

Maryland Turfgrass Association Plans Sod Conference For March

Thirty-five members and guests of the Maryland Turfgrass Association met in Olney, Maryland on October 11, 1973 to conduct their regular monthly business meeting.

Association involvement in land use legislation being considered by Maryland legislators was discussed. It was decided that the Land Use Committee would attend the legislative hearing and testify before the committee to support the best interests of sod producers in the State of Maryland.

The program committee was formed for the 9th Annual Maryland Sod Conference to be held at the Adult Education Center on the University of Maryland Campus on March 7, 1974. Emory Patton, Larry Moore, James Doll, and Wallace Miller volunteered to assist program committee chairman John Hall.

The Educational portion of the meeting was presented by Lee Hellman of the entomology department of the University of Maryland. Mr. Hellman, who is a turfgrass entomologist in the Department of Entomology, discussed life cycles and methods of control for the more serious turfgrass pests. Extreme interest centered around sod webworm problems which have been severe in Maryland this year. An estimated 400-500 acres of sod has been severely damaged by sod webworm infestations in Maryland in 1973. The heavy population of sod webworm coupled with poor rain distribution in July has severely lowered the quality of sod in southern Maryland and in certain areas of the Eastern Shore.

Hellman discussed the research he is conducting on sod webworm and the fact that he has found good sod webworm control with single applications of Diazinon and Dursban. His data indicates that Sevin and chlordane did not give adequate control of sod webworm populations under the conditions of his experiment.

The next meeting of the Maryland Turfgrass Association is scheduled for November 8, 1973 and will be an election meeting. The Maryland Turfgrass Association is continuing to plan for the 1974 American Sod Producers Association Summer Show to be held in Maryland July 14-20, 1974.

College Football Squad Lays Sod In Time For Game

Seven members of the St. Mary's varsity football team, along with 23 other volunteers, took part in a record-breaking installation of 59,200 sq. ft. of bluegrass sod on the college's football field, in Moraga, Calif.

Under the supervision of Tom DeHerrera of Economy Garden Supply, San Leandro and Ken Hofmann, Hofmann Builders, installation of the playing field in the \$210,000 stadium project, was begun at 7:45 a.m. and completed at 12:45 p.m. in one of the fastest jobs of this sort ever undertaken.

Eight truckloads of bluegrass sod from the Patterson growing grounds of Nunes Turfgrass, was unloaded on pallets spotted around the perimeter of the field, and a crew of volunteers started at the center of the field laying the Instant Grass and setting sprinklers into motion as each section went down.

The field, in the planning stages since 1971, will be the culmination of the dream of three former football greats from St. Mary's Dutch Conlan '26, George Canrinus '34 and Bill Fischer '32. Funds for the project have come principally from donations of cash, materials and services.

Joe Ventura, Nunes' local representative, watching the men charge across the field in record time reports he can only see one hazard to

the field. "There's a little herd of cows that roam these hills. Three of them were watching the grass go down with great interest."

Two New Seed Blends Introduced By O. M. Scott

Two new seed blends for unusual environmental and functional conditions have been introduced by the Proturf division of O. M. Scott & Sons.

Transition Blend is a mixture tailored especially for the southern-most reaches of the bluegrass belt. It combines all three of Scotts' proprietary bluegrasses: Windsor, the improved Kentucky bluegrass variety; Victa, whose resistance to leaf-spot, stripe smut and powdery mildew was discovered in eleven years of testing; and Vantage, the newest proprietary grass which offers early spring green-up, good persistence under high temperatures and resistance to *Fusarium roseum*.

The product of this blend is a turf that is uniform, fine-textured, medium to dark green in color, with excellent sod-forming characteristics. It is low-growing and tolerant to climatic and soil variations, with a high level of resistance to a broad range of turf diseases.

Sports Turf mixes both Victoria and Windsor improved Kentucky bluegrass, for fine texture and deep green color, with Manhattan perennial ryegrass for quick, dependable establishment and rugged durability.

The resultant turf is tough yet beautiful. Responsive and resilient, it offers early green-up with color extending into late fall. Specifically developed for hard-use areas or areas with heavy foot traffic, Sports Turf performs well in both sun and light shade.

Princep For Algae Control Registered By EPA

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has registered Princep 80W simazine for use in preventing the growth of most common forms of algae in large aquariums, ornamental fish ponds and fountains without harming fish or most aquaria plants.

Princep is widely used for agricultural and industrial weed control. One treatment normally lasts several weeks, depending on conditions causing algae growth.