

# what's all this fuss about GRASS?



The controversy over which grass varieties make the best sod is often bewildering. Does Windsor rate higher than Merion? Is straight Merion superior to a Merion/Fescue mix? And how about this new grass, NK-100?

We offer no pat answers to these questions. Furthermore, we are not prejudiced in favor of any one variety or mixture. At McGovern Sod Farms we grow *all* these grasses and are constantly testing new varieties.

For some "straight-talk" concerning our experiences with these and other grasses, write us on your business letterhead and ask for:

## The McGovern Sod Report

...a timely fact sheet about turf grasses, their merits, and their problems...published at various times throughout the year.

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Write for:

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## Herbicide Industry Needs Career Man

Chemical weed control has become an essential phase of management in the industry. Not only is it important in those businesses associated with weeds, trees and turf but is even more so in the worldwide picture for production of food and fiber.

Seldom has an industry enjoyed the rapid expansion experienced by herbicides in research, manufacturing, sales, and use. Results to date are plus.

But with this sudden and profitable growth has come a critical shortage of trained professionals to serve the industry. Competition for personnel is the in thing in the industry. Because of the complexity of the field, and the requirement for scientific minds, men to fill the voids today do not exist.

Generally, too few personnel have been assigned by universities in teaching and research fields to do the job. Too few have been encouraged by industry to prepare for this specific field. Difficulty in testing and registering new products demonstrates government's lack of trained men and facilities. Shortages of men today are critical to the point that expansion rates of some companies are being hampered.

Naturally, the industrywide answer calls for more than a simple resolution by various organizations associated with herbicide research, development, or use. Nor can the overall problem be solved within a few months, or even years.

Since the obvious solution is trained manpower, the entire industry needs to contribute both to recruitment and training.

Dr. William R. Furtick, agronomist at Oregon State University, Corvallis, put it most succinctly at the recent national conference of the Weed Society of America. He called for recognition by university administrations of the critical needs of the field and the responsibility of members of the industry for bringing about this recognition. He believes effective educational programs are needed at the high school level to demonstrate the challenges of the field. Likewise undergraduate college students must be made acquainted with the opportunities of the field. And finally, Dr. Furtick believes universities, industries and government agencies must work together in solving the training program. He feels that many capable scientists now in industry and government could join their university co-workers in serving on graduate student committees and with special problems and facilities in maximizing the training potential. WTT not only agrees but feels such steps are mandatory.

WEEDS TREES AND TURF is the national monthly magazine of urban/industrial vegetation maintenance, including turf management, weed and brush control, and tree care. Readers include "contract applicators," arborists, nurserymen, and supervisory personnel with highway departments, railways, utilities, golf courses, and similar areas where vegetation must be enhanced or controlled. While the editors welcome contributions by qualified freelance writers, unsolicited manuscripts, unaccompanied by stamped, self-addressed envelopes, cannot be returned.