

NO NATIONAL TURF FIELD DAYS AT BELTSVILLE

The National Turf Field Days held at Beltsville, Md., each fall during the past several years have been considered highly successful, but it has been decided that there will be no National Turf Field Days at Beltsville this year. Several reasons contribute to this decision.

State and regional turf field days scattered over the United States largely serve the turf interests of the country so that a National Turf Field Day is not nearly so necessary now as it was before the strong decentralized program became established.

Our efforts during 1952 have been devoted almost solely to the maintenance of current projects so that no new work has been initiated since the 1951 Turf Field Day.

The major interest in 1952 will be centered upon the Sixth International Grassland Congress, to be held August 17 to 23 at the Pennsylvania State College. The USGA Green Section staff will be busy showing the plots to many visitors from foreign countries, further complicating the problem of preparing for the Field Day.

Further emphasis upon state and regional turf field days is entirely in line with over-all USGA Green Section policy, as indicated by the opening of the USGA Green Section Regional Office at Davis, Cal., last June.

We want it to be clear to our Member Clubs, to the golf-course superintendents and to others who have been here and who would like to come, that we are available at any time, that we shall welcome individuals or groups and that we shall be glad to conduct them over our plot work. Appointments in advance will be appreciated.

INFORMATION WANTED ON DAHLGREN (C-115) BENT

Reports on the performance of Dahlgren bent alone and in combination with other superior strains of creeping bents seem to be so encouraging that we are taking this means to ask superintendents and cooperators, wherever they may be, to send a card or a letter to the USGA Green Section giving us a brief evaluation of the performance of this bent in their areas. Several nurserymen expect to have limited quantities of vegetative material available this fall.

Reports should be simple and to the point. We should like to compile full information on available sources of supplies as well as on performance.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q. We have just received the shipment of zoysia and bent grass from you which left Beltsville, Md., ten days ago. The material looked very dry and we are afraid it is dead. What do you suggest? (New York).

A. When vigorously-growing vegetative material is taken from the field here it is washed to remove soil. Then it is dip-treated in a solution of ethylene dibromide-chlordane so that it will pass quarantine. Twenty-four hours later we are permitted to package and ship the grass. By that time it already is wilted and "dead looking."

When this "dead looking" grass reaches you, it should be soaked immediately and left for 24 hours before planting. Keep the soil moist and, in most cases, you should get virtually 100 percent catch. The leaves of the grass *are* dead, but the stems are full of life. It may take several days before the stems can put out new roots and leaves, so don't get discouraged or be in too big a hurry to say that the grass is dead. Exercise patience and care and give the grass a chance.