

in vogue since the 1940's, but is now being buffeted by environmentalists complaining of the smoke in the summer sky.

The 1970 legislature passed a bill calling for an end of open field burning by January 1975, making the summer of 1974 the last season for open field burning. At the same time, the state began a program of matching funds with growers for research into a smoke-free type of mobile burner which would sanitize the fields without the accompanying smoke. The engineering problems associated with constructing such a burner have so far been unsolvable.

The council says a "no burn" ban would cut the crop yields considerably in 1976, but not until then. And they feel the legislature will grant, at least, a two year extension to perfect the burning machines and improve techniques of straw handling and usage.

The high price of wheat may well affect the production of annual grass, but it is doubtful if there will be much change in the acreage of perennial grass crops. Higher prices for annual ryegrass during the past year will encourage production of that crop. Lower prices for annual ryegrass would encourage grain production.

According to the release, if the legislature would be so short sighted and fail to grant an extension to open field burning, crop yields would decimate beginning in 1976. New cultural techniques could be applied to keep grass seed production going, but the change would be expensive to growers and would no doubt be reflected in the cost of grass seed.

Shorter life stands of perennial grasses, burning every other year, and heavy uses of chemicals would be some of the alternatives to field burning. None of the alternatives would be as efficient as the field sanitizing now being used.

Irrigation Specialists Open Office in Westwood

New England golf course superintendents, contractors and architects may benefit from a new move by White Turf Engineering, Inc.

The firm recently opened a sales and distribution center in Westwood Industrial Park, Westwood, Mass. From the new 1,960 square foot location, White hopes to supply a variety of irrigation components to its Eastern Seaboard customers.

Pre-packaged Parts Display For Non-service Toro Dealers

After a successful test in six states, the Toro Co. has extended a new method for merchandising parts and accessories for powered lawn mowers. free-standing displays of parts and
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