

Form Mo. Valley Turfgrass Assn. at Annual MU Lawn and Turf Conference

By TED HOFFMAN

Highlight of the sixth annual University of Missouri Lawn and Turf Conference, Sept. 15 and 16, was formation of the Missouri Valley Turfgrass Association, Inc.

Charter officers elected were Robert V. Mitchell, St. Louis, president; William Latta, Kansas City, first vice president; Ellary Bennett, St. Joseph, second vice president; and Earl Page, St. Louis, secretary-treasurer.

Election of three directors at large rounded out the board. Named directors were J. B. Lewis, Springfield, one-year term; Stan Frederiksen, St. Louis, three years; and Howard Denny, Overland Park, Kans., two years. Delbert Hemphill, Columbia, was appointed consultant and ex-officio board member.

Mitchell is the superintendent of Sunset Country Club in St. Louis. Latta is manager of Princeton Turf Farms, Inc., Kan-

sas City. Bennett operates a St. Joseph garden center. Page is president of Earl M. Page, Inc., a St. Louis distributor of agricultural supplies.

Lewis is superintendent of the Twin Oaks Country Club at Springfield. Frederiksen is manager of Mallinckrodt Chemical Works distributor products, St. Louis. Denny is superintendent of Meadow Brook Country Club at Overland Park, Kans. Hemphill is professor of horticulture at the University of Missouri. He was conference chairman.

The Missouri Valley Turfgrass Association, Inc., was formed as a formal organization to represent business firms, homeowners, organizations, and governmental departments—especially municipalities—concerned with grasses and ornamentals used in lawns, parks, golf courses, and similar areas.

Those attending the two-day annual conference on the Columbia, Mo. campus heard



Center of attraction was this display of weed samples which were part of a session on weed identification conducted at Mo. Lawn and Turf Conference by Ronald Taven (left), UM associate professor of horticulture, and J. A. Long.

speakers on a variety of subjects concerning turf management such as disease, insect and weed control, plant nutrients, irrigation, and developing new turf grass varieties.

Among conference speakers was Ray Freeborg, with Link's Nursery, Inc., St. Louis.

Cost Limits Zoysia Use

Freeborg, in a talk about zoysia and its future, said Midwest zoysia "looks like a good prospect" but at present rates of increase, it will not be generally available at reasonable cost for some time. He said he expects more work in the future on zoysia seed production.

Al Chandler, University of Missouri golf coach, said a golf course superintendent's first duty is to the golf course, and the second is to the golfer. He noted that golfers complain very little about inconveniences resulting from preventive maintenance.

Regarding tees, Chandler stated that "long grass on a tee



First officers and directors of new Missouri Valley Turfgrass Association, Inc., formed at U. of Missouri Conference, are, left to right, front row, Ellary Bennett, St. Joseph, second vice president; William Latta, Kansas City, first vice president; Robert V. Mitchell, St. Louis, president; Earl Page, St. Louis, secretary-treasurer. Back row, Delbert Hemphill, Columbia, ex-officio board member and consultant; and directors at large, J. B. Lewis, Springfield; Stan Frederiksen, St. Louis; and Howard Denny, Overland Park, Kans. Formation of the organization took place during the sixth annual Lawn and Turf Conference on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia September 15 and 16.

is inexcusable." He advised that tees be cut fairly short.

With regard to fairways, he pointed out that the "esthetic view of a golf course hinges on the fairway appearance." And, "the golfer wants a lush-stand and a short cut on fairways."

Speaking about the rough, Chandler said it is supposed to be a handicap to the golfer, but it shouldn't be an over-severe handicap. He added that a rough cut too long slows play.

He pointed out that an attractive entrance is one of the most important areas of the course. He urged that unusual characteristics of the course be maintained and kept neat. Lakes should be kept clean, and weeds around lakes and ditches should be kept down.

Advocates Automatic Sprinklers

Robert L. Rugar, representative of Rainy Sprinkler Sales, Peoria, Ill., advocated installation of automatic sprinkling systems on golf courses when possible.

Advantages of such systems, he said, were that they eliminate enough labor to justify the cost, add prestige to the course, and maintenance men have complete control over the watering program.

An automatic watering system, Rugar pointed out, should be designed by a competent, experienced engineer. The contractor should also be competent and qualified.

Robert W. Schery, director, The Lawn Institute, Marysville, O., speaking about various mulches for use in seeding turf, said the material to be used should be judged on the basis of "one's individual situation."

He suggested that factors to consider in selecting mulch material are its cost, application costs, appearance, and possibly proximity to the source of supply. He pointed out the merits of some mulches such as fibers, netting, films, and plastic sprays.

Hemphill, in a talk on what is new in weed control, stated that "combinations of various chemicals have real merit." His

Know Your Species

POKEWEED

(*Phytolacca americana*)



Pokeweed or pokeberry is a perennial and reproduces by seed. This plant may be a pest in open woodlands and is usually found on deep, rich, gravelly soil. It may also be found in pastures, along roadsides, fence rows, field borders, and other generally low areas.

Locally, people may call this plant inkberry, Virginia poke, or red ink plant. Leaves and berries, and especially the root of this plant are poisonous.

Pokeweed may grow to 9 feet tall. The stems (2) are smooth and rather flimsy. Plant juices give the stem a reddish hue. The stems die back to the ground each winter. The lower part of stems may have some persistent woody tissue.

Leaves are alternate on the stem. They are ovate to pointed with no teeth or lobes. Leaves are largest near the bottom, and as the leaf petiole gets longer near the top of the plant, leaves become smaller. They have no hairs and are smooth.

