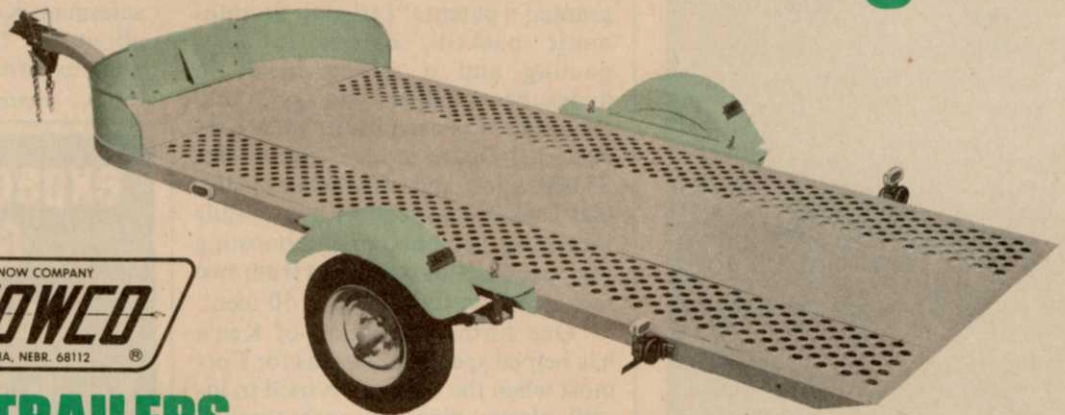


"Doing one thing well" is Formost's slogan, here decorating the "Spider," a combination backfiller-compactor invented by Ken Cloud. Also decorating the machine is Mrs. Bruce Pettingill, wife of the machine's operator, as she demonstrates how one of the 18 hand levers controls the hydraulic pumps and motors connected by a maze of tubing.

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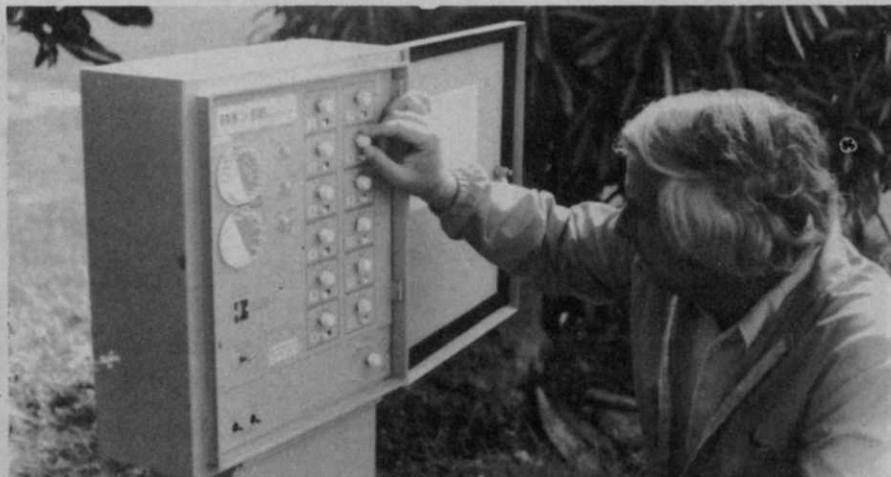


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Manual control of sprinklers on Miami Shores green is effected by course superintendent Dave Buxbaum via controller overlooking the green. Visibility of the green from the controller prevents accidental dousing of golfers.

One man can operate the 18 controls while riding the "Spider" on its high-flotation turf tires.

The huge machine replaces four men on the job, and does even a better job of compacting, virtually eliminating the bothersome settling of trenches after installation. It's fully controllable so that even if you're backfilling a curved trench it can do a perfect job and the augers can be controlled so as not to scalp the turf on uneven terrain, yet pick up almost every grain of dirt and backfill it into the trench.

Ken is especially proud of his invention, for which he has been granted a patent. "I tried to tie automatic backfill, automatic compacting and a strong belief in hydraulics together," he says, "and the result was even better than I expected. I figure it saves us at least \$5,000 a job and eliminates a \$10,000 backfill machine to boot, while increasing compaction and boosting our speed in this operation from two feet a minute to as high as 50 feet."

