

attention was focused on the topic of "General Tax Planning For Sod Producers." Richard Thomas, relayed information on various aspects of taxes, ranging from income tax through estate planning. He is a partner in the nationally known accounting firm of Arthur Anderson of Houston, Texas.

Recognizing the need for better business management in the sod industry, ASPA purposely selected talented speakers with the capabilities exhibited by Dr. Longstreet and Mr. Thomas. Educational seminars of this nature, as well as making available the ASPA Accounting Manual, represent association activities to help sod producers become better business managers for more profitable sod production.

Wye Institute Research Studies Turfgrass Problems

The University of Maryland's agricultural experiment station, in cooperation with the Wye Institute, is conducting three separate studies in turfgrass management on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

These studies will provide useful information on growing high-quality lawns, according to Dr. John R. Hall, project leader, who is an assistant professor of agronomy at the university's College Park campus.

Over 100 types of Kentucky bluegrass are being studied in the variety trial project. Sixty-four are individual varieties and 36 are mixtures of two or more varieties.

Separate plots are being observed for quality, density, color, disease resistance, seedling vigor and persistence. Ratings are taken on the plots from April until November in order to follow their performance throughout the growing season.

The variety trial project was started in the fall of 1972 and will continue for an indefinite period. It is hoped that a variety adaptable to the Eastern Shore region will result from these tests.

The second project involves variety trials of grasses in shaded areas. There are 32 varieties being tested. These are mainly creeping red fescues, Kentucky 31 tall fescue, and Warrens A34 bluegrass and perennial ryegrass.

One of the major factors being looked at in this project is the persistence of each of the varieties. Some of the grasses on the market now last only four to five years, according to Dr. Hall. When this

experiment is finished, homeowners can plant the variety recommended, knowing it will persist.

Common Bermudagrass is a nuisance invader of lawns on the Eastern Shore. The third experiment that Dr. Hall is running is aimed at eradicating common Bermudagrass from established bluegrass turf. The chemical, siduron (Tupersan), is being used in the study.

Bluegrass plots that have become infested with Bermudagrass at the Wye Institute are being used in the study. Various rates and times of

application of Tupersan are being studied.

The eradication experiment was started in the spring of 1972. At present, Dr. Hall is pleased with the results of the chemical in his fall evaluation.

With experiments and studies being conducted at the Wye Institute, the Maryland agricultural experiment station hopes to improve the quality of life for the people of the Eastern Shore. These projects are only one means of accomplishing that goal.



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