

## Oklahoma Turfgrass Conference Scheduled for Nov. 4-6

A tentative program has been arranged for the 19th annual Oklahoma Turfgrass Conference to be held at the Student Union, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Nov. 4-6.

Fertilization of turfgrass will be the theme of the conference. Morning and afternoon sessions will present highly qualified men in the field of fertilization and related subjects.

The welcoming address will be given by Dr. Burr Ross, dean, College of Agriculture, OSU. Response will be made by Chick Clark, president, Oklahoma Turfgrass Association.

The annual business meeting of the Association will be held in the evening, Nov. 4.



Elected to guide the South Carolina Nurseryman's Association for 1964-65 are (l. to r.) Henry Clay, executive secretary and treasurer, extension horticulturist, Clemson University; Charles Weeks, vice president, Florence, S. C.; and L. W. Moon, Jr., president, Greenville, S. C. Election took place at Clemson University June 23 while association members were at the Second Annual Nurseryman's Short Course. Over 100 persons, including representatives from other states, attended the course.

## Mo. Turfmen Meet Sept. 23-24

Turf experts from all over the country will be on the program at this year's Lawn and Turf

Conference on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia, Sept. 23-24.

According to Delbert D. Hemphill, professor of horticulture at the University, the conference is designed to be of interest to contract applicators,

greenskeepers, superintendents of parks and institutional grounds, and other turfgrass professionals.

More information is available from Professor Hemphill, Agriculture Building, University of Missouri, Columbia.

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### Grant Spurs Plant Hardiness Research at U. of Minnesota

A plant hardiness research program by University of Minnesota horticulturists has been given new impetus with a \$195,065 grant from the Louis W. and Maud Hill Family Foundation, according to L. C. Snyder, head of the University's Department of Horticultural Science. C. J. Weiser, associate professor of horticultural science, will be research leader of the project.

Research on plant hardiness by university horticulturists may mean a drastic reduction in the millions of dollars now lost each winter from cold injury to fruit and ornamental plants. A continuous research program on hardiness problems has been conducted since 1912, but critical research has been limited up to this time because of lack of facilities.

Much of the early hardiness work was of little practical application because there was no real understanding of the basic factors involved in either winter injury or a plant's inherent ability to avoid injury, according to Weiser.

Furthermore, horticulturists have had no way of scientifically assessing the exact cause of winter injury, Weiser says. The procedure has been to observe winter injury to plants in the spring, then go over temperature records and make a conjecture as to the cause of the damage.

Now, with the use of growth chambers recently acquired by the horticultural science laboratories, it will be possible to characterize the basic nature of winter injury and the natural mechanisms by which plants become acclimated to cold. In the chambers the plants will be exposed to various degrees of cold and heat to learn their precise reactions to specific temperatures.

These findings will be applied in the programs of the Fruit Breeding Farm and the Landscape Arboretum at Excelsior in developing and testing hardy plants.

Ultimate aim of the project is to find a practical means of reducing winter injury on a field scale. Practical field treatments to reduce winter injury could save millions of dollars on horticultural crops in Minnesota alone, Weiser believes.

Establishing laboratories for research on plant hardiness is of significance to the entire continent, Weiser points out. No real center of plant hardiness research and graduate training

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exists in North America comparable to the Institute of Low Temperature Research in Japan.



A significant contribution to turfgrass research is the annual gift to Iowa State University of funds donated by the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents' Association. This year's grant, totaling \$3,500, was presented by IGCSA president R. A. Bruns, Jr., (left), to Dr. John P. Mahlstedt, head of the department of horticulture at the Ames, Iowa school.

