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GREEN IS FOR GO

(from page 66)

earth look at the production and marketing of this crop of yours turfgrass being one of our most important basic crops and will become even more important in the future.

Our open spaces are not merely for the eyes to behold, alone. A bit of grass, however small the plot, has a practical as well as an aesthetic value. The planners of tomorrow would indeed have "open spaces" between their ears if they did not include in their planning, open spaces for our fast growing population, concrete is nonproductive! We must save our farmlands, for, in the future, there will be more and more demand placed upon the tillers of the American soil.

The number of Maryland farms and the percent of land area used in agriculture continues to decline. (Table 2).

There are presently approximately 16,000 farms in Maryland according to Dr. George Stevens of the University of Maryland's department of agricultural economics. Although the number of Maryland farms is on the wane, that is no reason, no justification, to tax the

Table 2.					
percent o	of M	aryland	area	in fa	rm land.

Year	No. of Farms	Percent of Area in Farms
1930	43,203	69
1940	44,412	69
1950	42,110	66
1964	20,760	50
1969	17,000	46
1974	14,000	43

remaining farmers to death.

Modern agriculture is a business enterprise that requires heavier, more complex and expensive machinery. Modern agriculture needs labor that has almost priced itself out of the farm market and, therefore, is becoming more and more difficult to find. Today's farmers need and deserve a tax break as much or more than any other sector of our economy. Sod production, the fifth largest agronomic business in Maryland, is perhaps the one - because of its unique production expense - that stands to suffer most from inequitable assessments and tax laws.

I believe, that land use should be a local matter, but one which must be treated equitably at the state level with regard to assessments and taxation. Groups such as yours here in Maryland and your sister organizations in other states must be public information experts as well as agricultural experts to insure equitable treatment and orderly growth of your business.

As farmland located near the big cities and suburban areas becomes too "taxpensive" to farm, the erstwhile agri-businessman will find himself looking for another job. Perhaps farming is all he has ever done. Perhaps he or his family don't want an urban-suburban life. But often there is no other choice. Mr. Farmer will have been taxed off his land and away from his chosen way of life.

Agriculture is one business that is extremely difficult to relocate. When a farmer moves, he leaves his raw material, the precious land, behind him. When a farmer moves, he is uprooting not only his means of making a living, but his way of life as well. His home, his church, his school, his family, his business and friends are all left behind. But the landless, luckless farmer is not the only one who suffers.

The lack of sound statistical data is obvious in any attempt to describe the importance of turfgrass maintenance on the economy of the State of Maryland. As I have point-

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ed out, the maintenance portion of the industry is a small fraction of the total picture. Machinery costs, increased land values, transportation and installation costs to get sod from the field to the final consumer, golf car and pro shop revenues and other related revenues created by the Maryland Turfgrass Industry, have not been considered. The intangible effect of turfgrass on the health, happiness, and wellbeing of Marylanders cannot be determined, its dollar value in preventing erosion and purifying the air we breathe is incalculable.

According to the December 1972 issue of "The Agronomist:" "What does the future hold for the turfgrass industry in Maryland? The population is increasing very rapidly in Maryland and there is a great need for new homes, golf courses, and parks. The need for turf will be great and the future looks very promising for the turfgrass industry in Maryland."

Statistics alone cannot and do not tell you the entire story of the countryside in Maryland. To appreciate the real picture of the wonderful land beyond the city limits, you must see it, hear it, feel it, smell it, and breathe it. And lay on it, as I do day after day — put your EAR to Mother Earth and listen to the beautiful sounds of nature — "What a great thrill".

Turfgrass is a most important part of that beautiful, three dimensional picture of land, sea and sky that is our Maryland heritage, I hope that through your efforts in the production and improvement of turfgrass, those signs we see in such plentiful numbers, "Keep off the Grass", will someday soon, no longer be necessary.

This is one of my favorite poems about land which sums up my feelings.

