



George Hammond, left, secretary-treasurer of the American Sod Producers Association, Columbus, O., and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Warren, Warren's Turf Nursery, Palos Park, Ill., discuss proceedings at ASPA luncheon held during the Ohio Turf Foundation Conference at Cleveland, O. (WTT will carry a complete report on the Ohio Turf Foundation Conference in the February issue).

American Sod Producers Hold Luncheon Conference Dec. 12 At Cleveland

Sod producers attending the Ohio Turf Foundation Conference and Show met for a luncheon session Dec. 12. Bringing the 80 producers up to date on activities of the American Sod Producers Association were Ben Warren, ASPA president, and George B. Hammond, ASPA secretary-treasurer.

Warren told the group, which represented 6 sod producing states, that among plans of the new national sod association was varietal testing. This program will be carried out with leading seed breeders and distributors and at university research stations across the nation.

Warren believes that a varietal testing program will answer the current problem which producers face in selecting the best grass seed for their own future production. He emphasized that the chief value of the seed testing program will be that variety tests can be conducted under actual field conditions on sod farms, and over broad areas of the nation. This will produce results, Warren said, of value to both producers and breeders.

Hammond reported on the substantial progress made by the ASPA since its initial organiza-

tion at Lansing, Mich., last July. He told the group that ASPA now has producer members in 17 states, plus a growing list of associate memberships among material and equipment suppliers.

Also discussed by Hammond were plans for the first annual meeting of the national sod association. This is being held in conjunction with the Golf Course Superintendents conference at San Francisco, Calif., Feb. 18-23. Hammond reported that the ASPA section of the program is being directed to practical sod production and marketing problems. The ASPA, he said, will have a booth at the GCSA exhibit area.

Raymond C. Kinch, professor of agronomy at South Dakota State University, conducts a field inspection of a stand of South Dakota Certified Kentucky Bluegrass. Fields producing certified seed must be at least 10 years old.



South Dakota Growers Are Now Marketing Own State Certified Seed

A new source of Certified Kentucky Bluegrass has been established on the plains of South Dakota where extreme environmental stresses and a vigorous natural selection process have combined to produce a rugged, hardy grass.

South Dakota Certified Kentucky Bluegrass is harvested from stands which are at least 10 years old—some of them nearly 50 years old—containing thousands of genetically different types. The seed is hardy and has a wide genetic base, available only in South Dakota.

J. Duane Colburn, manager of the Seed Certification Service, points out that the planters of South Dakota Certified Kentucky Bluegrass will be assured that all seed has met rigid standards as follows: Inspection of all fields which have been into native Kentucky Bluegrass sod for at least 10 years with proper isolation; Yard and plant inspection of both uncleaned seed lots and final cleaned lots; Careful processing by one of seven seed plants approved for processing Kentucky Bluegrass seed by the South Dakota Crop Improvement Association; and Laboratory Inspection, where minimum standards require 95 per cent pure seed, 85 per cent germination, no noxious or objectionable weed seeds, 0.1 per cent weed seed, 0.1

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