

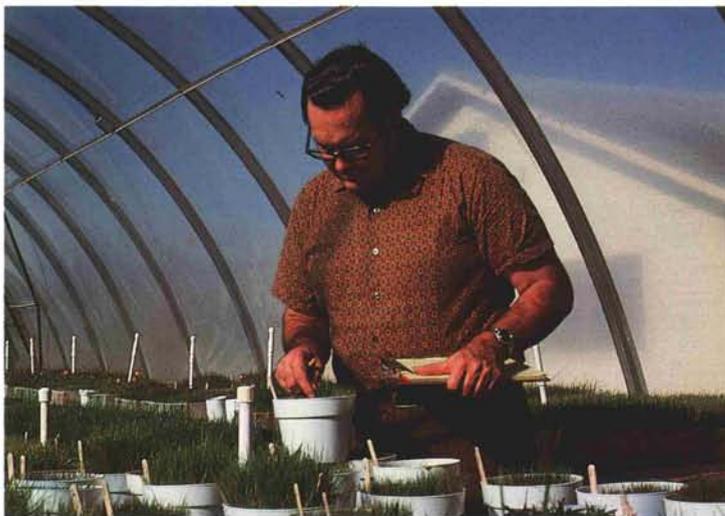
James B. Beard Receives USGA Green Section Award for 1989

DR. JAMES B. BEARD, internationally recognized turfgrass researcher and educator, has been named the 1989 recipient of the Green Section Award of the United States Golf Association. Dr. Beard received the award on February 13, 1989, at the annual banquet of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, in Anaheim, California.

"I'm thrilled. This is one of the big ones," noted Dr. Beard when informed of his selection. F. Morgan Taylor, Jr., of Hobe Sound, Florida, Chairman of the USGA Green Section Committee, presented the award to Dr. Beard on behalf of the United States Golf Association. He noted that "there could be no one more deserving of the Green Section Award, which recognizes distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass, than Dr. James B. Beard."

Indeed, Dr. Beard's accomplishments and contributions to our understanding of turfgrass science have touched the professional lives of turfgrass managers, researchers and educators throughout the world. In addition to his wide-ranging research achievements, Dr. Beard has authored or co-authored seven books or manuals concerning all phases of turfgrass science and management. One of those books, *Turf Management for Golf Courses*, is a major reference text for golf course superintendents, and was published in cooperation with the Green Section. He has also published more than 100 scientific journal papers and has authored more than 300 technical and popular articles throughout his career.

Dr. Beard graduated from Ohio State University and received his Ph.D. from Purdue University in 1961. He joined the faculty of the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Michigan State University in 1961, responsible for teaching undergraduate and graduate-level courses and establishing an extensive research program. His research on evapotranspiration, winter injury, wear stress,



Dr. James B. Beard

and shade effects on turfgrasses were pioneering efforts in these fields and helped establish the scientific basis for many of the turfgrass cultural programs in use today on cool-season grasses.

In 1975, Dr. Beard moved to Texas A&M University as Professor of Turfgrass Science in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences, a position he still holds. Here, his research work has led to a greatly expanded understanding of turfgrass rooting, heat and drought stress mechanisms of turfgrasses, and winter overseeding practices. His research on turfgrass stress mechanisms has been a cornerstone of the USGA Research Committee's recent efforts to develop grasses for golf that use less water and exhibit improved stress tolerance. Since moving to Texas A&M, Dr. Beard has become a champion of warm-season grasses and has significantly broadened our understanding of how to manage these grasses on golf courses throughout the southern United States.

Dr. Beard's contributions to turfgrass science and the game of golf are truly international in scope. He has lectured

on every continent where fine turf is grown, and his works have been interpreted into several languages. He also played a major role in establishing the International Turfgrass Society, and organized the First International Turfgrass Research Conference, in 1969. This has evolved into a major international research conference held every four years.

One of the great legacies for golf from Dr. Beard's 30-plus years of educational activities is the hundreds of students now in the turfgrass industry who have gone through his programs. Many of the 25 students who received Masters and Ph.D. degrees from his graduate programs now hold key positions in industry and the academic world and are playing influential roles in training the next generation of turfgrass managers and educators.

It is rare indeed to find an individual whose productivity matches his great abilities. Even a cursory glance at his accomplishments in the fields of research, education, and administration would make it clear to anyone that Dr. James B. Beard is just such an individual.