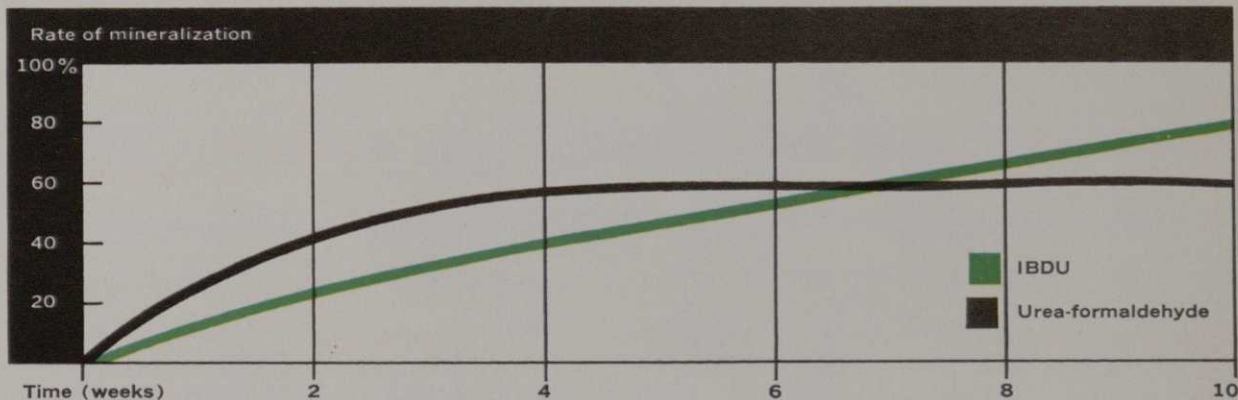
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**BEARD** from page 14

because the rooting increased with bulk density. Future studies may support this possibility, providing higher degrees of soil compaction are utilized in the experiments. One must also consider the possibility that the rooting ability of annual bluegrass varies among its varieties, particularly among the widely different annual versus perennial types.

A number of recent studies concerning annual bluegrass indicate that we have not really understood this particular species, so common on golf course greens and fairways. We need to continue to develop a better understanding of its (a) growth habit, (b) specific environmental and cultural requirements and (c) specific adaptational characteristics, because it is the dominant component in a high percentage of the golf course fairways in the United States. By having a better understanding of the annual bluegrass plant the professional turfman will be better able to (1) select a cultural system that will discourage its encroachment into the desirable bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass turfs or (2) if he chooses, to select a cultural system that will ensure its presence. The latter approach is utilized by a number of professional turfmen, perhaps by default, though, rather than through a planned program. □

**OTHER PAPERS OF INTEREST:**

1. *Evaluating sands for athletic turf.* D.E. Bingaman and H. Kohnke. 1970. *Agronomy Journal* 62(4):464-467. (from the Department of Agronomy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind. 47907).

2. *Responses of some Kentucky bluegrasses to high temperature and nitrogen fertility.* T. L. Watschke, R.E. Schmidt and R.E. Blaser. 1970. *Crop Science*. 10(4):372-376. (from the Department of Agronomy, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va. 24061).

3. *Effect of corn steep liquor for erosion control and vegetative establishment on highway back-slopes.* B.L. Schmidt, G.L. Taylor and R.W. Miller. 1969. *Agronomy Journal*. 61:214-217. (from the Department of Agronomy, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210).



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# GOLF AWARDS

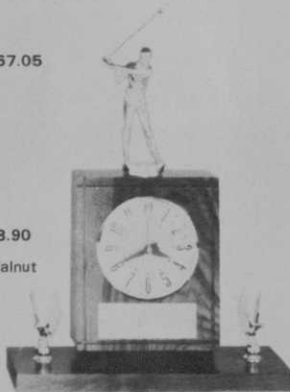


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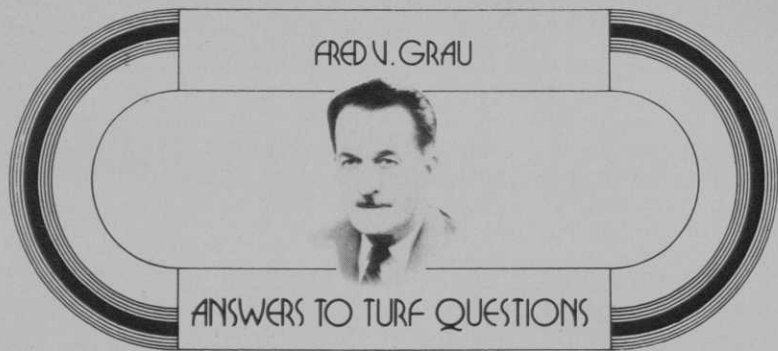
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**FRIENDS OF TURF HONORED**  
This month the uppermost thought in this writer's mind is "Hooray for Herb and Joe Graffis!" The Green Section Award, given to these two outstanding friends of turf, puts the spotlight on the lifetime of service they have shared with all of us. No one who has met them and listened to their counsel can ever forget them. Others already have written eloquently of the many fine things they have done for golf. The one thing that has spoken authoritatively over the years has been GOLF-DOM, which the Graffises "raised from a pup" and developed into a voice of turf. I was fortunate when they invited me to write the Q & A column and the turf roundup (1950, 51, 52). It has been a joy working with them!

Thank you, Herb and Joe, for all you've done for all of us!

**Q—Our Penncross greens do not look like Penncross—at least not the way better Penncross greens look. We have a limited budget, so we don't water our greens too much. Someone suggested that the less desirable strains become dominant as Penncross turf increases in age. Do you think that our watering practices have driven out the good strains?** (Pennsylvania)

**A—**First, I don't believe that the better strains have been run out by your limited irrigation program. Just the reverse is more likely to happen. The stronger strains tend to increase under an austerity program. Second, as Penncross turf grows older, assuming that management has been adequate, the more desirable strains tend to dominate. Only in winter can any separation of strains be detected. Third, if, as you suspect, you may

have "Penncross" greens that were planted to other types of bents that came in the seed, you may very well be seeing strain domination. To overcome this problem, if you have a mixture, overseed your greens at three-quarters pound per thousand spring and fall for two years. Use only Putting Green quality Blue Tag Certified Penncross bent seed.

**Q—Our new greens were seeded to Penncross bent in October 1971, then heavily mulched with straw. Now when I pick up a handful of straw the young tender grass (I have a good stand) comes up along with the straw. Can you suggest a way to remove only the straw?** (Ohio)

**A—**The problem is familiar. Because the grass is not yet strongly rooted, I suggest waiting until spring. When the Penncross starts to show signs of deeper rooting, go over the greens with a sharp-bladed rotary mower set just above the tips of the grass blades. Then use a power vacuum to lift the chopped-up straw by air suction. This should remove a good portion of the straw without damaging the Penncross. Do not try to remove all the straw. As the grass grows the straw will rot. As the grass is mowed most of the visible debris will be taken away. Do not try to rake the straw off. No doubt you will devise improvements on this idea as you work with the problem.

**Q—Two years ago the rains brought Poa annua into our greens. Is the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council set up to do or to encourage work on Poa to change its characteristics to make it a more desirable grass? Geneticists are able to change markings on fruit flies and to vary the colors in sweet peas. They should**

continued on page 23