One further invention of Ken's has helped speed operations for Formost when the "puller" is used to install plastic pipe. At each turn or corner a hole still must be dug to install an elbow or tee joint. "There might be 1,000 or 1,300 of these holes on any one course," Ken says, "and we needed a neat, clean, fast way to dig them." The job formerly took 15-18 minutes by hand, or 7-8 minutes using a backhoe. Ken's mechanical "hole-puncher" actually "saws" out a wedge of turf and dirt, exposing the area of the joint. Once the joint has been made, the wedge is replaced in one piece over it, pre-

serving the turf as well as speeding the operation.

But speed and neatness of installation aren't the only factors contributing to the growth of Formost from a small local West Coast company into a major nationwide concern with two or three jobs in progress at any one time. The firm now operates separate Wisconsin and Florida divisions, and operations in Mexico City and Tokyo are planned for the near future.

Salesmanship has been very important. "I guess you'd have to say our sales story involves three basic factors," says Formost's foremost salesman: Ken Cloud. "First, we tell about the family firm, its history and experience in installing irri-

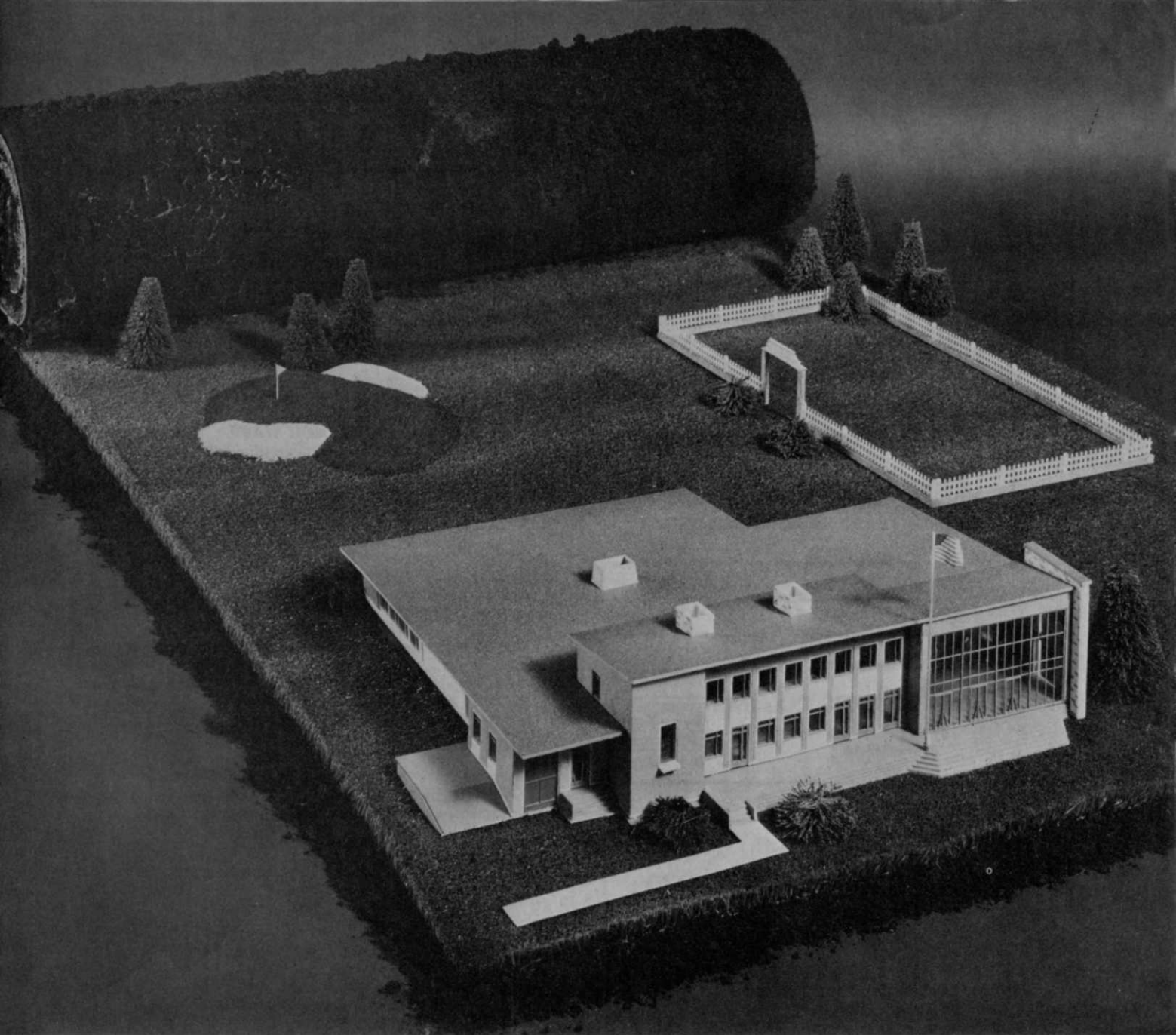
(continued on page 35)

