



The "Great Northern," piloted by famous music conductor David Rose, hauls a load of Cal-Turf dichondra sod to the backyard of his Sherman Oaks, Calif., home.

Musician Hauls Sod by Train

It probably was one of the most unusual loads the rugged little train ever pulled, but the "Great Northern" hauled it willingly . . . right into David Rose's backyard.

It might seem strange to the average homeowner to have a locomotive and assorted freight cars in his backyard, but in this case the equipment was miniature. The load was fresh Cal-Turf dichondra sod, and the train, piloted by the famous music composer-conductor, was doing its part to help install a new back lawn at Rose's Sherman Oaks home.

Part of a project by Arklin Landscaping of Saugus, the sod was cut fresh at the Cal-Turf farm and Southern Headquarters in Camarillo, rolled, and shipped by truck to Sherman Oaks. There it was unloaded, placed on the small but sturdy flatcars and delivered "by rail" the rest of the way. The nine-ton load was moved easily behind the power-

ful engine. In fact, the miniature train proved to be more than just an interesting method of transporting the fresh sod. Because of the dimensions of the house and lot it was virtually the only easy way to get the sod from the front of Rose's home to the backyard.

The "Great Northern" mountain-type locomotive is only one of ten working engines Rose has in his "stable" of miniatures. They range in gauge size from 1½ to 7½ inches, and in scale from ½ inch to-the-foot up to 1½ inch to-the-foot. The smallest engine is only 12 inches long and weighs a scant 15 pounds, but the coal burner is capable of pulling up to three adults over the large layout, which includes more than 1,000 feet of track.

Rose has been involved in miniature railroading for 20 years, but he had to admit that the 3,000 square feet of Cal-Turf dichondra was one of the most unusual loads his "steamers" ever hauled.

Turf-Seed, Inc., Formed By Oregon Specialists

A new company has been formed in Oregon's Willamette Valley by Bill Rose, well-known seed grower and Dick Bailey, specialist in turf grass production. The firm to be known as TURF-SEED, INC. has set up headquarters in Woodburn, Ore., with a mailing address at nearby Hubbard, Ore.

The firm will contract seed production of the turf varieties for special uses such as intensive sports turf areas and high-quality lawn uses. In addition, the new firm plans varietal evaluation from the turf and seed production standpoint. According to Bailey, who will be general manager of the firm, the company will maintain extensive test plots for specialized turf varieties and perform consulting services for seed and turf.

Besides turf and turf seed sales, TURF-SEED, INC., will handle Crownvetch seed and plants as well as consult on the usage of Crownvetch. An unusual, but complimentary portion of the TURF-SEED program will be in the area of product development. One prospective new product now being manufactured and tested by the company is Fertil-mulch, a new concept in seed bed mulching.

Bill Rose, a veteran airforce pilot and a 1951 soils-major graduate of Oregon State University, more than 15 years' experience in specialty seed production.

Dick Bailey, a graduate of the University of Idaho, majored in business and agronomy. Also an airforce veteran, Bailey has been in the seed business for more than 15 years working in seed production, promotion and marketing.

Striped Smut Control Grants Go to Pennsylvania, Oregon

Merion Bluegrass Association has announced two research grants. Oregon State University, which has been doing such excellent work on the problem of stripe smut control, was given a grant of two years for further screening of systemic chemicals by Dr. John Hardison, in development of effective systemic fungicides.

In addition, the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council received a grant of two years to cover application and management studies on stripe smut materials.