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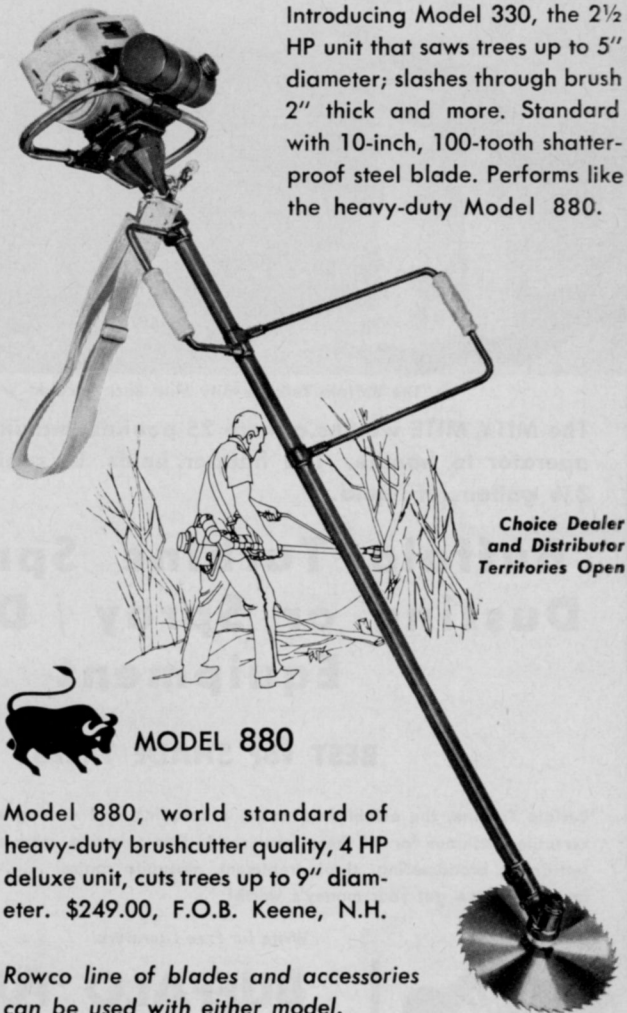
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## Suppliers' Personnel Changes

California Chemical Co., Ortho Div., has designated Harris M. Carter as assistant to president J. W. Kent. Carter will handle various aspects of Ortho operations, with particular emphasis on commercial fertilizer development. In other field moves Ortho named K. J. Dietzen northern regional sales manager, home and garden products, with offices in Haddonfield, N. J.; Robert R. Johnson transfers

to Norwalk, Iowa, to assume his new post as field research specialist; and J. W. Mackenzie is now technical specialist in herbicides, a new position at Ortho's Richmond, Cal., base.

Kerr-McGee Oil Industries, Inc., has assigned Donald G. Spangenberg to manage the fertilizer-blending plant recently constructed in Sturtevant, Wis. Spangenberg is responsible for producing and marketing custom-blended fertilizers for the Sturtevant area.

## Trimmings

**Heavenly Bev.** We'll bet we've come across one of the prettiest scientists ever to grace the laboratories of our worthy suppliers. She's Beverly Tucker, Ph. D., and she's the newest addition to the research department of California Chemical's Ortho Division, producers of herbicides and insecticides for contract applicator use. Dr. Tucker's photograph, accompanied by an Ortho news release, reached our desk just the other day, and we're intrigued to learn of the young lady's current project, which is testing the metabolic fate in soil of a new Ortho herbicide. Beverly got her doctorate recently at Purdue, and we imagine her fellow scientists, probably all male, will be happy to have her around to help!

\* \* \*

**St. Louis tree man.** One of the men who's come a long way in St. Louis is reader Edward J. Schrader, Commissioner of Forestry in the city's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry. Industry men who've visited the Missouri metropolis will remember the fine stands of shade trees and the extensive parks which grace the community, a fitting testimonial to Mr. Schrader's position. The city's forestry division, by the way, has an attractive emblem on its calling cards which includes a seal with the legend, "Guardian of the City Trees."

\* \* \*

**Take a gander at this.** About a year ago we wrote a whimsical piece for this column in which we lightheartedly talked about the use of geese for weed control. While striving to remain circumspect and fair in our treatment of all scientific endeavors, we do confess to being a little skeptical about the process. Now we have received a lengthy news release from Clemson University which discusses, in quite serious tones, the widespread use of geese in cotton. This release says there are about a million geese hard at work weeding southern and southwestern cottonfields this year. One of the laborers formerly employed to weed cotton was reported to moan that it's bad enough to be replaced by a machine, but to be replaced by a goose is downright undignified! Moreover, even the geese don't have it so good, because when they've completed their cotton weeding labors, they're dispatched immediately to the slaughterhouse, a sad reward for days of toil in the fields! Fortunately, since the practice is apparently economically rewarding only in croplands, most of our good readers can rest assured they'll stay in business, and should not, we feel, run out and place their goose orders without some careful reflection.