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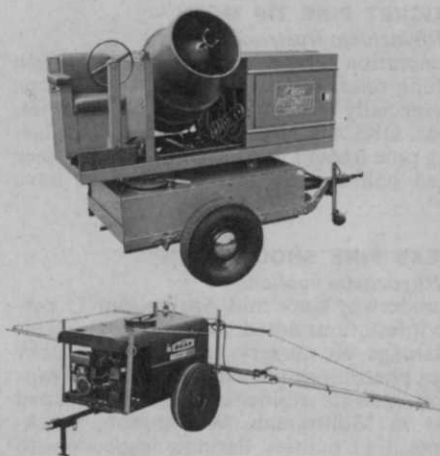
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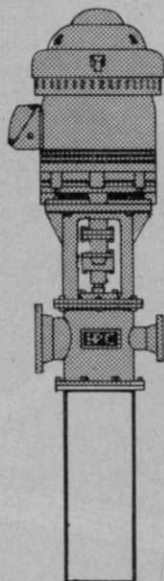
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insect report

TURF INSECTS

SOD WEBWORMS

(*Crambus* spp.)

SOUTH DAKOTA: Found infested 128,000 acres of rangeland in Corson, Dewey, and Ziebach Counties; 20,000 acres have been destroyed, additional 50,000 acres being destroyed.

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

ICHNEUMON WASP

(*Bathyplectes curculionis*)

OHIO: Parasitized 10 percent of *Hypera postica* (alfalfa weevil) larvae collected in Clarke County alfalfa field. **WEST VIRGINIA:** Four adults of this alfalfa weevil parasitoid collected in 25 sweeps of alfalfa in Cabell County. This is a new county recovery. **NORTH CAROLINA:** Annual survey for parasites of alfalfa weevil extended to include Buncombe and Macon Counties; *B. curculionis* collected in these counties extending known range in State. *B. curculionis* parasitized 8.6 percent of *H. postica* larvae collected in Buncombe County, 5.2 percent of those collected in Macon County. Survey indicated dramatic increase in percent parasitism in Rowan, Wake, and Ashe Counties since 1972. Heaviest parasitism of *H. postica* larvae was 58 percent in one Rowan County field. *B. curculionis* released in Wake, Rowan, and Ashe Counties during 1971.

TIPHIID WASP

(*Tiphia vernalis*)

WEST VIRGINIA: Adults of this *Popillia japonica* (Japanese beetle) parasite noted near Elkins, Randolph County.

LADY BEETLES

INDIANA: Half-grown larvae of several species observed in wheat fields and roadsides in Gibson County.

TREE INSECTS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE

(*Dendroctonus frontalis*)

ARKANSAS: Still problem in southern area of State. Reports from Arkansas Forestry Commission indicate salvage operations in Ashley and Union Counties in March and April totaled 697 stems removed, 113 cords of pulp wood cut, and 29,000 board feet of saw timber cut. Flights and subsequent ground checks in Lafayette and Columbia Counties showed no new infestations evident beyond previously known infested area.

NANTUCKET PINE TIP MOTH

(*Rhyacionia frustrana*)

ALABAMA: First-generation larvae mostly pupated in pine trees on lawns and along roads in northern area. Infestations heavy in some areas, especially Decatur and Morgan Counties, and light in other areas. **OKLAHOMA:** First-generation larvae moderate in young pine trees (3 feet tall or less) in Latimer County; larvae ranged half to full grown and some have already pupated.

EUROPEAN PINE SHOOT MOTH

(*Rhyacionia buoliana*)

OREGON: Surveys underway since mid-April about 75 percent complete with no infestations noted. Along with visual inspection for larval damage on nursery grown pines, sticky traps with synthetic sex pheromone placed in host trees. Traps placed in 26 nurseries, private residences, and landscaped areas of public parks in Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Marion and Umatilla Counties. Periodic inspections to be made during adult emergence period.

