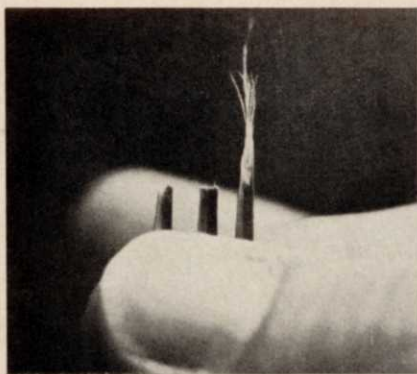


Can you tell ryegrass from bluegrass?

(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?

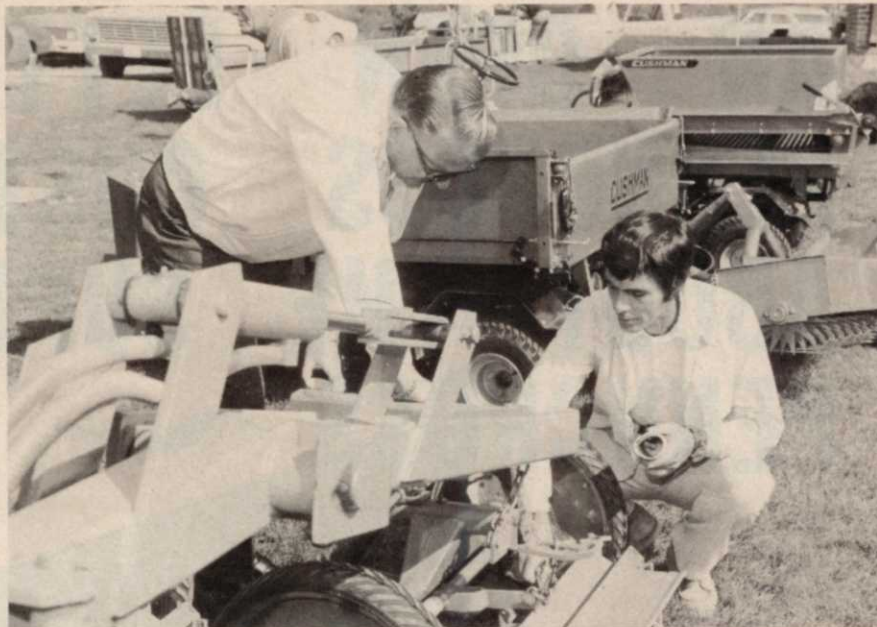
Ok, the one in the middle is fine-leaved Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass . . . clean-cut and so fine-bladed it looks like bluegrass. On the left is Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass, perhaps the best all-around turf grass available today.

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.

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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.

The higher demand and lower availability of fertilizer will create a very unstable price structure through early 1974, said Giffen. He predicted a 40% increase in fertilizer costs over spring, 1973.

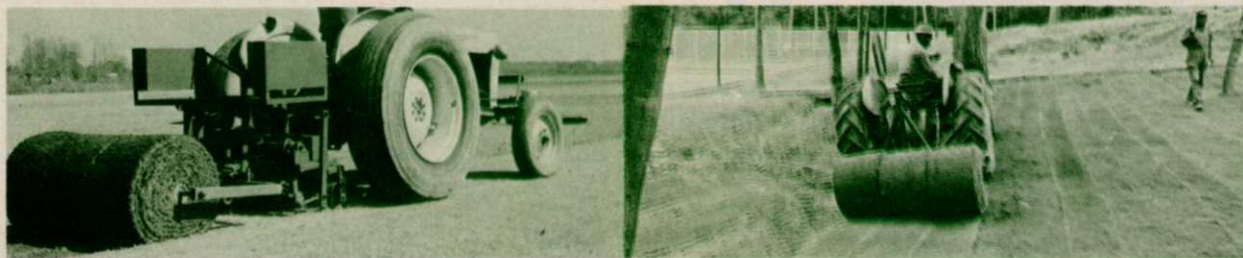
He concluded by suggesting that sod growers buy immediately and take delivery as soon as possible, reduce their need for 1974, and improve equipment calibration to avoid any over-application.

President Ches Augspurger then announced the OSPA slate of officers for 1974. New officers elected were: Don Figurella, Besturf Sod Farms, president; Paul Florence, Millcreek Sod Farm, vice president; John Kramer, John Kramer and Sons, secretary; and Howard Kester, Trojan Turf, treasurer. Directors are Cecil Collings, Green Valley Turf Farms; Ivan Patterson, Patterson-Hunn Sod Farm; and Cliff Greloire, Medina Sod Farms.

President Figurella spoke briefly to the assembled sod growers. He urged greater membership participation in OSPA and announced the executive committee would be meeting soon to establish goals and priorities for 1974. The meeting concluded with a report on activities of the American Sod Producers Association by Director Paul Florence.



President meets president . . . Don Figurella, Besturf Sod Farms and new president of the Ohio Sod Producers Association discusses the future of the industry with Ches Augspurger, Cincinnati Turfgrass Nursery, Inc. and outgoing president.



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