

MANAGEMENT practices applicable to Meyer may not suit Korean or other coarser types of zoysia. Preferably low-maintenance, labor-saving cultural practices can be employed with the ultimate prospect of no mowing, no fertilizing, no irrigating — a distinct possibility for roadsides, waste and other minimal-maintenance areas. Today, in Korea, most of the native zoysia which predominates over the countryside receives no maintenance whatever. Athletic fields, golf courses, and other high-use areas will require more intensive management. The nitrogen requirement ranges from ½ to 2 pounds nitrogen per year.

The use of treated seed opens new horizons for zoysiagrass. Zoysia seed can be planted efficiently with a hydro-seeder, conventional drop, and rotary broadcast seeders. A complete cover in less than a year is usually assured when scarified and treated with light. Companion seeding of cool-season turf-grasses such as Kentucky bluegrass,

perennial ryegrass, and tall fescue insures almost immediate use as well as erosion control during the first winter and spring. It is easy to convert to a complete zoysiagrass stand with appropriate cultural practices or a dormant spraying with glyphosate. The prospect of new cultivars promises more versatility on all areas from roadsides to fine lawns.

The climate and soil for seed production in the United States is excellent, but better seed harvesting techniques remain to be developed. When this is a reality, then zoysiagrass, a much-needed species for the transition zone, will undoubtedly be far more widely used.

Figure 2 summarizes techniques for treating and establishing zoysiagrass from seed.

FIGURE 2

SEED TREATMENT

KOH 30%
 Duration 25 min.
 Light 36-48 hrs.
 Presoak 24 hrs.
 80-90% germination in 7 days

SEED ESTABLISHMENT

¾ to 1 lb./1000 sq. ft.
 Broadcast or Hydroseed
 Lightly rake and/or roll
 Siduron 8 lbs. a.i./acre
 Irrigate as needed
 Post treatment 2,4-D/
 dicamba if needed

MAINTENANCE Aids

A TIP FROM

JAMES McNALLY, Golf Course Superintendent
 Manasquan River Golf Club, Brielle, New Jersey

MECHANICAL SAND rakes have proven to be adaptable to multi-purpose use. Superintendent McNally made a one-step operation of overseeding weak areas by attaching the seeder box as shown. This equipment is convenient for all small overseeding tasks and because of the low-pressure feature of the tires, it can be safely used for overseeding putting greens.