FORMOST (from page 32)

gation systems. Next, we talk about the courses we've done, all the way from the famed Pebble Beach (Bing Crosby Pro-Am) and El Dorado (Bob Hope Classic) courses in California, through Howard Hughes' Desert Inn course in Las Vegas and even the pitch-putt course at the San Clemente White House.

"The third facet of our success story would probably have to be the equipment we install. Since we stand behind the entire installation, including the pipe, sprinklers, timers, and other equipment, we have to be sure of what we're installing, as well as how we do it.

Although the golf course superintendent, in the case of existing courses, of the architect, on new courses, often recommends manufacturers, Formost installs Rain Bird sprinkler equipment on most installations.

"It's simply that the Rain Bird people stand behind their equipment with 48-hour service, and that makes our job a lot easier," Ken says. "It's the kind of service that allows us to give 18 and 24-month guarantees on our installations, instead of the usual 12 months the other contractors give.

At the Miami Shores Country Club, the 13 Rain Bird Controllers Formost installed are used so that each unit controls four greens or two fairways. Location was important — each unit is placed so that the operator can see the entire area controlled by that unit. "That way we avoid wetting down golfers who might happen to be on that green or fairway where we're watering for some special reason," Buxbaum says.

Greens and tees are watered by No. 51 rotor pop-up full-circle and

No. 47 part-circle rotor pop-up sprinklers, while fairways are hand-drenched by more than 400 No. 81-B rotor pop-up heads. The entire system is connected by a network of 66,000 feet of PVC mains and laterals. Three 40-hp, 350-gpm, Tait turbine pumps charge the system with 125 psi pressure. Rain Bird Specialty Valves are used at the pumpshouse to take the shock out of the pressure system and to assure constant flow at varying pressures for the main and lateral lines. More than 400,000 feet of wire tie together the Rain Bird RC-18 and RC-23 controllers on fairways and SC-12 Satellites controlling the greens.

An all-electric irrigation system, the Miami Shores job is installed for maximum lightning resistance. "Until recently, everyone was worried about lightning damage to electric controllers," Cecil Cloud says, "and hydraulic controllers were often chosen instead of the simpler, easier-to-maintain, more accurate electric units."

"Past failures of electric systems in lightning-prone areas like Florida," Ken adds, "have been due to poor installation rather than the equipment itself. Proof of this is our zero-failure track record on electric systems." "I've installed three courses recently with electric controllers and lightning protection," Cecil chimes in, "and even with lightning strikes within 100 feet of a controller, we've yet to lose one."

The new system by Formost and Rain Bird replaces a semi-automatic setup of quick-couplers down the center of each fairway, and pop-up heads on the greens, all controlled by a single valve. "We had no actual control," Buxbaum says. "We turned that valve and all the

sprinklers let go at the same time. Now we can eliminate the equivalent of a man and a half of labor for watering every day, and the system doesn't take a day off, need a vacation or get sick. And best of all, we now have total control of watering that gets right to the edges of every green and fairway."

"We looked a long time before we chose Formost to do this job, and Rain Bird to be the equipment they put in," Buxbaum says. "It took over two years to make a decision. After looking at all the different systems we could find, we decided installation of the very best by the very best would cost no more in the long run. In that case, Formost and Rain Bird was the only choice we could make."



Regal Chemical bags it!

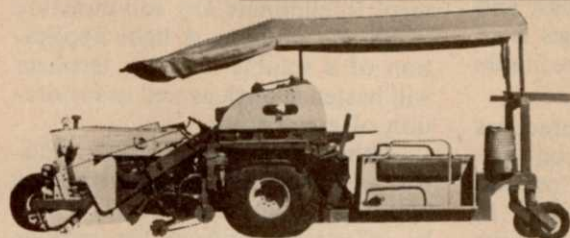
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Sod, Water, and A System

By HENRY W. INDYK, Extension Specialist in Turfgrass Management, Rutgers University

The production and use of sod for the establishment of an instant turfgrass cover is not of recent date. However, the progress and developments which have led to the sod industry as we know it today have primarily come about within the last 10 to 15 years. One of the most striking developments has been the rapid emergence of sod production as a highly specialized and sophisticated industry from the so-called "pasture stage" of long standing. The "pasture stage" was characterized by fence rows, dairy and beef animals as mowing units, as well as fertilizer manufacturing plants and application equipment and a "pot-pourri" of plant growth most of which would be difficult to classify as turfgrasses.

