

ed out, the maintenance portion of the industry is a small fraction of the total picture. Machinery costs, increased land values, transportation and installation costs to get sod from the field to the final consumer, golf car and pro shop revenues and other related revenues created by the Maryland Turfgrass Industry, have not been considered. The intangible effect of turfgrass on the health, happiness, and well-being of Marylanders cannot be determined, its dollar value in preventing erosion and purifying the air we breathe is incalculable.

According to the December 1972 issue of "The Agronomist:" "What does the future hold for the turfgrass industry in Maryland? The population is increasing very rapidly in Maryland and there is a great need for new homes, golf courses, and parks. The need for turf will be great and the future looks very promising for the turfgrass industry in Maryland."

Statistics alone cannot and do not tell you the entire story of the countryside in Maryland. To appreciate the real picture of the wonderful land beyond the city limits, you must see it, hear it, feel it, smell it, and breathe it. And lay

on it, as I do day after day — put your EAR to Mother Earth and listen to the beautiful sounds of nature — "What a great thrill".

Turfgrass is a most important part of that beautiful, three dimensional picture of land, sea and sky that is our Maryland heritage, I hope that through your efforts in the production and improvement of turfgrass, those signs we see in such plentiful numbers, "Keep off the Grass", will someday soon, no longer be necessary.

This is one of my favorite poems about land which sums up my feelings.

I AM LAND

Lynn Pinkerton

I am land
 I am trustworthy, when the friends and fortunes of men have wronged you, I will remain loyal.
 I am the producer of food, the foundation of factories and banks.
 I provide a birthplace for your offspring, a home for your family, and a shroud for your dead.
 I have absorbed the sweat and secrets of your forefathers as they toiled over me.
 I have witnessed the discovery of fire, The birth of Christ, and man's flight to the moon.
 I give you comfort when the world has wronged you, strength when your path becomes rough, and the solitude needed for self-evaluation.

I am a living, breathing entity, reproducing year after year, growing in strength generation after generation.

I am all on earth you can believe in, while all things wither and decay — I survive.

I am land.

Virginia's Jack Kidwell Talks Progress And Sod

J. L. (Jack) Kidwell of Culpeper, Virginia, has been "high" on grass for the past 15 years.

And it's an easy "high" for this Virginian because grass, more specifically sod, is his business.

He has 900 acres in sod on farms in Culpeper and Mecklenburg counties, making him one of the largest, if not the largest, sod producers in the state.

Kidwell's customers include housing, institutional and government projects. In Blacksburg recently, where he was among 200 persons attending the 17th annual Virginia Tech Turfgrass Field Days, Kidwell saw some of his turf product at the new Marriott Inn, located on the edge of the Tech campus.

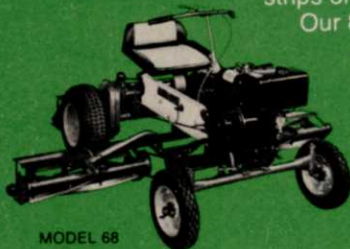
The professional sod producer is
(continued on page 76)

*A workhorse
 won't win
 a beauty
 contest*



MODEL 84

You won't find fancy shrouds, shiny hubcaps or chrome accent strips on a NATIONAL "workhorse." Our 84" and 68" Triplex Mowers are not designed for beauty... Just performance and durability!



MODEL 68

FAST! With an 84 and 68-inch cut, NATIONAL Triplex mowers cut grooming time in half around greens and traps.

EFFICIENT! National's Triplex maneuvers sharply, climbs banks and hillsides easily and safely. Three, power driven, free-floating reels follow ground contour. Reels do a precision job without skip or scalping. Handles the clubhouse lawn and practice areas, too!

DURABLE! Timken bearings; automotive-type transmissions; heavy duty, tubular steel tie rods and bed knife frame; and cutter lip bar... all add up to more years of use!

SERVICEABLE! No-nonsense design makes normal service faster than any mower on today's market!

NATIONAL...our reputation is your guarantee of quality! Our start in 1919 makes us one of the (if not the) oldest power mower manufacturers in the U.S.A.

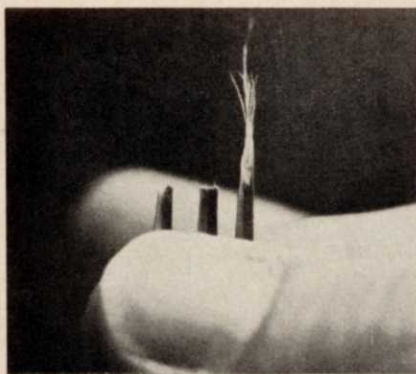


NATIONAL
 Mower Company

660 Raymond Avenue • St. Paul, Minnesota 55114
 Phone: 612/646-4079

Can you tell ryegrass from bluegrass?

