

which should be carefully considered before final selection of a mower is made.

Reel-type mowers are always recommended for the cutting of formal and semi-formal turf areas, including golf greens, tees, fairways and lawns cut less than one inch. Reel-type gang mowers are, also, the most efficient and economical for mowing large open areas such as airfields and parks. The cutting action of the reel is like that of a pair of scissors.

Reels, when sharp and properly adjusted, give a clean even cut which cannot be equalled by any other type of mower. Certain kinds of grass should always be cut with reel type mowers. Bentgrasses and bermudagrasses used on putting greens are an example.

The use of reel type mowers may be limited in some turf areas because they require relatively smooth ground upon which to operate, and they will not cut tall, rank growing weeds. In addition, the cost of maintenance is somewhat higher than that of other types of mowers.

Rotary mowers are widely used. They are versatile and adapted for use on most home lawns. They are always recommended for rough con-

ditions and on areas where control of grass, rather than appearance, is the predominant consideration.

Rotaries also may be used to grind up leaves, cut tall stemmy weeds, and to trim. The rotary cuts by impact similar to the cutting action of a scythe. For this reason, a sharp, properly balanced blade is necessary to avoid ragged tearing of the grass blade and to prolong engine life.

Cutting with a dull blade generally results in a graying and subsequent browning of the leaf tip. When selecting a rotary mower, give particular attention to the safety features, the type of blade and method of blade mounting, ease of adjustment and horsepower.

Power requirements—the highest of any type of mower—and scalping on uneven or rough terrain, are the major limitations of rotary mowers. The cost of maintenance is low on the rotary unit, although the cost of engine maintenance may be much higher than on reel units, particularly if the unit is underpowered or used under dusty conditions.

Dashboard Effect

Turfgrass areas regularly cut with power mowers or gang mowers



sometimes develop a series of wave-like ridges running at right angles to the direction of mowing.

The development of this washboard effect may be prevented or partially remedied by regularly changing the direction of mowing (diagonal or right angles). Alternate directions of cut will partially control runners of creeping grasses and aid in the prevention of grain and thatch.

Prison Inmates Study Plant Care

Horticulture and arboriculture are part of the curriculum of Stateville Penitentiary, near Joliet, Ill.

Arborist-humanitarian Archibald E. Price of Glenview, Ill., became interested in rehabilitative prison work eight years ago, when he volunteered to organize and instruct classes in plant care. Since then, class membership has grown from 17 to 140, and instruction covers a complete range of horticultural subjects from gardening to greenhouse care.

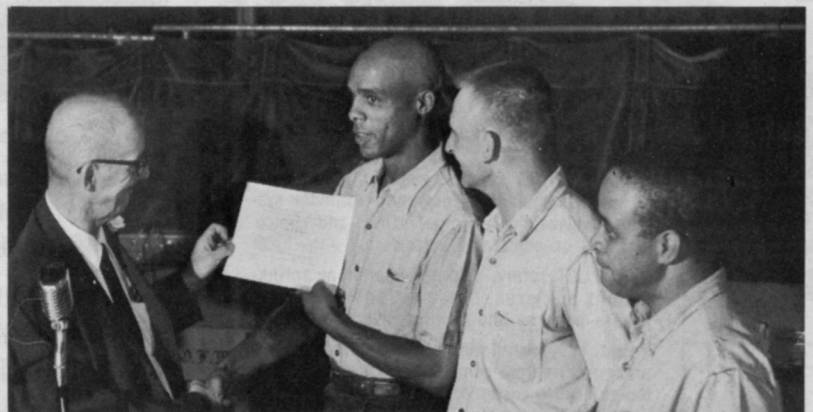
At the end of the 26-week course, Certificates of Completion are presented to those inmates who have finished the series.

Recently, Price received two awards recognizing his contribution to penal rehabilitation. These are the John Howard Association 1969 Award, and the Award of Outstanding Laymen in Correction, presented by the Illinois Probation, Parole and Correc-

tional Association.

The latter reads: "Citation to Archibald Enoch Price, in recognition of his humanitarian contribution and deep interest in the correctional process throughout

the State of Illinois penal system. The vocational training and guidance in the field of horticulture has been beneficial to a multitude of men returning to the community."



Archibald E. Price, left, Illinois arborist, presents Certificates of Completion to three men for their participation in the Stateville Penitentiary horticulture course. Price has been conducting a 26-week class in plant care at the Joliet, Ill., prison since 1961.