From an economic standpoint, grazing of sod fields provided the distinct advantage of utilization of clippings. Clippings are somewhat of a by-product in the present day industry. The "pasture stage" has been forced out of existence in most areas but remnants of this stage still can be found in certain parts of the country.

The new industry became known as nursery sod or cultivated sod in contrast to the "pasture sod." Sod producers became quite sensitive to this distinction. The primary stimulus for the rapid advancement of the nursery or cultivated sod industry was the realization that there was a demanding market for a high quality product. The sod industry quickly and successfully responded to satisfy this market. The high quality sod which became available acted as a "catalyst" in stimulating greater interest in the use of sod. Striking improvements in sod quality were achieved through the adoption of intensive cultural practices, improved turfgrass varieties of known genetic purity and high quality seed.

Sod growing tends to be concentrated close to the area of use, i.e.

close to its market or point of utilization. The major marketing area of a specific sod operation is principally within a 100 mile radius of the point of production, although some may be shipped for greater distances. Two major reasons can be cited for such localization of production and marketing:

1. Sod is a highly perishable product which will deteriorate very rapidly after harvesting if not utilized immediately, particularly during the warmer seasons of the year.
2. Minimize transportation costs and in terms of present day concerns, conservation of energy as well.

Accordingly, you will find sod farming concentrated very close to areas of residential, industrial and recreational development. Consequently, this means production in high value land which becomes an important cost of production factor.

A superior quality sod is characterized by many different factors. An attractive appearance is of paramount importance to a purchaser of sod. From the standpoint of the producer, in addition to appearance for marketability, sod must be dense with a well developed root and rhizome system to facilitate harvesting and handling. In addition, the producer must be vitally concerned with minimizing the length of time to achieve maturity, a marketable product, from the time of seeding. To satisfy these needs, the maintenance of favorable soil moisture conditions for rapid, vigorous, and healthy growth of turfgrasses is of vital importance in the profitable production of sod.

Among the cultural practices that were adopted by the sod producer in emerging from the "pasture stage" was sprinkler irrigation. In some areas of the country sod must be irrigated throughout most of the growing season. In the more humid areas such as my area in the Northeast, sod producers must rely upon

supplemental irrigation to provide assurance of adequate soil moisture during unpredictable soil moisture stress periods which invariably occur during the growing season.

The importance of water in the life processes of a turfgrass plant is partially revealed by the fact that from 60 to 75 or more gallons of water are required for the production of one pound of dry matter by the plant. Although turfgrasses can tolerate a high degree of soil moisture stress without suffering permanent damage, adequate supplies of soil moisture must be maintained by supplemental irrigation not only to satisfy the demands for a high quality sod but also from the standpoint of economics of production to reduce or minimize the time required for maturity. Reducing the time to produce a marketable product constitutes an important factor in production costs since, as previously mentioned, sod generally is produced on land of high real estate value.

Since turfgrass plants can withstand a certain degree of drought stress, it is not essential to maintain every square foot of sod on a farm in an attractive green condition. Once the sod has reached maturity, emphasis upon watering can be relaxed and the sod allowed to become semi-dormant or even dormant. However, prior to marketing, it must be brought back to an attractive green condition. This can be readily accomplished with the resumption of proper water management to eliminate any soil moisture stress. In addition, a light application of a soluble nitrogen fertilizer will hasten growth as well as restoration of green color.

Other than encouraging maturity and providing for an attractive appearance, sprinkler irrigation may be effectively utilized for various purposes in the economic production and utilization of sod. The following are listed as prime examples:

1. Germination of new seedlings: Practices in seeding differ throughout the country. Some areas will restrict seeding to the favorable season — the late summer-early fall season. Other areas will seed continuously throughout the growing season. This practice must rely upon sprinkler irrigation, usually by means of solid set.

2. Watering-in of materials: Fertilizer and possibly other chemicals can be watered-in after application to reduce the possibility of injury and/or accelerate activity of the treatment.

3. Fertilizer carrier: Soluble fertilizer can be applied by injection into the sprinkling system. An even distribution pattern becomes very critical.

