

Survey '67:

Turfgrass Management Training, Part 3

From "brushup" short courses to two-year technical programs, from four-year undergraduate courses leading to B.S. degrees to research-oriented postgraduate studies, colleges around the country are stepping up their turfgrass management training programs in the face of heavy demand for graduates. On the following pages, and in coming issues, WTT surveys turfgrass programs and the specialists behind them. Final installment will appear in July.

Lake City Junior College, Lake City, Florida



Dr. James H. Thacker: Career opportunities are almost unlimited because of the rapid growth of the industry and the accompanying advance in technological developments.

Turfgrass and ornamental horticulture management programs have been developed through cooperation of colleges and industry representatives. A 2-year course is offered through the Technical Division of the College. Graduates are awarded an Associate of Science Degree in either Turfgrass Management or in Ornamental Horticulture.

Dr. James H. Thacker directs both the turfgrass and ornamental horticultural programs. Subjects of the turfgrass program center around establishment and maintenance of industrial and municipal parks, golf courses, cemeteries, road rights-of-way, and public and commercial building grounds. Specific subjects are turf growth and composition, insects and diseases, fertilization, and turf protection. Theory and technical knowledge are given in the classroom and actual performance of skills in the industry are carried out in both indoor and outdoor laboratories.

Enrollment for the program which was started last year consists of 9 day students with an additional 24 students taking night classes.

Requirement for admission is a high school education. Classes begin August 14 which is also the deadline for application. Tuition costs average about \$75 per term for local students, \$90 for other Florida students, and \$125 for out-of-state students. On-the-job training is a program requirement. The course is the only one of its type in the Southeast and was designed by industry and college personnel to meet the needs of industry for turf personnel according to Walter D. Anderson, executive secretary of the Florida Turfgrass Association.

Requests for information may be directed to Dr. James H. Thacker, Lake City Junior College, Lake City, Fla. 32055.

State University Agricultural and Technical College, Farmingdale, New York



Dr. Donald W. Griffiths, Jr.: Educators and industry leaders agree that there is a need for competent turfgrass specialists. They can satisfy this need only if they have young men aware of the situation.

Turf training at New York's State University Agricultural and Technical College, Farmingdale, is conducted by the Department of Ornamental Horticulture and is directed by Donald W. Griffiths, Jr., Associate Professor of Ornamental Horticulture.

Program offered is a two-year course leading to an Associate in Applied Science degree in ornamental horticulture with a major in turf management. A separate one-year vocational program is being planned for the near future. Two-year students study turfgrass culture and management, as well as design, horticulture, and arboriculture. Technical courses are supplemented with general education and basic science subjects. Students are required to gain on-the-job experience between the second and third semesters, and additional part-time work is recommended but not required.

Begun in 1966, the Farmingdale program has a first-year enrollment of 10, with a larger class expected for the second year. Courses in turf management and landscape development are taught by Griffiths, with many staff members cooperating in teaching allied subjects.

Requirement for admission to the program is high school graduation with a satisfactory record including math and science studies. Tuition for New York residents is \$400 per year; for nonresidents, \$600. Registration begins Sept. 11, 1967, and Sept. 9, 1968. Applications should be made at least six months in advance, though late applications may be accepted on the basis of student quotas, etc. For further details, write Director of Admissions, State University Agricultural and Technical College, Farmingdale, New York 11735.

Mississippi State University, State College, Mississippi



Dr. Coleman Y. Ward: At no time has there been greater demand for qualified graduates—the need far exceeds present or anticipated enrollment. I know of no area where there is greater opportunity.

Turf training is directed by the Agronomy Department and all turf courses are taught by the staff of the Agronomy Department. However, a joint major is offered by the Departments of Agronomy and Horticulture.

Dr. C. Y. Ward directs the turf research and teaching program. A turf management option offering a B.S. degree is offered by both the Agronomy and Horticultural departments. Emphasis on courses is split about equally between these two departments. Students may also take a Master's or Ph.D. degree in Agronomy Crops with the research program being in the field of turf management. Specific degrees offered for the undergraduate are Agronomy-Turf Management or Horticulture-Turf Management.

Teaching staff consists of Dr. Ward, Dr. Leyton Davis, and Jack E. Gary. The program, started in 1965, has 10 students enrolled with the selected option of Turf Management either in Horticulture or Agronomy. Three students are currently completing B.S. requirements and one is

graduating with a Master's degree. Some 3 to 5 students are expected to graduate annually over the next five years. Work in the field is encouraged. Working agreements with golf course superintendents exist for summer employment. Also, students may alternate school work with outside employment by attending classes during alternate semesters.

Tuition at the University is \$174 per semester which includes student activities and health service. The fall semester begins September 14. A slightly lower rate exists for the spring semester which begins February 2, 1968. An additional \$25 per semester is charged out-of-state students. Students who have completed work at an accredited high school or who transfer from a junior college are eligible. All are required to have taken the American College Test.

Requests for additional information may be directed to Dr. C. Y. Ward, Agronomy Crops, P.O. Box 5248, State College, Miss. 39762.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee



Dr. L. M. Callahan: Graduates are in great demand for University research and Extension work and by industry in all areas.

Turf Training at the University of Tennessee is offered in the Department of Agronomy, and is directed by Dr. L. M. Callahan, Assistant Professor in Turfgrass Management.

Program offers graduate specialization in turf management at the M.S. and Ph.D. levels, with assistantships available for qualified students. A specialty course in turf management is offered at the senior (undergraduate) level, but also developed for juniors and graduate students. Subject areas covered include all aspects of turf management, such as soil fertility, fertilizers, soil chemistry, genetics, plant physiology, botany, plant pathology, entomology, landscape design, agricultural engineering, etc. Practical training is in-

cluded in this course, and on-the-job training is part of the graduate program.

Begun in 1964, Tennessee's graduate program is just getting underway, with the first graduate student currently completing his M.S. degree in turf management.

Requirement for entering the graduate turf program is established by the University. There is no tuition for Tennessee residents; nonresident tuition for course enrollment is \$150 per quarter. Requests for information regarding enrollment in the University should be addressed to the Dean of Admissions, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn. Inquiries on the turf management program can be sent to Dr. L. M. Callahan, Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Washington State University, Pullman, Washington



Dr. Roy L. Goss: Opportunities in the field are very good. We have a shortage of good trained personnel.

Turf training at Washington State University is the responsibility of the Agronomy Department, and is a cooperative effort among agronomy staff members.

Program offered is a four-year undergraduate course of study, leading to a B.S. in agronomy with a major in turf. In addition to general science, agronomy, and other required courses, students take the course in Turfgrass Culture, taught by Alvin G. Law. On-the-job training is not included as a requirement of the undergraduate program; however, it is encouraged.

Begun about 1948 in turf research, Washington State's program began offering training courses in 1953. There is still considerable emphasis on research, with Dr. Roy L. Goss and Dr. C. J. Gould de-

voting time to research in turf and turf diseases, respectively. Teaching is done at Pullman with most of the research being conducted at the Western Washington Research Station at Puyallup, Wash.

Requirement for entering the program is admission to the University. Tuition is \$105 per year for residents, and \$315 per year for nonresidents. In the fall of 1967, registration begins Sept. 25, and classes, Sept. 28. In the spring of 1968, registration will begin Feb. 8, and classes, Feb. 12. Early application is advised. Requests for information regarding degrees in turfgrass management (agronomy with turf major) should be directed to Mr. Alvin G. Law, Johnson Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, Wash.