



O.J. Noer Grant-In Aid Presented to MSU

Frank I. Shuman (on left) presents a continuing O. J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc., \$4,000.00 grant-in-aid check to Dr. James B. Beard at the Michigan State Turfgrass Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, in mid-January.

Beard heads the turf research work at Michigan State University. Shuman is

Secretary-Treasurer for the O. J. Noer Foundation and a Philadelphia area Toro distributor.

In addition to the research at Michigan State, The Noer Foundation supports work in progress at the University of Florida, Pennsylvania State University and Texas A & M University.

Grass Seed Production Continues In Oregon

The rumor is out that Oregon will move out of grass seed production unless a workable field burner is found immediately.

A publicity release from the Oregon Seed Council claimed that such prognostics were simply rumors. The release also suggested that it is extremely remote that the legislature will enforce the January 1975 deadline to halt open field burning.

In Oregon's Willamette River Valley, an area about 3,000 square miles, some 270,000 acres of grass seed is grown each year. Ryegrass, fine fescues, bentgrass and bluegrass plus a considerable acreage of orchardgrass and tall fescues push this cropping practice to an excess of \$60 million annually.

The perennial grass crops are kept in stands for about five years and growers of varietal strains must keep fields clean through rouging out foreign plants and by the use of chemical sprays. The chief source of field sanitation has been burning the straw on the fields, following harvest each year. The heat from the burning straw has proven to be an excellent way to kill seed left in the field following harvest, controlling insects and shocking the plant into greater production. This cultural practice has been

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