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## MD. SOD CONFERENCE (from page 60)

understand fashion. His discussion was extremely pertinent because of Michigan's recent sod market price collapse and their subsequent investigation into the possibility of stabilizing the market with sod marketing orders. Coddington said that a marketing order is a legal tool provided by the government for solving marketing problems. Its purpose is to improve returns to the growers through orderly marketing. Types of market orders would include quantity or quality regulations, market or production research, marketing statistics, regulations prohibiting unfair methods of competition and unfair trade practices or price posting by handlers to aid in stabilizing prices.

The last speaker for the conference was Kathryn D. Williams, Bowen & Diggs, Wheaton, Md. A lawyer in her own right, Ms. Williams discussed the basic elements of contracts for sale of sod and pointed out the weaknesses of oral contracts with their almost certain requirement for litigation. Her discussion of the Maryland code regulating sod sales with relationship to contracts was pertinent and raised many questions.

## Rocky Mountain Sod Growers To Host ASPA Meeting

Plans for the annual summer meeting of the American Sod Producers Association have been finalized. This year's meeting is scheduled for Denver, Colorado and the host organization for the event is the Rocky Mountain Sod Growers Association. Dates for the meeting are July 16-19.

The three-day program will include educational sessions on the technical aspects of sod production, tours of sod operations at the Richlawn Turf farms, sod installation, equipment field day and the annual business meeting and banquet.

A special program is being planned for women and children.

## American Sod Producers Hold Meeting In Hawaii

Sod producers traveled by charter flight from various areas of the United States mainland and Canada to Hawaii for the winter meeting of the American Sod Producers Association. About 200 attended the eight-day trip, including sod producers, suppliers, wives and children. The late-winter meeting provided an opportunity to enjoy the unlimited natural beauty of Hawaii as well as attend exceptionally well-rated educational sessions.

Kauai and Maui islands were selected as the sites for the ASPA activities. These islands exhibit unlimited natural beauty and quietness as contrasted to other areas of intensified development.

The educational sessions were planned as seminar sessions on the business rather than technical aspects of sod production. Dr. James Longstreet, chairman of the finance department, College of Business Administration of the University of South Florida, presented two one-half day seminars on the topic of financial management. His presentations were filled with a constant flow of valuable and useful information for the successful management of sod operations.

In addition, Dr. Longstreet conducted two roundtable discussions that proved to be most helpful in answering questions raised by sod producers attending the seminar sessions. Frequently, specific questions lead to lengthy discussions on certain aspects of financial management as to how it relates to sod production.

During a third seminar session,



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