\* \* \*

**Cold potato.** News from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America is that now only Idaho is unrepresented in the national group since Alaska became the 49th state with a GCSAA member. Alaskan responsible is Malcolm I. Taylor of Anchorage. There was no indication in our news source about why the Potato State remains cold to the idea.

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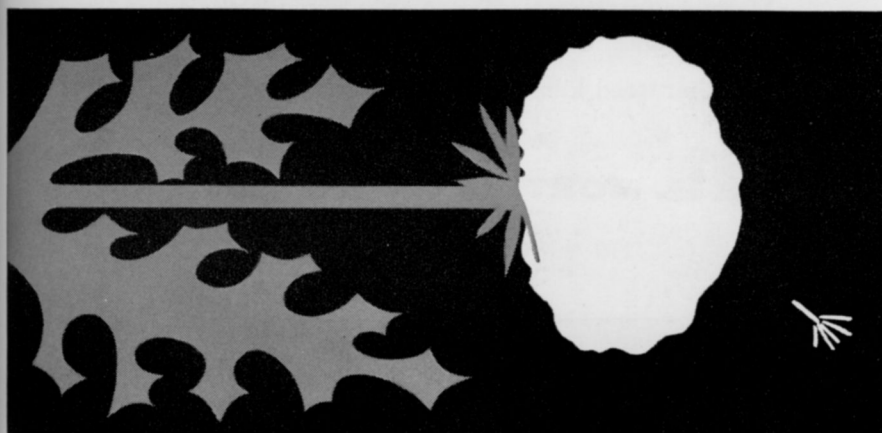
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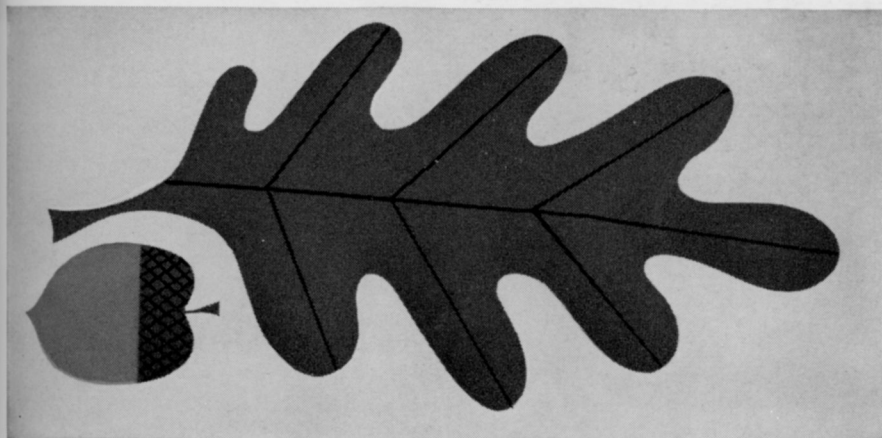
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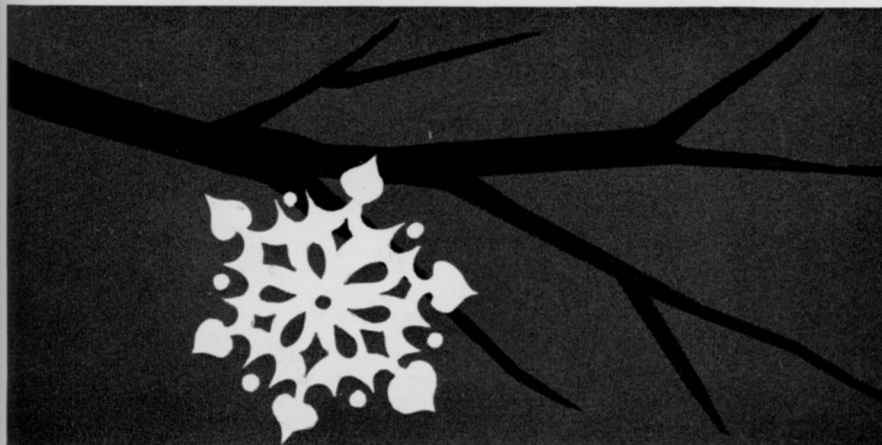
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