

TURFGRASS: Science and Culture, by James B. Beard, Associate Professor of Turfgrass, Physiology & Culture, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Green Industry finally has a text written by a professor of turfgrass. Dr. James Beard has provided the students (as all of us are) of the commercial turfgrass industry with a text that updates and includes new information pertinent to the turfgrass field.

As a whole, **TURFGRASS: Science and Culture** is excellent. Admittedly, the book tends to concentrate on the production and culture of turfgrass on golf courses, but the turf manager in other Green Industry areas need only adapt this information to his own situation.

The text is divided into three parts: (1) The Turfgrasses; (2) The Turfgrass Environment; and, (3) Turfgrass Cultural Practices. Each part is subdivided into sections.

The sections on Irrigation,

Traffic and Turfgrass Pests need further comment. As ecological demands become more evident, the areas of traffic and irrigation become increasingly important. Dr. Beard points out that walks and roads must be designed into the landscape not only to meet the beauty desired but also fit the traffic of pedestrians and vehicles. What he doesn't point out is the action needed to correct traffic problems. Modern course design involves more than the superintendent, greens committee and golf architect in a round-table discussion. It could and should include the technical services of other professionals such as psychologists.

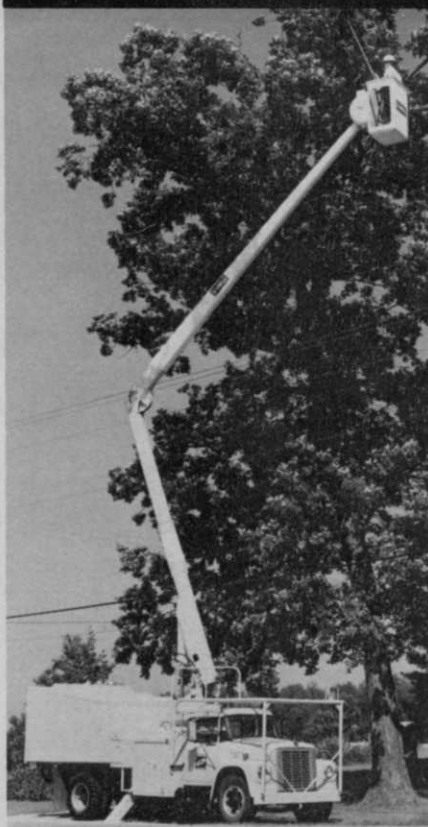
He mentions sewage effluent and industrial waste water as water sources in the future. This is happening now. More and more courses are switching to this water source.

The chapter on Turfgrass Pests is presented slightly differently than most turf managers are used to. Professor Beard places emphasis on environmental, soil and cultural conditions that affect occurrence of turfgrass pests rather than on the chemical control of these pests. In this context, the chapter heading, Turfgrass Pests, covers the vast multitude of insect, weed, disease and other problems related to turfgrass production. In this age of environmental emotionalism about turf protection chemicals, he submits to the industry that cultural and sanitary practices can play an important role in controlling turfgrass pests. His tables on chemicals to control pests are not too helpful. The turf man has been schooled in trade named products and the tables list these chemicals by common name.

This text fills a need in the industry. It is well written and easy to understand. It is a good guide on the growth and development of turfgrasses. It provides excellent information on the turfgrass environment: light, temperature, water, air, etc.

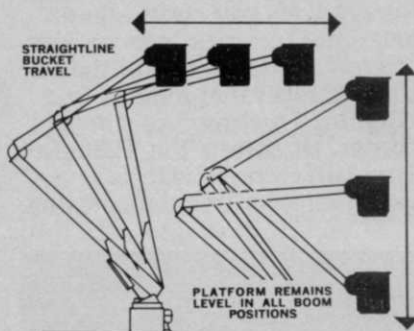
Perhaps most noteworthy of all is the tremendous list of references throughout the book. It could be assumed that no where else has anyone compiled such a compendium. It in itself is worth the price of the book, which is \$17.95. Published by Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J. 658 pages.

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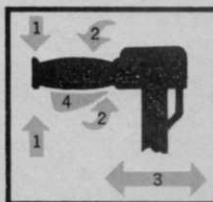
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