

# Reinders Conference A Huge Success

By Pat Norton

Reinders Bros. played host to over 1400 state turfgrass managers at "Wisconsin's Largest Turf Conference" on March 13 & 14, 1985. The Waukesha County Expo Center was the site for this biennial event, first held in 1973. 1985 was the seventh such conference.



An overview of the show floor of Reinders 7th Conference.

All segments of this state's green industry — everyone from superintendents of golf courses, parks and cemeteries to lawn maintainers and landscapers — were well represented. Turf managers had excellent opportunities to attend interesting educational seminars, get technical information from equipment and irrigation workshops, or just "kick a few tires" at the extensive, colorful and very informative exhibit displays.



The UW's Dr. Bob Newman was a speaker at Reinders Conference.

Any number of interesting educational seminars were given by such notable speakers as Dr. Joe Vargas, who spoke on the relative importance of fairway clipping removal. Vargas also discussed basic cultural differences in managing *Poa annua* vs. creeping bentgrass on fairways — relative N fertilization levels, aeration requirements, disease susceptibility, etc. Other speakers included Dr. Gayle Worf on ring spot, Dr. Robert Newman on turf renovation, Dr. Robert Shearman of Nebraska on topdressing, fertility and the importance of wetting agents, Dr. Jerry Pepin of Pickseed West on turfgrass seed, plus many, many others. What an array of speakers and subjects!



Dick Reinders introduced staff people.



How many WGCSA members can you find?



Ed Devinger in conversation with customers.

Attendees also strongly sought out the equipment and irrigation service seminars on such products as Toro mowers, Kohler and Continental engines, as well as Toro, Rainbird and Buckner irrigation equipment. Reinders also offered excellent irrigation workshops for those who had the foresight to register in advance — gotta' make sure I register next year!



Manufacturer's reps were available for technical questions.

The tasty buffet luncheon seemed to keenly whet that huge winter appetite that so many of us have — the only problem was finding a place to sit and enjoy! (Rumor has it that Rod Johnson enjoyed his feast sitting in the hopper of the Viccon spreader!)

Seriously though, the Reinders conference is well worth attending. There are so many speakers to listen to, so many superintendents to chat with, and so many exhibits to see that a guy only accomplishes about half of what he wants to! Attending this most successful conference once is definitely not enough, which is why Reinders is scheduled to hold it again in 1987 — and 1989, 1991...2001, 2003, etc!



Product literature was available.