I AM LAND Lynn Pinkerton

I am land

- I am trustworthy, when the friends and fortunes of men have wronged you, I will remain loyal.
- I am the producer of food, the foundation of factories and banks.
- I provide a birthplace for your offspring, a home for your family, and a shroud for your dead.
- I have absorbed the sweat and secrets of your forefathers as they toiled over me.
- I have witnessed the discovery of fire, The birth of Christ, and man's flight to the moon.
- I give you comfort when the world has wronged you, strength when your path becomes rough, and the solitude needed for self-evaluation.

- I am a living, breathing entity, reproducing year after year, growing in strength generation after generation.
- I am all on earth you can believe in, while all things wither and decay — I survive.

I am land.

Virginia's Jack Kidwell Talks Progress And Sod

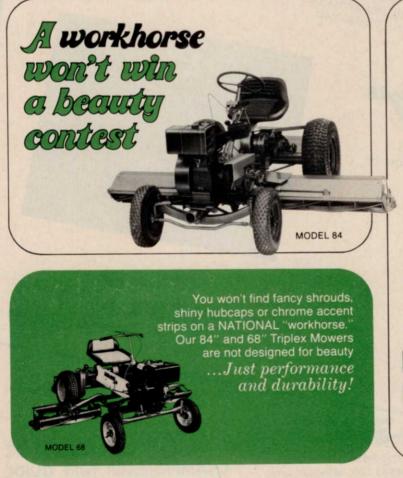
J. L. (Jack) Kidwell of Culpeper, Virginia, has been "high" on grass for the past 15 years.

And it's an easy "high" for this Virginian because grass, more specifically sod, is his business.

He has 900 acres in sod on farms in Culpeper and Mecklenburg counties, making him one of the largest, if not the largest, sod producers in the state.

Kidwell's customers include housing, institutional and government projects. In Blacksburg recently, where he was among 200 persons attending the 17th annual Virginia Tech Turgrass Field Days, Kidwell saw some of his turf product at the new Marriott Inn, located on the edge of the Tech campus.

The professional sod producer is (continued on page 76)



FAST! With an 84 and 68-inch cut, NATIONAL Triplex mowers cut grooming time in half around greens and traps.

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SECOND PLACE WINNER PENNCROSS SUCCESS STORY CONTEST

OFFICIAL PENNCROSS STORY CONTEST ENTRY FORM

I am the greens superintendent in the Town of Tonawanda, which has two eigh-I am the greens superintendent in the Town of Tonawanda, which has two eighteen hole golf courses. These are both public courses, Sheridan and Brighton. Sheridan, 6785 yards par 71 and 13 water hazards. Brighton with 6500 yards par Sheridan, 6785 yards par 71 and 13 water nazards. Brighton with 6500 yards par 72 and no water hazards. I am going on my 19th year with the Town in charge of both golf courses. We have 40 groups including pursony bede and putting groups Dear Sir: 12 and no water hazards. I am going on my 19th year with the Town in charge of both golf courses. We have 40 greens including nursery beds and putting greens. Strictly solid seeride bent average green 5,000 servers feet. In the years from 1960 to both golf courses. We have 40 greens including nursery beds and putting greens. Strictly solid seaside bent, average green 5,000 square feet. In the years from 1960 to 1965 We were fetting 68,000 to 70,000 rounds of four on both courses of two to the second sec Strictly solid seaside bent, average green 5,000 square feet. In the years from 1960 to 1965 we were getting 68,000 to 79,000 rounds of golf on both courses. So I was told by a follow superintendent to start overseeding with Democross bent to reduce the 1965 we were getting 68,000 to 79,000 rounds of golf on both courses. So I was told by a fellow superintendent to start overseeding with Penneross bent, to reduce the poa a fellow superintendent to start overseeding with Penncross bent, to reduce the poa annua I had in the greens. Started this program, overseeding 2½ pounds per green. I could see a different color in the greens after a few years I citle overseed and find annua I had in the greens. Started this program, overseeding 2½ pounds per green. I could see a different color in the greens after a few years. I still overseed and find the play increasing. Since 1072 we've had 108 000 rounds of golf on both courses this I could see a different color in the greens after a few years. I still overseed and find the play increasing. Since 1972 we've had 108,000 rounds of golf on both courses, this is the record of rounds for a public course. The Demonstrate bent is taking over the play increasing. Since 1972 we've had 108,000 rounds of golf on both courses, this is the record of rounds for a public course. The Penncross bent is taking over, and holding up very good under heavy play. This makes the golfer heavier and the second to be a second to be Is the record of rounds for a public course. The Penncross bent is taking over, and holding up very good under heavy play. This makes the golfer happier and I am still overseeding with Denneroes bent and someday here to have Penn holding up very good under heavy play. This makes the golfer happier and I am happy. I am still overseeding with Penncross bent and someday hope to have Penn-eross bent tees on a public course Thank you

