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McVeigh fills ISI spot vacated by Pepin

In our Green Industry News section in October we reported a move by Dr. Gerry Pepin from International Seeds Inc., Hubbard, OR, to Pickseed West, Inc., Tangent, OR, left the research director position vacant at ISI. At the time we wrote the story we were unaware that Dr. Kevin McVeigh, who worked with Pepin at ISI, had been promoted to director of research.

ISI President J.L. Carnes says Pepin does not own turf seed patents for varieties marketed by ISI.

The Editor

Seed supply rumors need factual support

Congratulations are due you for bringing the seed harvest losses to the attention of buyers of the product, such as myself.

The problem had been rumored about the industry in this area for the past couple of months, but no facts were known except that seed (all seed) was going to be difficult to purchase in 1984. At that point, I began trying to buy my 1984 supply of certified Green Tag Penncross for the overseeding of my greens. To date, I have not been

successful, yet, your article states "Bentgrasses were not hurt".

I wonder: 1) has the bentgrass picture changed since the printing of your article? 2) Is the bentgrass shortage in this area only? 3) Are the honest crop failures affecting all seed crops?

John O'Connell

Certified Golf Course Superintendent
Blue Rock Golf Course
South Yarmouth, Mass.

I can tell you what I saw with my own eyes while in Oregon in August. At that time, bentgrass had not yet been cut and swathed to dry. It looked fine and the seed growers didn't voice concern. The damage to fine fescues and ryegrass was very evident. Weeks of rain during harvest caused losses of 25 percent and more.

A few weeks after we left rain did hit the bentgrass in the field and caused severe losses. The delay between writing a magazine and printing it has caused our information gap. The bentgrass shortage is real. Your seed supplier's hands are tied. Sorry for the incorrect information on bentgrasses. Next year we'll hold publication of the report until we know the facts on bentgrass.

The Editor.

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