## SOD PRODUCTION COSTS

(from page 47)

4. Variable supply expenditures which declined through the three smallest size groups and increased on the largest farms.

Under industry conditions which prevailed during 1968, farms with between 100 and 150 acres earned the maximum return to management from sale by the acre, \$64.12 over a two-year period. Farms with less than 100 acres incurred the highest production costs and received the lowest price per acre which combined to yield the lowest per acre return to management, \$9.83, for a two-year period. 🗆

## References

<sup>2</sup>For a more complete analysis of labor re-quirements, see Fred T. Arnold and Billy V. Lessley, The Commercial Turfgrass Industry in Maryland: Structure, Costs and Returns, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 488, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, 1972.

<sup>3</sup>George A. Stevens, Farm Data Manual, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics Information Series No. 6, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, August 1970, p. 154.



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## **Toro's Irrigation Division Releases 12-Minute Film**

Brushstrokes, a 12-minute film that tells how automatic underground irrigation is enhancing man's environment, has just been released by the Irrigation Division of the Toro Company.

Filmed in California, the film is a dialogue between Courtland Paul, a landscape architect and Edwin J. Hunter, vice president and general manager of Toro's Irrigation Division.

Paul points out in the narrative that it has long been a tendency of man to waste or abuse nature's resources but that tendency now is opposed by growing forces demanding conservation and preservation.

Irrigation, he says, not only aids conservation but actually is capable of generating new resources by nurturing and sustaining plant life on once-barren land and in "jungles of asphalt, concrete and structure."

Advantages gained by advances in irrigation components and systems technology are described in the film. Extensive use of plastics, it is pointed out, eliminated unsightly and hazardous above-ground piping and led to such development as popup, pop-down valve-in-head sprinklers which facilitate mowing and discourage vandalism.

Paul points out that recent developments in automatic control devices have improved the effectiveness and efficiency of modern irrigation systems. Ideally, he suggests, an irrigation system should simulate a "soft rainfall" under controlled conditions in order to apply water to match soil conditions and prevent wasteful runoff.

Prints of the 16mm sound/color film are available on free loan from Toro to teaching institutions and professional organizations associated with the irrigation industry. For information concerning availability of prints, write: Irrigation Division, The Toro Company, P.O. Box 489, Riverside, Calif. 92502.

## Int. Erosion Control Assn. Names George Harrison Pres.

George Harrison, Erosion Control Superintendent of Washington Tree Service, Seattle was recently named president of the International Erosion Control Association. The association objectives are to encourage research into new and more efficient methods of stabilizing soils and preventing erosion loss.

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