

will expand with whatever shows the greatest demand."

Bitterman feels that the zoysia Emerald will show the greatest increase. "It is the best of the long grasses," he said. "And we have had five calls for it within the last month."

Further advice to newcomers is to "keep up to date in your information." This can be done by constant consultation with machinery and insecticide salesmen and those of other suppliers. "These men get around and they know what is going on. They can help you a great deal," said Bitterman.

New Tifdwarf Bermudagrass Superior for Golf Greens

"Tiny leaves of a new grass species grow so close to the ground that many of them are never cut by the greens mower," is the enthusiastic report from R. H. Garrison, head of the Clemson University Seed Certification Department, Clemson, S. C.

Known as Tifdwarf bermudagrass, it was released in April

of this year by Drs. Glenn W. Burton and J. Earl Elsner, of the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga. Garrison reports further, "Tifdwarf, like other improved grasses developed by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, was released only through seed certification programs in order that buyers might be protected and to insure that they do not get a substitute."

Comparison tests between Tifdwarf and Tifgreen were conducted for a three-year period at the Tifton experiment station. In these comparisons it was learned that Tifdwarf was equal to or superior to Tifgreen on nearly every score. Very close growth to the ground helps Tifdwarf tolerate a $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch cutting height much better than Tifgreen. Its softer blades and fewer seedheads also contribute to its superior cutting qualities.

At the Coastal Plains Experiment Station, Tifdwarf gave a darker green color than Tifgreen

and required less fertilizer to bring it to a comparable degree of greenness. Its purple basic plant color, that helps to keep it looking dark green in the summertime, becomes very noticeable when temperatures drop in the fall.

Tifdwarf is not available at the present time for home lawns or golf courses. Plantings have been made by growers in the certification program and the Tifdwarf variety will be available for distribution in 1966, Garrison informs.

The South Carolina Foundation Seed Association has made a planting at the Sandhill Experiment Station, and the plot is available for observation and test work this year.

Official information on the performance of Tifdwarf in South Carolina is not available at this time.

Persons interested in securing Tifdwarf in 1966 may contact the South Carolina Foundation Seed Association at Clemson University.



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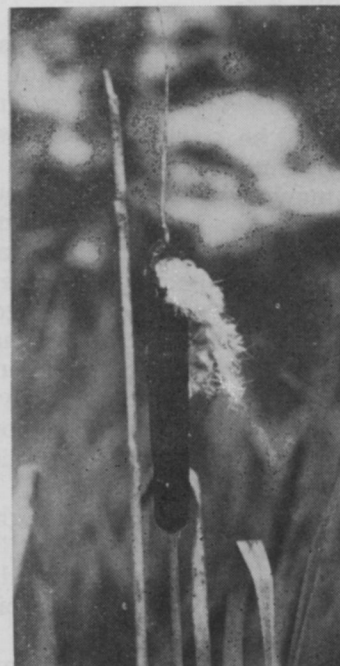
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