

Final word on turfseed harvest: 'FAIR'

PACIFIC NORTHWEST — This year's seed harvest has been questionable for weeks, thanks to temperamental weather, but we finally have a clear supply picture.

The harvest of 1993 reaped modest yields. Weather conditions see-sawed back and forth, from relentless rain to oppressive heat. During one hot spell, the entire crop was considered to be in jeopardy.

From Post Falls, Ida.: Glenn Jacklin of Jacklin Seed Co. says proprietary bluegrasses averaged 15 percent off the average yield. Commons are 15 to 20 percent below average, with 400 lbs./acre volume vs. 600-650 lbs./acre in a good year.

Although the supply is slightly below adequate, Jacklin says there is seed to sell.

Jacklin is more concerned about next year's crop, in light of what has been poor field burns. "Moisture late in the season has caused field burns to be delayed by at least three weeks," says Jacklin. As of September 3, 90 percent of the proprietary bluegrasses had yet to be burned. Com-

mon bluegrass fields are burning on time.

Fields are burned after every harvest to purify the land for the next sowing.

From the Willamette Valley: Dave Nelson of the Oregon Fine Fescue Commission describes fine fescue yields as "off significantly from previous years, at least 20 percent below average."

Rust disease affected yields slightly, but the weather was the prime culprit, as too much rain delayed pollination. Then, when seed was ready, the stalks laid low to the ground and were hard to gather.

Bluegrass harvests were described by Nelson as "fairly decent" in Central and Northeastern Oregon.

Seed quality and weight per acre are excellent, however, reports Nelson.

Other varieties:

- Bentgrass yields: good and on time.
- Tall fescue: below average, but there's plenty of carryover from 1992.
- Perennial rye: harvest fair to average.

—Terry McIver

Products, programs fill up Expo show

BALTIMORE—The 1993 Green Industry Expo, scheduled for Nov. 14-18 in Baltimore, Md., features a slate of informative seminars for green industry professionals who want to grow their business.

Exhibit space is sold out, which means attendees will also have plenty of equipment and other products to try and buy.

The annual exposition is co-sponsored by the Professional Lawn Care Association (PLCAA), Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) and the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA).

Highlights of the PLCAA program include:

- improving employee performance by linking job accomplishments with wages
- proper pricing strategies, with Charles Van der Kooij;
- managing cash flow
- profiting from lawn renovations.

The PGMS program includes more than a dozen seminars on aeration, tree care, composting, integrated pest manage-

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