4. Harvesting operations: Favorable soil moisture conditions are necessary to facilitate mechanical lifting of sod as well as provide moisture for its preservation until it is transplanted and watering resumed at the new site.

5. Post-transplanting management: Watering immediately after and also as a part of the transplanting procedure is very critical until the sod develops new roots and knits to the soil in which it is transplanted.

6. Waste disposal site: Sod farms may serve as a site for solid and liquid waste disposal.

Important considerations in the establishment of a water management program on a sod farm are the basic questions of water quality, supply, amount, rate, frequency and time of application. It is beyond the scope of this article to expound upon these basic considerations for an effective and efficient sprinkler irrigation program. However, I wish to state that it is very difficult or impossible to establish rigid or arbitrary standards as answers to these questions because of the wide variations in many factors influencing water requirement for satisfactory turfgrass growth. Such factors as the turfgrass plant, stage of maturity of the sod, absorptive and storage capacity of the soil and climatic factors affecting the consumption and loss of water need to be considered. Accordingly, specific recommendations that would encompass all of these considerations and be inclusive of the extremely wide variation in conditions become an impossibility. An intelligent manage-

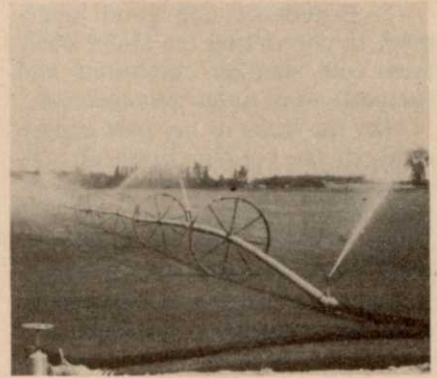
ment program in the production of sod depends upon:

1. An understanding and appreciation of the functions of water in the establishment and growth of turfgrasses.

2. An understanding of the water requirements of turfgrasses.

3. An intimate knowledge of soil conditions present on the farm and their effect upon infiltration, storage and release of water for growth of turfgrasses.

4. A keen observation of turfgrass conditions and status of soil moisture from day to day.



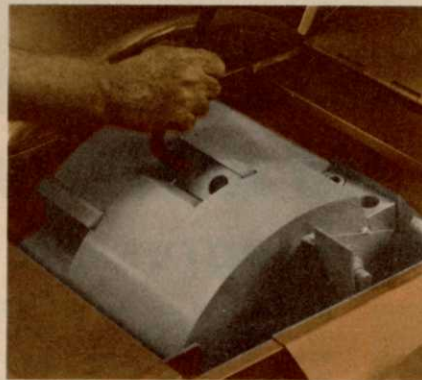
This wheel move system is a form of irrigation commonly used in sod production.

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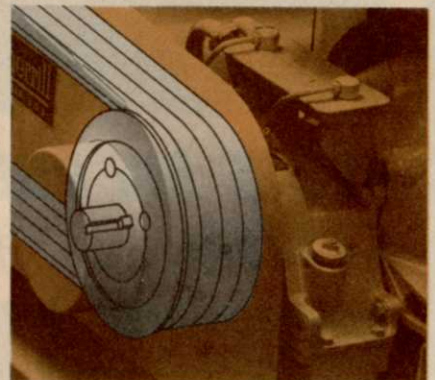
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5. Experience and good judgment in correlating the above basic facts with weather conditions and forecasts—i.e. water management.

On the basis of my past experiences in the various facets of turfgrass culture in general, it appears that water management on sod farms is better than in other turfgrass areas. Perhaps a major reason is due to the fact that it becomes an economic necessity in profitable sod production. A common tendency on many turfgrass areas is to water excessively. This type of water management is not only wasteful and costly but can be detrimental to turfgrasses.

Irrigation of sod is very similar to that of other agricultural crops. However, one major exception is the necessity for uniform distribution patterns in the production of sod. Water distribution patterns become more noticeable and evident in the appearance, growth and quality of the sod than in the other agricultural crops. Accordingly, greater precautions must be taken in sod production not only in proper selection of sprinkler irrigation systems but also in the techniques of application.

The primary and most common method of sprinkler irrigation utilized on sod farms is by means of surface portable systems. Such systems include various means of movement of pipe ranging from manual to self-propelling by various different mechanisms.