cross bent tees on a public course. Thank you.

Shute f. Kange

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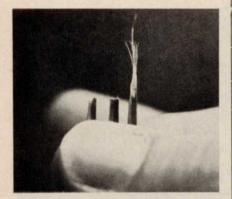
AN OPEN LETTER TO PENNCROSS CUSTOMERS ABOUT THE SUPPLY OF PENNCRØSS

The growers of Penneross Bentgrass seed are very happy The growers of Penncross Bentgrass seed are very happy have oriven to Penneross As ornew. With the acceptance you, the Golf Course Superintendents are doing our best to provide a plentiful supply of Penn. chitects and club officials have given to Penncross. As grow-ers, we are doing our best to provide a plentiful supply of As grow-cross seed to meet the demand von have created by of Penn-with the demand von have created by off Penners, we are doing our best to provide a plentiful supply of Penneross on tees, fairways and greens. Our Penncross fields take a great deal of preparation prior hand planting the stolons. Hand rogueing the fields during Our Penncross fields take a great deal of preparation prior to hand planting the stolons. Hand rogueing the fields during also expensive and requires the fields during work to hand planting the stolons. Hand rogueing the fields during whe insist on viving vou the highest and requires tedious work. the growing season is also expensive and requires technologies will not sacrifice quality for quality seed available and We insist on giving you the highest quantity. We ask for your patience while we expand our production of the increased demand Our eron plantings will We ask for your patience while we expand our production to take care of the increased demand. Our crop plantings will he expanded as percent this fall and this should result in a pood to take care of the increased demand. Our crop plantings will and this should result in a good be expanded 25 percent this fall and this should result for next summer's harvest. In the meantime, don't accept a substitute. We will main-In the meantime, don't accept a substitute. We will make every pound it standards available to the market. tain our quality seed production and we will make every point is temporarily out of seed nlease he nationt of seed that meets the quality standards available to the market weather conditions have caused a 25% cron failure so vour Weather conditions have caused a 25% crop failure, so your to sure d it conitably so your will do the best we can to spread it equitably. Thank you for planting more and more Penneross. We will to movide you Thank you for planting more and more Penneross. We with a plentiful supply of high quality Penneross seed. Sincerely, BILL L. ROSE, Chairman Penncross Bentgrass Growers Association P PENNCR TEE-2-GREEN CORP. BENT GRAS 1212 WEST EIGHTH STREET KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64101 (816) 842-7825

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Can you tell ryegrass from bluegrass?

(Careful.)



This photo shows *two* fine-leafed ryegrasses and one Kentucky Bluegrass. The grass on the right is obviously a ryegrass. Of the other two, which is the ryegrass and which is the bluegrass?

Ok, the one in the middle is fineleafed Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass . . . clean-cut and so fine-bladed it looks like bluegrass. On the left is Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass, perhaps the best all-around turf grass available today.

If you had trouble telling them apart, you have an idea of the compatibility of these two grasses. Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass and Pennstar Kentucky Bluegrass. They work together. Beautifully. For more information write Pennfine/Pennstar, Box 923, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440.





Jack Kidwell (r) inspects turf equipment during Virginia Tech Turfgrass Field Days. At left is Tom Harris of Gaithersburg, Md. Kidwell is president of the American Sod Producers Association.

PROGRESS AND SOD

(from page 73)

among 30 in Virginia, many of whom were on hand for the turfgrass event on the Blackburg campus. The field days, for professionals interested in turfgrass production and management, is sponsored annually by Tech's extension division and department of agronomy.

