EQUIPMENT

Nunes



Laser scraper

The two largest forces in sod in California are Nunes and Cal Turf, now part of American Garden Products, recently acquired by Amfac. The two people behind the firms are Tobey Grether of Cal Turf and John Nunes of Nunes Turfgrass Nurseries. Grether sold his interest in the 70's. But John Nunes and his son Greg manage 1,500 acres of sod, orchards, and diversified row crops, as well as Nunes equipment line.

Nunes manufacturers a line of sod equipment including a harvester, vacuum sweeper, rotary mower, sod netter and a laser land leveler.



Rotary mower

Although distribution of its Kentucky bluegrass and bermudagrass sod is regional, its distribution of equipment is international. The company is headquartered in Patterson, 90 miles east of San Francisco.

Nunes also has "Instant Grass Centers" in nine California cities to market its sod and other landscape materials. This marketing effort certainly gets the idea of sod across to potential customers. It may be one of the reasons sod is so well accepted in California.

Beck's Manufacturing Company



Big Roll Harvester

A unique answer to the sod harvesting and handling situation is Beck's Big Roll. This system harvests three 16-inch rolls of sod simultaneously and can lay them the same way. The sod is rolled onto cores which are handled by a carpet pole like device. This core permits handling by cranes and adapted forklifts. It also permits laying with a tractor three rolls at a time.

Beck Manufacturing Company is a division of Beck's Turf Nursery, one of the earliest producers



Sprig Planter

of zoysiagrass in the country. Another product of Beck's is Lawn-O-Matic sprigger which sprigs or plugs three 8-inch rows at once.

The Big Roll system is available on a franchise basis only. This guarantees a territory for the franchisee. The Beck Manufacturing Company and Turf Nursery is located in Auburn, Alabama.