The taproot (1) is fleshy and white. It may be 6 inches in diameter in old plants. It is the most poisonous part of this plant.

Flowers (3) are small and white. They have no true petals but there are 5 white sepals which are petal-like. Flowers bloom on a stalk called a raceme (ra as in rabble, seem). First blooms start nearest the stem and continue blooming as the raceme gets longer. Fruits are dark purple berries which have a crimson juice. Each berry has several radiating depressions (4) on the outer side. There are many seeds in each fruit.

Seeds (5) are small black discs, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter.

Sprays of 2,4,5-T and silvex are more effective than 2,4-D. Repeated sprays will control this plant selectively. It can be killed by most nonselective weed sprays.

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Meeting Dates



Nebraska Association of Nurserymen Annual Convention, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, Nov. 15-16.

Pennsylvania Grassland Conference, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, Nov. 22-23.

National Weed Committee of Canada, Western Section Meeting, Palliser Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

Illinois Turfgrass Conference, University of Illinois, Urbana, Dec. 2-3.

North Central Weed Control Conference, Broadview Hotel, Wichita, Kans. Dec. 5-7.

Minnesota State Nurserymen's Assn. Convention and Annual Meeting, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, Dec. 6-7.

Connecticut Nurserymen's Assn. Annual Meeting, Hotel Statler-Hilton, Hartford, Dec. 30.

North Carolina Nurserymen's Assn. Annual Meeting, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, Jan. 3-4, 1966.

Western Association of Nurserymen Annual Convention, Hotel Continental, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 3-5.

Rutgers Winter Turf Course, College of Agriculture, New Brunswick, N. J., Jan. 4-Mar. 11.

Northeastern Weed Control Conference, The Hotel Astor, New York, Jan. 5-7.

Indiana Association of Nurserymen Annual Winter Conference, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Jan. 5-7.

Iowa Nurserymen's Assn. Annual Convention, Hotel Roosevelt, Cedar Rapids, Jan. 7-9.

National Landscape Nurserymen's Assn. Convention, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 8-9.

North Carolina State Annual Pesticide School, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, Jan. 10-11.

New York State Arborists Assn. Winter Meeting, Statler Hotel on Cornell campus, Ithaca, Jan. 16-18.

First Annual Pennsylvania Shade Tree Symposium, Nittany Lion Inn, University Park, Jan. 11-13.

statement was based on data obtained from research plots at the University of Missouri.

Others who participated in the conference program were, from the University of Missouri, Raymond A. Schroeder, chairman, department of horticulture; Charles Sacamano, extension horticulturist; Ronald Taven, associate professor of horticulture; Philip Stone, chairman, department of entomology; Mahlon Fairchild, associate professor of entomology; C. C. Burkhardt, assistant in entomology; Tom Wyllie, associate professor of field crops; J. A. Long, director, biochemical research, O. M. Scotts, Marysville, O.; Charles G. Wilson, sales manager and agronomist, Milorganite Turf Service, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee.

NW Pacific Sprayorama

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professionalism when its members consider how far the industry has come in a comparatively short time. "The best years are ahead of us if we take the proper approach," he predicted.

Cost Accounting Is Key

Are you really in business or should you sell out, invest your capital, and work for someone else? That's the question asked by Jennings P. Felix, Seattle attorney, in his talk on business planning and cost analysis.

Felix advised the group that, as small businessmen, they must undergo a thorough cost accounting survey to know the real facts about their profit and loss. Presenting a detailed analysis form to each operator, he urged its use as the first step to determine where costs, prices, and profits should be in a sound small business.

4 Assns. Form PNSA

Culminating months of discussions and meetings, the newly formed Pacific Northwest Spraymen's Association was brought to the initial stage of incorporation. It is made up of four separate spraymen's groups: The Washington Association of Ground Sprayers, The North-

west Chemical Applicators, The Oregon Chemical Applicators Association, and The Pesticides Sprayers Association of Portland.

A previously temporary board of directors, elected from each of the four associations, was elected to permanent board status, by-laws were tentatively approved, and permanent board officers elected. Elected to the board as President is William L. Owen. Vice President is Jack Daniels, and secretary-treasurer is Lester Wampole.

"Sole purpose of the Pacific Northwest Spraymen's Association is to provide a regional voice for the Northwest whenever and wherever a regional voice is needed. It is hoped that quick and firm liaison with the new National Spraymen's Association, headquartered in Florida, can be accomplished as one more step toward a truly representative and functional national association of spraymen," Bill Owen stated as he addressed the Sprayorama.

Iron Chlorosis Appears

Iron chlorosis, a disease which occurs in susceptible plants when iron is not available, has been recorded in many lawns and ornamental plants across Kansas, R. E. Odom, Kansas State University Extension Ornamental Horticulturist reports. Symptoms are generally a yellowing of the foliage due to failure of chlorophyll to develop normally.

Nourishment in the form of ferrous sulfate or iron chelates helps combat the iron lack. Ferrous sulfate can be applied as a foliar spray at the rate of two teaspoons per gallon of water, plus spreader-sticker. Repeat the spray in about 10 days if the yellowing persists.

Iron sulfate can also be applied to soil as a fertilizer. Apply to trees and shrubs in holes made in a circle just inside the spread of the branches. A 5-foot high shrub takes ½ lb. A tree should have about ¾ lb. for each inch of trunk diameter.

Close-growing plants such as grass should have 4 lbs. per 1,000 square feet.