Virginia's sod producers, according to Kidwell, are generally behind the rest of the nation's sod farmers, but he believes that they will soon come "into their own." He views the research being carried on at Virginia Tech's Turfgrass Research Center will help to bring th state's sod producers up to and beyond the national average.

As president of the Virginia Turfgrass Council and the American Sod Producers Association, Kidwell is eager to see Tech's program continue and expand. The four-year-old center itself is partly the result of his council's support. The council also provides a \$4,800 scholarship annually for a Tech graduate student in agronomy.

This type of support, Kidwell said, benefits the student, the university and the turf industry.

The council, he said, has just completed a survey of the state's turf industry, seeking such information as the number of acres presently in maintained turf, the amount of money spent for turf, fertilizer and feed, in addition to educational needs, future growth and employment prospects.

The \$25,000 for the survey, he

said, came from, among other sources, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Virginia Agricultural Foundation.

As for educational needs, Kidwell envisions a much broader program encompassing the university and public schools as well as the general public. The Virginian views turfgrass education as basic to any understanding of the environment or ecology.

Few persons realize, he said, that sod and grass, like trees, helps to remove pollutants from the air and return clean air in their place.

Ohio Sod Producers Hold Annual Meeting

The Ohio Sod Producers Association held their annual meeting in November in Cincinnati, Ohio, in conjunction with the Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show. Highlights of the meeting were the election of officers and a discussion of the fertilizer situation for 1974.

Ron Giffen, sales manager, Lakeshore Equipment and Supply Company, reviewed the fertilizer demand and supply situation. There is an increased demand throughout the world and he predicted a 1 million ton shortage of fertilizer for 1974 in the United States alone.

Supplies have been dwindling due to old manufacturing plants closing down, lack of construction of new facilities, low profitability and price controls, and the shortage of petroleum products to make nitrogen. The higher demand and lower availability of fertilizer will create a very unstable price structure through early 1974, said Giffen. He predicted a 40% increase in fertilizer costs over spring, 1973.

He concluded by suggesting that sod growers buy immediately and take delivery as soon as possible, reduce their need for 1974, and improve equipment calibration to avoid any over-application.

President Ches Augspurger then announced the OSPA slate of officers for 1974. New officers elected were: Don Figurella, Besturf Sod Farms, president; Paul Florence, Millcreek Sod Farm, vice president; John Kramer, John Kramer and Sons, secretary; and Howard Kester, Trojan Turf, treasurer. Directors are Cecil Collings, Green Valley Turf Farms; Ivan Patterson, Patterson-Hunn Sod Farm; and Cliff Gregloire, Medina Sod Farms.

President Figurella spoke briefly to the assembled sod growers. He urged greater membership participation in OSPA and announced the executive committee would be meeting soon to establish goals and priorities for 1974. The meeting concluded with a report on activities of the American Sod Producers Association by Director Paul Florence.



President meets president . . . Don Figurella, Besturf Sod Farms and new president of the Ohio Sod Producers Association discusses the future of the industry with Ches Augspurger, Cincinnati Turfgrass Nursery, Inc. and outgoing president.



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FEBRUARY 1974



Ronald W. Fream



Roy Coates

Golf Course Builders Of America

How the design of a golf course can affect the speed of the golfer's playing time, and the problems of building golf courses were among the topics at the 3rd annual dinner of the Golf Course Builders of

Hold Third Annual Meeting

America in Anaheim, Calif.

Roy Goates, golf manager for the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks department spoke on golf course design and speed of play, while Ronald W. Fream, a golf

course architect from Los Gatos, Calif., told of the problems of constructing foreign courses. Fream's firm, Fream/Storm Associates, has designed a number of overseas courses.

On the domestic construction front, dinner guests heard a panel titled "How to Build It", featuring contractors Robert E. Chakales of Richmond, Va., and Nick A. Siemens of Fresno, Calif. The moderator was Frank Underwood, a golf course contractor from Bowie, Texas, and the 1974 president of the Golf Course Builders of America.

