



More than 40,000 square feet of exhibit space was utilized at the 43rd International Turfgrass Show. Attendance was 4,053, up a total of 568 over last year's Denver meeting.

43rd International Turfgrass Conference and Show

EXPO – COMMERCIAL TURFGRASS

Golf course superintendents continued their tradition for the greatest show on turf," a theme adopted last year and again appropos at Cincinnati in 1972.

Meeting in the Cincy Convention-Exposition Center, February 13-18, they hosted more than 4000 members and guests for a new record and sold 170 more exhibit booths than ever before, utilizing 40,000 square feet of space. Equipment for this market was on hand, in most any make or model. And the busiest people at the show, aside from the host delegation, were exhibitors who manned booths.

Biggest conference drawing card—and a feather-in-the-hat for the program committee — was the appearance of Washington, D. C.'s Ralph Nadar. He played his ecology line for an overflow crowd complete with speakers to carry the message to a lobby crowd too large to gain entrance to the main hall. A safe assumption may well be that Nadar

failed to excite this crowd with his stereotyped presentation, little of which was new, and all of which was



Keynote speaker Ralph Nadar, Washington, D.C.

read with little noticeable enthusiasm.

However, Nadar was followed by almost 50 leaders in the business of commercial turfgrass and its various segments. The '72 conference was loaded with both practical and technical information for the working golf course superintendent.

New president for the coming year is Robert V. Mitchess who becomes 36th president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). He is superintendent at the Portage Country Club at Akron, Ohio. Prior to this position which he accepted last year, he spent 13 years as superintendent at the Sunset Country Club, St. Louis, Mo. He succeeds outgoing president, Richard C. Blake, superintendent at Mount Pleasant Country Club, Boylston, Mass.

Mitchell in taking office pointed to the big strides made recently by the

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Table 1. Conference attendance continues high for the national turf conference staged by the GCSAA. Statistics for the past five years are as follows:

| | Cincinnati Ohio (1972) | Denver, Colorado (1971) | Houston, Texas (1970) | Miami Beach, Florida (1969) | San Francisco, California (1968) |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Members | 1309 | 1076 | 1182 | 1078 | 902 |
| Ladies | 455 | 564 | 592 | 620 | 610 |
| Guests | 226 | 234 | 189 | 194 | 192 |
| Greens Chairmen | 250 | 214 | 211 | 506 | 90 |
| One Day Admission | 609 | 333 | 419 | 285 | 286 |
| Turf Students | 219 | 142 | 52 | 57 | 13 |
| Exhibitors | 985 | 922 | 975 | 771 | 730 |
| Total Registration | 4053 | 3485 | 3620 | 3511 | 2823 |

GCSAA which consists of a superintendent certification program, a pesticide information dissemination program, and an association management seminar program which will be initiated this year.

Mitchell stated that he believes the association will continue to grow in both numbers and activities. He points to plans for moderizing operations to cope with the expected growth. Membership records are already being processed with newly installed electronic data processing. A new administrator will be hired this year, he pointed out, to replace Ben Chelvin who resigned as executive-secretary early this year.

Special recognition was given 44 superintendents who were the first

to complete requirements and achieve eligibility for the title of Certified Golf Course Superintendent. More than 30 of the 44 were on hand for the Conference. Primary requirements include membership in the association plus a tenure as a Class A member for three years. A comprehensive testing program is also mandatory.

Typical of conference discussions was that by Dr. Elwyn E. Deal, University of Maryland, College Park, Md. He stressed the impact of legislative decisions on plant protectants and how they relate to golf course management.

Deal pointed out that the subject of pesticides is so complex that it behooves all in the commercial turf-



Dr. Elwyn E. Deal, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland, College Park.

grass industry to be as well informed as possible. He urged the group to take every opportunity to read, listen, think and discuss this subject. The 60,000 pesticide products now registered for us in the U.S. are made from one or more of some 900 chemical compounds, he said. About half of the products registered by the Environmental Protection Agency are for nonagricultural uses such as around homes, apartment buildings, and industrial plants. The greatest volume however, he said, are for farm uses, including golf course turfgrass. Value of pesticides sold in 1970, Deal said, amounted to \$870 million. Total use was slightly more than one billion pounds.

Deal believes that the next few months and years will be crucial in determining the future direction of the use and availability of pesticides in this country. Thus, he urged superintendents to take active steps in making their needs for pesticides known.

The association announced that Boston, Mass. has been selected as the site for the 44th International Turfgrass Conference and Show. Dates will be January 7-12, 1973 and the Statler Hilton Hotel will serve as the association's headquarters.

"The Conference this year has been the best ever both in terms of our meaningful educational program and the broad and extensive display of equipment and products at our show. We expect the Conference and attendance in Boston to even exceed the response in Cincinnati." So said newly elected GCSAA president Mitchell.

The association has a 3,000 worldwide membership with headquarters at Des Plaines, Ill.



GCSAA Officers and Directors for 1972: l. to r. (front row), Richard C. Blake, Boylston, Mass., president emeritus; Clifford Wagoner, Modesto, Calif.; Robert V. Mitchell, president, Akron, Ohio; Paul Mechling, Sylvania, Ohio, director; (back row), T. W. Woehrle, Birmingham, Mich., director; Palmer Maples Jr., Atlanta, Ga., director; Richard W. Malpass, Portland, Ore., director; Carleton E. Gipson, Conroe, Tex., director; and Charles G. Baskin, Waterbury, Conn., secretary-treasurer.