

closed, but the extra advantage which the Center appreciates is that no concern for different tolerances of flowering annuals to herbicides is needed.

The group of 110 delegates

then toured via car caravan a local landscaping job, a nearby landscape nursery, and the plant of the F. E. Myers & Bro. Company, sprayer manufacturers, in Ashland, Ohio.

## Penn State Finds New Turf

### Disease, Called Fusarium Blight

A new turfgrass disease, called the "most troublesome in north-eastern U. S.," has been isolated and identified by researchers at the Pennsylvania State University Department of Plant Pathology and reported by Dr. Houston B. Couch, Associate Professor, in the Spring-Summer 1964 edition of the Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin.

When the odd disease, now called Fusarium blight, was first found in 1959, Dr. Couch relates, it could not be controlled by any of the commonly used fungicides. Researchers looked for the disease the following year and found it prevalent in eastern

New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware, as well as Pennsylvania.

According to Dr. Couch, "affected turfgrass stands first show light-green areas that are either circular, crescent-shaped, or streaked. Initially, these discolored sections of grass range from 2 inches to 1 foot in diameter. Within a few days, they may enlarge to a total breadth of 2 feet or more.

"As the disease progresses, the color of the grass fades to a dull tan, and eventually to a light straw color. In the final stages, distinct streaks and uniformly blighted circular patches of grass will be scattered through-

out the lawn. Also, centers of green grass, apparently healthy plants, occur in circles of dead grass and have taken the name 'frog-eye.' The 'frog-eye' pattern is characteristic and a key field diagnostic feature."

This new disease shows one of the clearest relationships between disease susceptibility and fertility. Bluegrass, bentgrass, and red fescue grown under high nitrogen fertility or deficient calcium levels were far more susceptible than those grown under normal balanced nutrition, the report continues.

The pathogen is the fungus *Fusarium roseum*, the same organism which causes stalk rot of corn, and carnation stem rot. *Fusarium* can cause severe foliar blighting of turf in only 72 hours when temperatures are favorable. Bents and red fescues are commonly attacked at 75-95 degrees F. *Fusarium* found on Merion Kentucky bluegrass is most active at 85 degrees F. In its most aggressive phase, Dr. Couch describes, the pathogen



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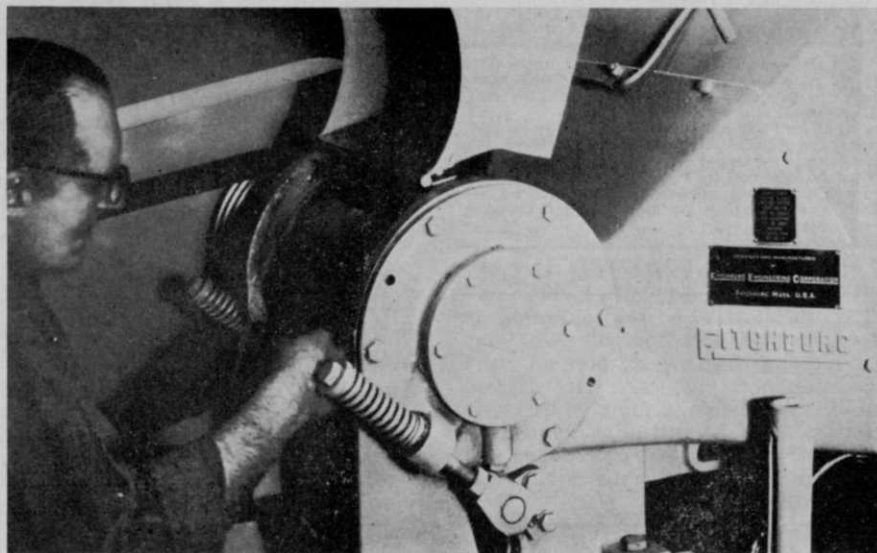
causes rotting of roots, crown, stolons and/or rhizomes.

Commonly used fungicides tested did not work on *Fusarium*. One product, Dithane M-45, produced by Rohm & Haas, prevented the disease when used at 4 oz. per 1,000 sq. ft.

### Suppliers Personnel Changes

American Potash & Chemical Corp., Los Angeles, Calif., has acquired the services of John F. Devlin as sales representative in the firm's marketing division, according to LA district sales manager John R. Jones. Devlin, formerly with Union Carbide, will be stationed in the company's New York office.

California Chemical Co. has named J. A. Rice, Jr., Assistant National Sales Manager for garden and home products of the Ortho Division. In another field move, Ortho placed J. E. McKillop as new assistant to the western regional sales manager, D. P. Hogan, also in the garden and



A new way to service cutting blades on the Fitchburg Brush Chipper, said to save labor, has been announced by the manufacturer. Above, the operator shows how hinged section of patented 2-way chule can be folded out of the way on trailer models to provide fast and easy access for changing blades, honing or removing blades for sharpening. This time saving feature, of special interest to shade tree commission engineers, tree surgeons, and line clearance contract applicators, is available as optional equipment on all Fitchburg trailer-model chippers, the company says. For details, write Fitchburg Engineering Corp., Dept. WT, Fitchburg, Mass.

home division. Both men will operate from Cal Chem's San Francisco office.

U. S. Borax and Chemical Corp. recently designated Warren G. Coray to fill the newly

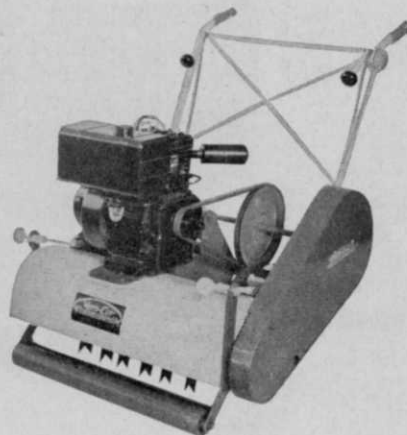
created post of executive assistant in the firm's marketing department at Los Angeles. In other field changes, Borax moved W. Woodrow Wilson in as manager of the firm's Chicago region.



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