

Bryant Offers Fall Turf Tips for S.W.

Now is the time to plant bluegrass in the Southwest, according to Douglas Bryant, horticulturist with the New Mexico State University Extension Service. Because Merion and Newport are more tolerant to heat than common bluegrass, he suggests planting these varieties in the more southern areas.

On the average, 3 to 5 lbs. of good seed should be used for each 1,000 sq. ft. of land, and the soil should be thoroughly prepared before planting since errors at this time are very difficult to correct. Bryant also recommends fall overplanting of bermudagrass lawns with 6 to 10 lbs. of annual ryegrass seed per 1,000 sq. ft. If the rye is planted in an area that has no bermudagrass, 10 to 15 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. is needed, he adds.

Fertilize through October or until frost with 1½ to 2 lbs. of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. of blue-

grass, and 1 lb. per 1,000 sq. ft. of bermudagrass, Bryant says. Nitrogen applied now keeps bermudagrass green longer into the fall, whereas an insufficiency will often cause it to turn brown before the first frost.

By controlling weeds and annual grasses now, while they are producing seed, next year's weed crop can be reduced. The number of weeds appearing in fall is no indication of next year's problem, according to Bryant, who suggests such sprays as 2,4-D or silvex to kill broadleaf weeds and such chemicals as DSMA to kill annual grasses.

Mowers should be raised ¼ in. from the spring cutting height for bermudagrass. This helps to combat fall weeds and permits a more dense turf for winter protection. The extension specialist also recommends regular fall watering, stating that "A healthy stand of bermudagrass should stay green right up to frost if it has the water and fertilizer to keep it growing."

Suppliers Personnel Changes

Allis-Chalmers Farm Equipment Division, Milwaukee, Wis., has named Benjamin M. Cornwell merchandising manager for industrial tractors and equipment. Previously A-C sales supervisor, Cornwell is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute. He joined the Farm Equipment Division in 1959.

Amchem Products Inc., Ambler, Pa., recently appointed Donald B. Loutzenhiser sales representative for Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware. Loutzenhiser is a graduate of Penn State University and a member of the Northeastern Weed Control Conference, National Shade Tree Conference, and Allegheny Mountain Turfgrass Association.

Bowie Machine Works, Bowie, Tex., announces that Rex S. Harper is its new southeastern sales representative. His branch headquarters will be in Atlanta, Ga.

Elanco Products Co., division of Eli Lilly and Co., Indianapolis, Ind., reports two executive

changes and a new appointment. Dr. Frederick R. Van Abeele has been named to the newly created position of executive vice president, and Thomas C. Zinninger has been advanced to executive director, agricultural chemical products. Dr. Van Abeele, who has been with Lilly since 1940, and was formerly its research director, received his doctorate from the University of Illinois in 1948. Zinninger, University of Kentucky graduate, joined Elanco in 1961 as a crop chemical specialist, and is responsible for marketing of the agricultural chemical line. Richard S. Aro has joined the Lilly division as a plant science representative. He will provide field technical service for Elanco's agricultural chemicals in Iowa. A University of Wyoming graduate, Aro was formerly with the U. S. Geological Survey, Denver, Colo.

Root-Lowell Corp., Lowell, Mich., has added to its field sales organization. Jack Whitman of North Muskegon, Mich., will be assigned, after training, to the Upper Midwest territory.

Trimmings

Solid Sod. In the summer '66 issue of O. M. Scott & Sons "Lawn Care" magazine, recently sent us by editor Dr. Joseph E. Howland, there's a picture article about a lawn sodded atop a solid layer of concrete. An experiment it was, intended to dramatize how little a good sod lawn depends upon the topsoil. After a year, the lawn is performing beautifully. Of course no one expects this technique to become popular, but Scott's research has been sodding over difficult spots to show it can be done. We wonder if sod merchandisers are taking every opportunity to promote the many applications of the "carpet-of-grass." We also wonder about some of the more difficult sod installations that have been made, and hereby invite sodmen, landscapers, and anyone else in the field to send us information on the toughest sodding jobs they have performed or know of. WTT would like to publicize the many uses of ever-so-versatile sod.

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K. C. Hits Weeds. We've been reading about a recent Kansas City, Mo., weed control ordinance that subjects property owners to fines for harboring noxious weeds more than 18" tall and for other vegetation that may invite debris or pests. It seems that every summer the city receives hundreds of weed complaints from pollen sufferers and others concerned about their city's appearance. Sounds like a heyday for K. C. weed controllers. But why 18"? Is a 17" weed any more attractive, or its pollen any less irritating?

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About That Nail. The Pacific Northwest Spraymen's '66 Spray-O-Rama, set for Sept. 23 and 24 in Portland, Ore., promises to be their biggest show to date. To publicize it, they've been mailing out nails. "Use it right now," the promotion reads, "to NAIL down the dates." We were thinking of doing just that, but our publisher objects to nail holes in WTT's Calendar of Events. Then we thought of taking the nail home and tossing it under the chlorotic shrubs in front of our apartment, until we received the following from professor Chuck Drage of Colorado State University: "Adding rusty nails or scrap iron to the soil does not provide iron in a form that plants can use (for iron chlorosis), just as the body cannot use iron in the metal form." Guess we'll just leave the shiny, new nail in our desk drawer. Meantime, best wishes to Bill Owen and the Northwest Spraymen for the success of their coming meet.

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Canada's Flying Sodmen. Members of the Nursery Sod Growers Assn. of Ontario recently chartered a plane for a two-day trip to St. Paul and Minneapolis to study new sod production methods and equipment.

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Turfman Dies. We recently learned of the death of O. J. Noer of Milwaukee. One of the developers of Milorganite fertilizer, he was a long-standing soil expert for the city and consultant to golf courses throughout the country.