(Careful.)



This photo shows two fine-leaved ryegrasses and one Kentucky Bluegrass. The grass on the right is obviously a ryegrass. Of the other two, which is the ryegrass and which is the bluegrass?

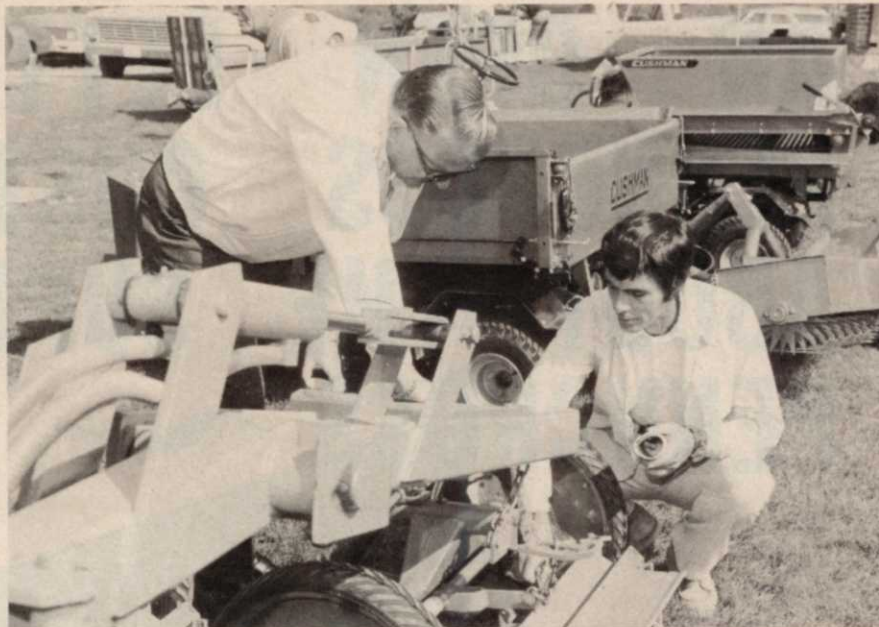
Ok, the one in the middle is fine-leaved Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass . . . clean-cut and so fine-bladed it looks like bluegrass. On the left is Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass, perhaps the best all-around turf grass available today.

If you had trouble telling them apart, you have an idea of the compatibility of these two grasses. Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass and Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass. They work together. Beautifully. For more information write Pennfine/Pennstar, Box 923, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440.

Pennfine
PERENNIAL RYEGRASS

Pennstar
Kentucky Bluegrass.

For More Details Circle (127) on Reply Card



Jack Kidwell (r) inspects turf equipment during Virginia Tech Turfgrass Field Days. At left is Tom Harris of Gaithersburg, Md. Kidwell is president of the American Sod Producers Association.

PROGRESS AND SOD

(from page 73)

among 30 in Virginia, many of whom were on hand for the turfgrass event on the Blackburg campus. The field days, for professionals interested in turfgrass production and management, is sponsored annually by Tech's extension division and department of agronomy.

Virginia's sod producers, according to Kidwell, are generally behind the rest of the nation's sod farmers, but he believes that they will soon come "into their own." He views the research being carried on at Virginia Tech's Turfgrass Research Center will help to bring the state's sod producers up to and beyond the national average.

As president of the Virginia Turfgrass Council and the American Sod Producers Association, Kidwell is eager to see Tech's program continue and expand. The four-year-old center itself is partly the result of his council's support. The council also provides a \$4,800 scholarship annually for a Tech graduate student in agronomy.

This type of support, Kidwell said, benefits the student, the university and the turf industry.

The council, he said, has just completed a survey of the state's turf industry, seeking such information as the number of acres presently in maintained turf, the amount of money spent for turf, fertilizer and feed, in addition to educational needs, future growth and employment prospects.

The \$25,000 for the survey, he

said, came from, among other sources, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Virginia Agricultural Foundation.

As for educational needs, Kidwell envisions a much broader program encompassing the university and public schools as well as the general public. The Virginian views turfgrass education as basic to any understanding of the environment or ecology.

Few persons realize, he said, that sod and grass, like trees, helps to remove pollutants from the air and return clean air in their place.

Ohio Sod Producers Hold Annual Meeting

The Ohio Sod Producers Association held their annual meeting in November in Cincinnati, Ohio, in conjunction with the Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show. Highlights of the meeting were the election of officers and a discussion of the fertilizer situation for 1974.

Ron Giffen, sales manager, Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Company, reviewed the fertilizer demand and supply situation. There is an increased demand throughout the world and he predicted a 1 million ton shortage of fertilizer for 1974 in the United States alone.

Supplies have been dwindling due to old manufacturing plants closing down, lack of construction of new facilities, low profitability and price controls, and the shortage of petroleum products to make nitrogen.