Sod production lends itself very well to self-propelling mechanisms because of the levelness and size of the fields and the surface that sod provides to facilitate movement. Solid set systems are utilized to a limited extent — primarily for the germination of new seedings. However, I personally have noted solid set utilized throughout the entire production stages of the sod. Solid set greatly reduces but does not entirely eliminate the chore of moving pipe. In order to facilitate mowing, movement of pipe becomes necessary. Solid set would be most useful in low rainfall regions. Ideally, an economical underground pop-up system would be a sod producer's delight. However, systems of this nature which are presently available are prohibitive from the standpoint of economics.

A glance into the future of the sod industry on the basis of the

energy crisis and economic forecasts makes one feel rather pessimistic. I personally have adopted an optimistic attitude. My outlook is based on such facts as:

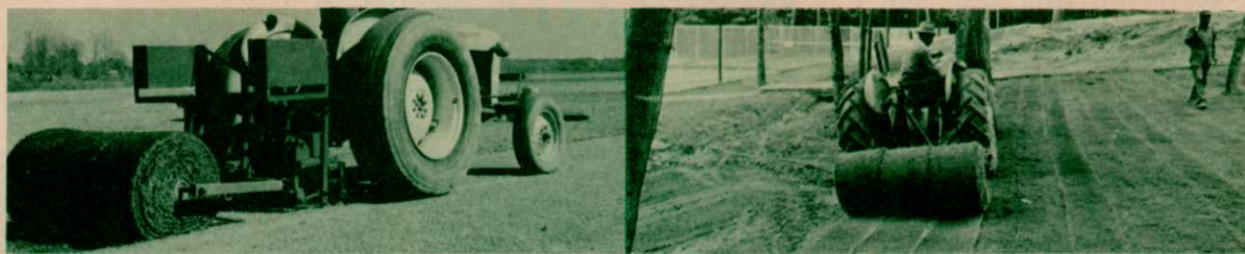
1. Sod represents a product that is vital to the enhancement of our environment for more enjoyable living. As long as we continue to be concerned about our environment and strive for its improvement, sod will occupy an important position.

2. Possible utilization of sod farms, protected by mandate against massive development, as a means of maintaining needed open space in an attractive condition.

3. Utilization of clippings as a source of nutritious feed for the production of animal products.

4. Solid and liquid waste disposal without detriment to the environment is one of our major concerns. Sod farms may effectively serve as a disposal site for solid and liquid waste in future management of our waste problems.

On the basis of these considerations, perhaps the future for sprinkler irrigation in sod production is brighter than what it may appear to be today in view of other problems.



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R. A. Bartlett Elected

Robert A. Bartlett, Jr., was elected president of the F. A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company at a board of directors meeting following the annual stockholders meeting. He had previously been executive vice president of the company. Former president, Robert A. Bartlett, who had resigned at the stockholders' meeting, became vice chairman of the board and chief executive officer of the company, according to the announcement by M. K. Bartlett, chairman.



Robert A. Bartlett, Jr.

Miami Removes Palms

Miami, Florida city crews began removing an estimated 3,000 palm trees suffering from lethal yellowing disease.

The city plans to replace the diseased palms and will also try to save others by injecting them with terramycin, a human antibiotic. The estimated cost of removal, replacement and the injections is about \$50,000, city officials say.

Cushman/Ryan Meet

More than 50 dealer representatives are expected to attend the North American Cushman and Ryan turf care product sales meeting at the Marriott Inn, Clarksville, Ind. Vern Worrel, Cushman and Ryan product manager, said the dealers will attend the sales meeting Aug. 13-14. Clarksville is located across the Ohio River from Louisville, Ky.



Joe Owens (left) and Labe Jackson, owners of Jobe's Tree Food Spikes and officers of International Spike, Inc., Lexington, Ky., point with pride to their 1975 merchandising program. Sales for 1974 have exceeded forecast. Jobe's have announced they'll be at the International Shade Tree Conference and the 1975 Golf Course Superintendents conference.

Standardized Symbols Proposed for Pesticides

The introduction and use of visual symbols for human and environmental caution should be made mandatory for the labeling of pesticides, industry representatives and regulatory authorities were told at the First National Symposium on Pesticide Labeling.

Alvin H. Schechter, president of Schechter & Luth, Inc., said: "The incorporation of visual symbols as part of the cautionary labeling for pesticides would improve the communication of their hazards and risks to the consumer, as desired by the regulators, while leaving the manufacturer with most of his marketing options intact."

