



# MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



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## U. S. D. A.

TURF PLOTS  
BELTSVILLE, MD.



F. V. JUSKA

### AUGUST MEETING - PLANT INDUSTRY STATION

The August Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic will be held in conjunction with the U.S.D.A. Turfgrass Field Day at the Plant Industry Station at Beltsville, Maryland, on Tuesday, August 6, 1963. Registration will be from 9 to 10 A.M. at the turf plots. Programs will be distributed during registration. Luncheon may be purchased at the station cafeteria or at any of the nearby restaurants.

### OUR HOST

Mr. Felix V. Juska has been turf research agronomist at Beltsville for the last eight years. He did his graduate and undergraduate work at Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

### RESEARCH

The turf research at Beltsville includes turfgrass breeding, management, and weed and disease control. The research program is conducted by the Grass and Turf Investigation Unit, headed by Dr. A. A. Hanson. Some other work is carried on in cooperation with other branches.

## THE PROGRAM

The short after luncheon program will be held in the auditorium. The tentative program for the field day is listed below.

Observations of growth retardants on Merion and common Kentucky bluegrass.

Performance of Merion, Newport, and common Kentucky bluegrasses after five growing seasons at three cutting heights and five rates of nitrogen and time of application.

Space-planted nursery of Kentucky 31 tall fescue, zoysia, bluegrass, and red fescue.

Evaluation of bermudagrass selections and varieties.

Performance of several bentgrass selections. Treatments include Thiram organic mercury with and without latex for disease control.

Exhibit of zoysia strains selected for fall cold-tolerance and early spring green-up.

Use of calcine clay in soil modification-planted to several species of turfgrasses.

Residual effect of several preemergence crabgrass herbicides, applied three years at three different rates, on the establishment of five turfgrasses.

Kentucky bluegrass variety trials.

Tall fescue study - treatments include three mowing heights, two mixtures, and nine rates of nitrogen and time of application.

Performance of over 30 European and Canadian sees lots of Kentucky bluegrass and red fescue as compared with seed from domestic sources.

Performance of 400 southern and local bluegrass collections established in 4' x 4' plots.

Fertilizer trials on Kentucky bluegrass turf. Treatments include 21 sources and rates of nitrogen application. Nitrogen applied spring only, fall only, and spring and fall.

Preemergence crabgrass and broadleaf weed control in turf - utilizing herbicides presently available and other experimental chemicals.

Fungicide trial for control of leafspot of Kentucky bluegrass. Treatments include several fungicides with and without latex as a carrier.

Phosphorus study on bluegrass turf. Rates include 0 to 4000 lbs. of actual P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> per acre at 500-lb. increments.

The Field Day Program will be held . . . . Rain or Shine!!

## DIRECTIONS

The Plant Industry Station is located on U.S. No. 1 between Beltsville and College Park, Maryland. The turf plots are located west of the Plant Industry Buildings.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by James E. Thomas

Our fellow member, Clarence Lindsay, the veteran golf course superintendent of the Fountain Head Country Club, Hagerstown, Maryland, was the host for our July meeting. Clarence's advance arrangements assured us of having a most successful gathering, one that was well received and attended by the membership. He had on hand to welcome us members of his green committee, along with several other of his club officials, also Charles Herling the Fountain Head golf professional. They extended to us a most cordial greeting, and they added much to the enjoyment of the day's activities.

Special mention must be made of the host's foresight in having present Mr. Kelly, golf

editor of the Hagerstown morning and afternoon newspapers. Mr. Kelly was on hand to write an article about our group for his papers; and he arranged for his staff photographer to take several pictures at random of those in attendance. To have a newspaperman cover one of our meetings is something new for us, and is a move in the right direction. It is good publicity for the golf course superintendent and makes for better public relations.

Our good friend, Dr. Fred V. Grau, consulting Agronomist for the Hercules Powder Co., was the guest speaker. He chose for his topic "Principles Involved with Residual Nitrogen". Dr. Grau covered his subject well, as he always does, and the talk was both informative and most interesting.

We were told that "In Residual Nitrogen we are unalterably concerned with soil organisms and with organic sources of N. It is to our advantage to make conditions ultra-favorable to the soil microbes. Continued use of solubles has the effect of bypassing your helpers in the soil because soluble N feeds plants in a direct fashion. By and by the soil microbes have been literally starved out of existence. Imagine how you would feel if your chairman, the pro and the manager all went directly to your workmen and bypassed you. How long would it take for you to quit in disgust."

At the conclusion of the educational period Clarence Lindsay gave us a verbal tour and run-down of the golf course, and he explained many of his maintenance practices. Clarence's accomplishments at Fountain Head are a shining example of what continuity in course management can mean to a country club. Your prexy was very much impressed by what our host had to say about fairway sprinkling; the system is only used when the grass shows a need for moisture, it does not serve as a toy or a plaything. This is a practice many a course could follow to good advantage when they embark on fairway watering.

Did you read in the June issue of the Golf Course Reporter Leonard Strong's article "Don't Blame the Superintendent for Winter Damage"? It affords some solace to those of us who are having troubles with bermuda grasses. Don't forget Dr. Juska will be expecting everyone at the Beltsville Field Day next month.

#### THE MID-ATLANTIC 10 YEARS AGO

by L. Robert Shields

In August, 1953, the Association met at Woodmont Country Club in Rockville, Maryland, with Bob Shields and Leo Freudberg as host superintendent and green chairman.

This meeting was saddened by the July 30 death of William H. Glover, superintendent at Fairfax Country Club, a member of the Board of Directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, past President of the Mid-Atlantic, member of the Turf Advisory Council at Pennsylvania State College and a member of the Green Section Committee of the U.S.G.A. The NEWSLETTER dated August, 1953, was dedicated to the memory of Bill Glover and had these words to say about him: "We of the Mid-Atlantic took Bill's passing as a great personal loss for we often relied on him for his wise counsel both turf-wise and as a friend. Aside from his many duties in the world of turf, Bill was also an outstanding member of his community both in civic and religious affairs. With the passing of Bill Glover we all feel we have lost a good friend and the profession has lost one of its greatest men. Bill will never be forgotten because the principles and methods he advocated for the development and maintenance of better turf will resound again and again from tee to green on every golf course in the country for years and years to come."

#### LADIES NIGHT

Tuesday, September 24, the Mid-Atlantic will be host to the wives and dates of the members for dinner and the theater. Cocktails will be served at Washingtonian Motel and Country Club from 5 to 6 P.M. followed by a buffet dinner from 6 to 8 P.M. in the club's Potomac Room. A fine menu has been planned. At 8:30 P.M. the entire group will see the show, "Call Me Madam", starring Martha Raye at the Shady Grove Music Fair where seats will be reserved. A definite price for the evening has not been decided as of this date. Reservations and further information can be had by contacting Frank Haske at GA 4-9374 or Bob Shields at GA 4-8439. A deadline of September 12 has been established for all reservations. We hope this evening will afford the chance for all couples to get better acquainted. Let's see everyone in attendance. More information will come with the next NEWSLETTER.

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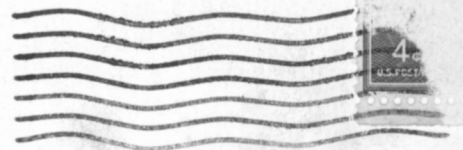
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