

SPORTS TURF

Newsletter

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...for better, safer Sports Turf

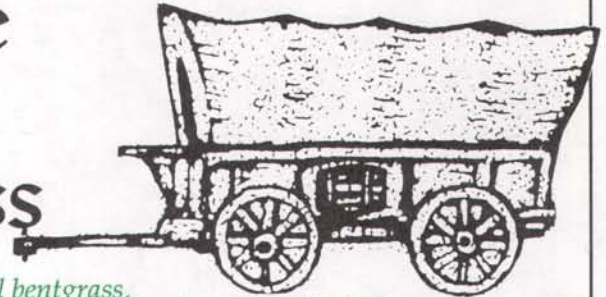
COMING EVENTS

March 31, 1994
**Integrated Pest Management
for Parks**
Venue: GTI Centre
Contact: Pam Charbonneau,
GTI
328 Victoria Road, S.,
Guelph, ON. N1H 6H8
519-824-4120 Ext. 2597

May 1 - May 6, 1994
**39th Annual Staff Training &
Management Program**
University of Guelph
Contact: John Milton,
Ont. Recreation Facilities Assoc.,
1220 Sheppard Avenue E.,
North York, ON. M2K 2X1
1-800-661-6732

June 22, 1994
Sports Turf Assoc. Field Day,
Venue: Guelph Turfgrass Institute,
Contact: R.W. Sheard,
Sports Turf Association,
328 Victoria Road S., (RR#2)
Guelph, ON. N1H 6H8
519-763-9431

Whence Came Bentgrass



*A story is told of how colonial bentgrass,
which is not an indigenous species, arrived
in North America.*



In the fall dried bentgrass is curly and soft and excellent for stuffing mattresses. When the settlers in New England and Canada shook out their old bedding they planted colonial bentgrass. Colonial bent was quickly naturalized along the coast of Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Rhode Island.

Some settlers from Nova Scotia emigrated to New Zealand. Soon after they changed the stuffing in their bedding, thus colonial bentgrass became a "native" around the bays and along the coasts of New Zealand where it became known as New Zealand browntop.

The urge to resettle brought colonists from Rhode Island across the Oregon trail, accompanied by colonial bent. One might say that the grass industry in Oregon got its start from a hitchhiker on the Oregon trail. The more likely source of the bents which have become "native" to Oregon are south German bents which were imported as seed and planted. Creeping bentgrass comprised only 15% of the south German seed, however, it was soon recognized as a superior amenity grass and selected out of the original south German bent.

[Abstracted from John H. Madison, *Practical Turfgrass Management*]

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GTI Research Highlights:
Integrated Pest
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