Economics of golf course construction were covered by Don A. Rossi, executive director of the National Golf Foundation, Chicago. His topic was "The Golf Market."

Undercover Agents **Fight Green Industry Crime**

Have we lost the war against crime?

Is the farm and industrial equipment industry sitting back and taking the count as a matter of course?

The answer is an emphatic, "No."



According to Charles Wessel, vice president of Interstate Service Corporation, a Globe Security company (AMEX), the rather recent turnabout in industry's attitude towards the undercover worker has resulted in increased protection against the mounting cost of crime, now rising above the \$5 billion figure in the U.S. alone.

"A short while back." Wessel said, "an undercover agent was considered to be a spy who would 'rat' on his co-workers. He was hired as a last recourse, only in the case of an unsolved grand theft, or a very large, steady drain on the company's profits that was obviously the work of an inside thief."

"Then, likely as not," Wessel explained, "when the thief or wrongdoer was caught, he would be let off without pressing charges because of misguided judgment about company morale or concern for the man's family. This permitted him to be free to join another company and continue his lifestyle of crime, probably becoming more expert in it as his experience grew.

"This situation was compounded by the fact that, as the size of business grows, so does the rate of crime. It is almost impossible today for a head of a medium-sized or large-sized company to be fully aware of those activities of his employees that are detrimental to the company's good financial health.

"This includes everything from the disappearance of cash or merchandise, inventory shortages, a rise in sales without an accompanying rise in profits, poor production that may be the result of timecard cheating, excessive overtime, unauthorized discounts, shortages in merchandise, excessive complaints from customers, and unexplained drops in company morale.

"The acknowledgement on the part of the farm and industrial equipment industry of the role of the undercover agent has done much to implement management's new get-tough policy on crime," he said.

"And," Wessel went on, "a clearer understanding on the part of management or just who the undercover man or woman is and just what the duties are, will most certainly result in increased use of the agent and increased savings on the part of management."

He suggests that undercover agents be placed at strategic jobs in the company, either in the area of suspected crime, or in a situation where they have freedom of movement to make widespread observation more readily.



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e of The DIGGIN' DUTCHMAN

01





insect report—

TREE INSECTS

SPRING CANKERWORM

(Paleacrita vernata) NORTH DAKOTA: Larvae defoliated Siberian elm single-row shelterbelts in Mayville area, Traill County. Some trees now 80 percent defoliated. Additional defoliation will occur; some shelterbelts expected to be 100 percent defoliated.

GEOMETRID MOTH

(Lambdina athasaria athasaria) PENNSYLVANIA: Moth flight heavy over area of about 1.5-mile radius two miles east of Clymer, Indiana County, Junel. Most larger hemlocks dead over area of 1-mile radius.

OAK LEAFTIER

(Croesia albicomana) MASSACHUSETTS: Larvae almost completely defoliat-ed oaks in some areas of Hampshire and Hampden Counties.

DOUGLAS FIR TUSSOCK MOTH

(Hemerocampa pseudotsuga) OREGON: Larvae began to hatch in foothills of Mt. Emily near LaGrande, Union County. Treatment planned for 25,000-40,000 acres in LaGrande area; first to begin within next 7 days. All timberlands to be treated are privately owned.

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

FLOWER BUG

(Orius insidiosus)

MARYLAND: Very active in Eastern Shore sweet corn fields. Ranged 20-30 per 100 plants in most fields. Heaviest infestation 87 percent. Species good egg and small larval control agent.

CHALCID WASP

(Brachymeria intermedia) WEST VIRGINIA: Released 2,000 adults of this pupal parasite of Porthetria dispar (gypsy moth) in Jefferson County and 1,000 adults in Berkeley County.

PAINTED LADY

(Cynthia cardui) WASHINGTON: Several adults but no eggs or larvae seen in tansy ragwort. At Ambay, Clark, County, adults emerged 3-4 weeks earlier than normal.

CHALCID WASP (Brachymeria intermedia) WEST VIRGINIA: Adults of this pupal parasite released in Jefferson, Berkeley, Hamshire, Pocahontas, and Hardy Counties.



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