"Recognizing the great concern expressed in all quarters regarding the cautions that must appear on pesticide labels, these caution statements should be completely prescribed so that there is no latitude whatsoever for diluting the warning and thus giving the appearance that one product is less dangerous — or safer — than another. A set of standards can be devised for pesticide label cautions similar to the cautionary statement that must appear

on each pack of cigarettes. By reducing the options for the cautionary statement, the possibility of making one product appear safer than another is eliminated; at the same time these statements will gain in clarity. The addition of new symbols for human and environmental caution would help standardize the location, size, sequence and language of the cautionary statements," Schechter stated.

While proposing a standardized format for the cautionary statements, the New York communications design consultant urged the Environmental Protection Agency to show sensitivity to the needs of the manufacturer, for whom the label and the package have important marketing functions. "It is imperative that the integrity of the creative areas of the package be maintained when the caution message is standardized," he noted. "Such elements as the trademark, trade dress, colors, and type should be free of regulatory constraints, subject only to marketing needs and objectives."

The adoption of visual symbols

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Saturn 6	6' General Duty	Pull/Lift	Yes	No
Gyro 60	5' Heavy Duty	Pull/Lift	Yes	Yes
Cyclone 60	5' Heavy Duty	Pull/Lift	Yes	Yes
Saturn 5	5' General Duty	Lift Only	Yes	No

*Flexible contour cutter.

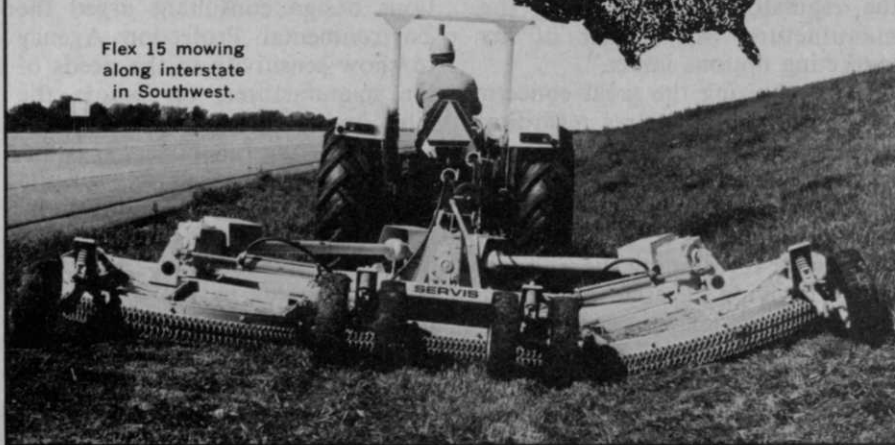
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and their use in conjunction with a standardized cautionary message would go far, Schechter concluded, in meeting the legitimate concerns of consumers and regulators for minimizing risk in pesticide use while enabling the manufacturer to protect his position in the marketplace.

OSHA Labor Violations Involve few Standards

Only five per cent of the standards issued under the federal job safety and health law account for 80 per cent of the citations issued, claims OSHA boss, John H. Stender, noting that the standards are "all basic, common sense rules dealing with the obvious."

"What's more, just 15 job safety and health rules account for more than 40 per cent of all serious violations," said Stender. He pointed out that preliminary results of a study now in progress refute charges that OSHA enforces "thousands of esoteric standards" that bewilder and confuse employers.

In addition, Stender said the preliminary results show that despite a nearly threefold increase in inspections resulting in citations from July 1972 through December 1973, the rate of contested cases has dropped from more than 7 per cent to about 5 per cent.

"That tells me," Stender said, "that employers are having less trouble with our citations — that they understand them and believe they are reasonable. It also tells me that the great majority of job hazards found during inspections are being quickly corrected."

The study, undertaken at Stender's request by a special OSHA task force, shows that more than 99 percent of all workplace hazards discovered by OSHA inspectors are corrected by employers.

Stender disclosed the preliminary results of the study in an address before the Governor's Annual Safety Award Conference and Exposition in Minneapolis.

Calling the OSHA record during its first three years "successful," Stender said the early results of the new study show that OSHA inspectors are "doing their job, employers are impressed with the fairness of OSHA inspections, and more importantly, hundreds of