

WEEDS TREES & TURF

1977 Outstanding Achievement Awards

We are pleased to announce the winners of our 1977 awards program. The winners represent outstanding achievers in three categories and were nominated and selected by the four members of our advisory committee: Dr. Ray Freeborg, Purdue University; Dr. David Martin, Ohio State University; Dr. Fred Grau, Grasslyn, Inc.; and Dr. Henry Indyk, Rutgers University.

Dr. A. J. Turgeon, University of Illinois, has been selected as the winner in the research/educator category for his contributions to turf-grass research and education.

Mr. Wiley Miner, Princeton

Turf Farms, has been selected as the winner in the grower/producer category for his contributions to mechanization of the sod industry.

Mr. Arthur L. Hathcock has been selected as the winner in the grounds manager category for his outstanding efforts as consultant to the Washington, D.C. Metro system project.

In announcing these awards, WEEDS TREES & TURF wishes to recognize those who are not the usual award winners, but whose initiative and leadership prove them to be, without a doubt, top achievers in the Green Industry.



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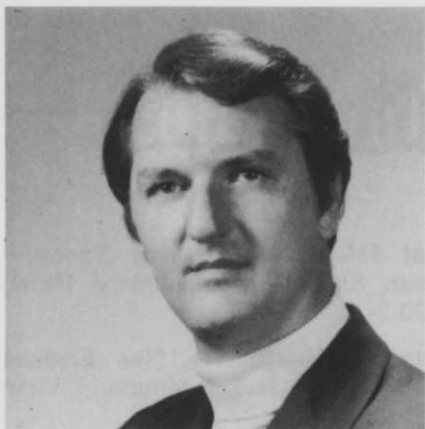
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Dr. A. J. Turgeon is Associate Professor of Turfgrass Science in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Illinois, Urbana. His principle areas of research include turfgrass community dynamics, cultural systems and herbicide action and metabolism. He is the author of over 160 scientific publications dealing with turfgrass science and technology. His teaching responsibilities include two courses and advising graduate and undergraduate students in Horticulture.

Dr. Turgeon is an active member of the International Turfgrass Society, American Society of Agronomy, Weed Science Society of America, Northcentral Regional Turfgrass Research Group, Northcentral Weed Control Conference, Sigma Xi, Pi Alpha Xi and Gamma Sigma Delta. He served as a member of GCSAA's Educational Advisory Council from 1974 to 1977. He has been chairman of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation's advisory council since 1971.

Dr. Turgeon received a B.S. degree in plant science (turfgrass management) from Rutgers University in 1965. He then served in the U.S. Army in the U.S. and Vietnam from 1965 to 1968 as a helicopter pilot and instructor and was discharged with the rank of Captain.

He received his M.S. in 1970 and his PhD. in 1971, both in crop science (turfgrass weed control) from Michigan State University. He began his career at the University of Illinois in 1971 as Extension Turfgrass Specialist and Assistant Professor.

Outstanding among Wiley Miner's contributions to the sod industry, on the state as well as national level, was his early recognition of the need for mechanization of sod harvesting. His early pioneering efforts served as a stimulus for other efforts to develop harvesters which would improve the efficiency of harvesting sod.

Recently, he has unveiled an automatic harvester which, operated by a single operator, will harvest, palletize with cross-tying of sod pieces, automatically count, drop pallet and replace with empty pallet at a rate of up to 27,000 square feet per hour. This currently represents the top-of-the-line of Princeton Manufacturing Company's three models of harvesters that have evolved from the years he dedicated to sod industry mechanization.

Mr. Miner came to New Jersey in the early 1960's and began his sod production business, Princeton Turf Farms. His early efforts generated much interest in the production of high quality cultivated sod in New Jersey.

He initiated interest in the beginning of a sod certification program which was started in New Jersey in 1974. This was one of the first of its kind in the nation and served as a pattern for certification programs in other states.

He provided leadership in organizing the Cultivated Sod Association of New Jersey in 1964, which is still very active at present. He served as its first president.

On the national scene, he was instrumental in organizing the American Sod Producers Association in 1967 and served as its second president.

Arthur Hathcock is a landscape agronomist for Bechtel Associated in Washington D.C. At present, he is the management consultant to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. As such, he is responsible for selecting and tagging at the nursery, all the plant material to be used for restoration of the job-sites.

He monitors the installation of trees, shrubs, groundcovers and bulbs. All the landscape contractors' materials must also be reviewed and monitored from samples submitted for acceptance.

Mr. Hathcock must ensure contractors' full compliance with specifications and planting details, through on site inspection and supervision, including the warrant-earned maintenance period.

He provides technical advisory service for areas to be topsoiled, seeded, sodded or established with Penngift crownvetch. He also samples subsoil and topsoil for fertilizer and lime recommendations.

Mr. Hathcock has endorsed the use of Penngift crownvetch for embankment stabilization on the project and has provided all the technical assistance needed to completely write and update the specifications pertaining to seeding, sodding and crownvetch.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority consists of approximately 98 miles of track and extensive grounds. The value of the landscape material has risen from \$100,000, four years ago when Mr. Hathcock began, to over three million today. It is estimated that it will be another ten years before the project is completed.