

the owner-operators of McGovern Sod Farms, Inc., were impressed with the laborsaving benefits of these irrigation systems. Not only can more water be applied in a given period of time, but also less manpower is needed to operate the systems during this same time period. With a standard system, crews of three men each are needed to work at pipe moving, tending generally two or three sod fields per crew. Under the new mechanical wheel-move system, any worker can move a sprinkler line (up to 1/4 mile wide) in five minutes.

It is estimated that cost of the basic wheel-move components; i.e., power unit and wheel units, is approximately four times the cost of standard system components, i.e., pipe and sprinklers. However, it is felt that the advantages in laborsaving and timesaving will more than justify this extra cost. Furthermore, says Ed McGovern, "This system will enable us to continue growing top-quality turf in greater quantity."

Sod Producers Form National Group

Sod growers formally organized into a national group on July 11 at East Lansing, Mich. Considered a key move for the nation's growers, the formal action followed naming of a committee for the purpose earlier this year at the International Turfgrass Conference.

The new group organized as the American Sod Producers Association with a charter membership of 40 growers. Membership fees for the new organization will be \$50.


Elected president of the group was Ben O. Warren, Warren's Turf Nursery, Palos Park, Ill. Vice-president is Robert Daymon, president of Emerald Valley Turf Nurseries, Howell, Mich. Elected treasurer was Louis DeLea, Louis DeLea & Sons, East Northport, Long Island, N.Y.; and secretary, Richard Horner, Horner Sod Farms, Wind Lake, Wis. Other members elected to the 7-man board besides the officers were: To-

bias Grether, Cal-Turf, Inc., Camarillo, Calif.; J. E. Ousley, Sr., Ousley Sod Company, Pompano Beach, Fla.; and Wiley Miner, Princeton Turf Farms, Inc., Cranbury, N. J. Acting for the secretary and treasurer is George B. Hammond, Paint Valley Bluegrass Farm, 71 E. State St., Columbus, O. Hammond is coordinating requests for membership in the new organization and is answering queries directed to the group.

Final Applications For M.S.U. Turf Training


Michigan's 18-month-long technical training program in turfgrass management will begin next month. The program which starts September 21 includes 1 year of campus study and 6 months of industry employment.

Dr. James Beard, of the department of Crop Science, reports that 28 of a full complement of 35 students are now enrolled. Final registration date is September 18.

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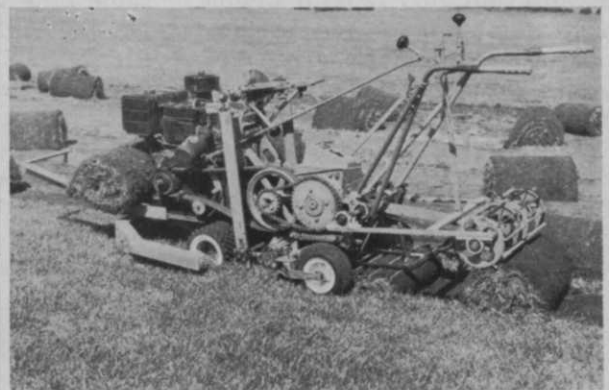
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