

From Local Ag Teachers:



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Many people in our industry are very familiar with soils and fertilizers for field crops, but have little or no knowledge of how to establish and maintain a good lawn. Some may have little thought for their lawn, feeling that it doesn't produce income or that its too much work in the already busy spring and fall seasons. A good lawn does increase the value of a property; however, and most people would rather relax on a lawn of luxuriant green grass than one of dandelions and thistles.

To establish a new lawn, the soil should be thoroughly worked up - seed cast on bare hard ground has little chance to germinate, let alone produce a stand of grass. The pre-planting plan also calls for incorporation of lime and fertilizer as indicated by a soil test. Lime moves slowly in the soil so its far more effective when worked in before seeding than when its just thrown on the top of an established lawn. Our soils tend to need extra phosphorus, and the young seedlings are much more demanding of this element than mature grasses.

The type of seed is probably the key to lawn success. Cheap seed is like cheap anything else, not worth much. Look for improved Kentucky bluegrass

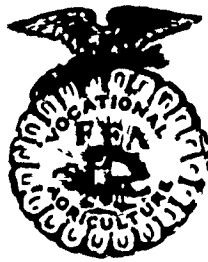
Thoughts
in Passing

such as Victa, Pennlawn, Fylking, Nugget and Syd-sport. These are thicker growing and easier to maintain the common Kentucky bluegrass. In addition, the lower-growing varieties often take less mowing. The new improved fine ryegrasses such as Pennfine, Manhattan, and Game make an excellent addition to a bluegrass mix. They come up quickly to cover mud and stop erosion, add some wearability and look just like bluegrass. For shady areas, blend in some fine fescue, preferably new improved varieties. When reading a seed label, remember that bluegrass seed is much finer than the others. A 50-50 bluegrass-fine rye mix by weight is about 85 percent to 90 percent bluegrass by seed count.

Other points to look for on the label are crop, inert, weeds and noxious weeds. Crop is usually a meadow grass which the seed cleaner couldn't sift out. These are very detracting in a lawn, and very hard to control. Look for a label showing very little or no crop. Inert matter is leaves, stems and other trash, which shouldn't exceed 2 or 3 percent. Weed

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The greatest service you can render someone else is helping him help himself . . . if you see an opportunity in his path; point it out, but let your hand guide, not push him. Remember that the risk is his, and that he who takes it must make the decision.

seed are fairly easy to remove, and usually total 0.1 percent or less. The noxious weeds should all be removed. By using a good, clean seed mix, you can avoid many problems in the future. Some weeds will sprout from seeds already in the ground, but they can readily be controlled. Once the lawn is established, be sure to follow up with regular feedings, and success will be yours.



Hess Bros. eggs scored

HERSHEY — A dozen, medium-sized brown eggs of superb quality broke the perfection barrier in the Northeast to pace the nation's largest market egg show score of 99.90 out of a possible 100 points.

The dozen brown beauties from the Simpson Egg Farms in Winthrop, Me., bearing the brand name of Northeast Quality Eggs, took top honors for the nation's most northeasterly state in a contest dominated by Pennsylvania entries.

Selection and judging was conducted by a panel of egg quality experts prior to the 44th annual convention of the Northeastern Poultry Producers Council (NEPPCO), gathered at the Her-

shey, Pa., Convention Center Oct. 21 through 23. Hundreds of poultry-oriented men and women gathered at the 14-state exposition to take advantage of seminars, youth competitions, women's events and to view the latest in poultry equipment, products and services.

Runner-up entry in the fiercely-contended egg quality event in which more than 200 entries sought the coveted blue ribbon, was an entry of a dozen large white eggs from Hess Bros. Farms, Inc. in Ephrata, Pa., bearing the Pathmark label. It scored 99.85.

Hard on their heels were two dozen medium brown eggs from Simpson Egg Farms, both with scores of

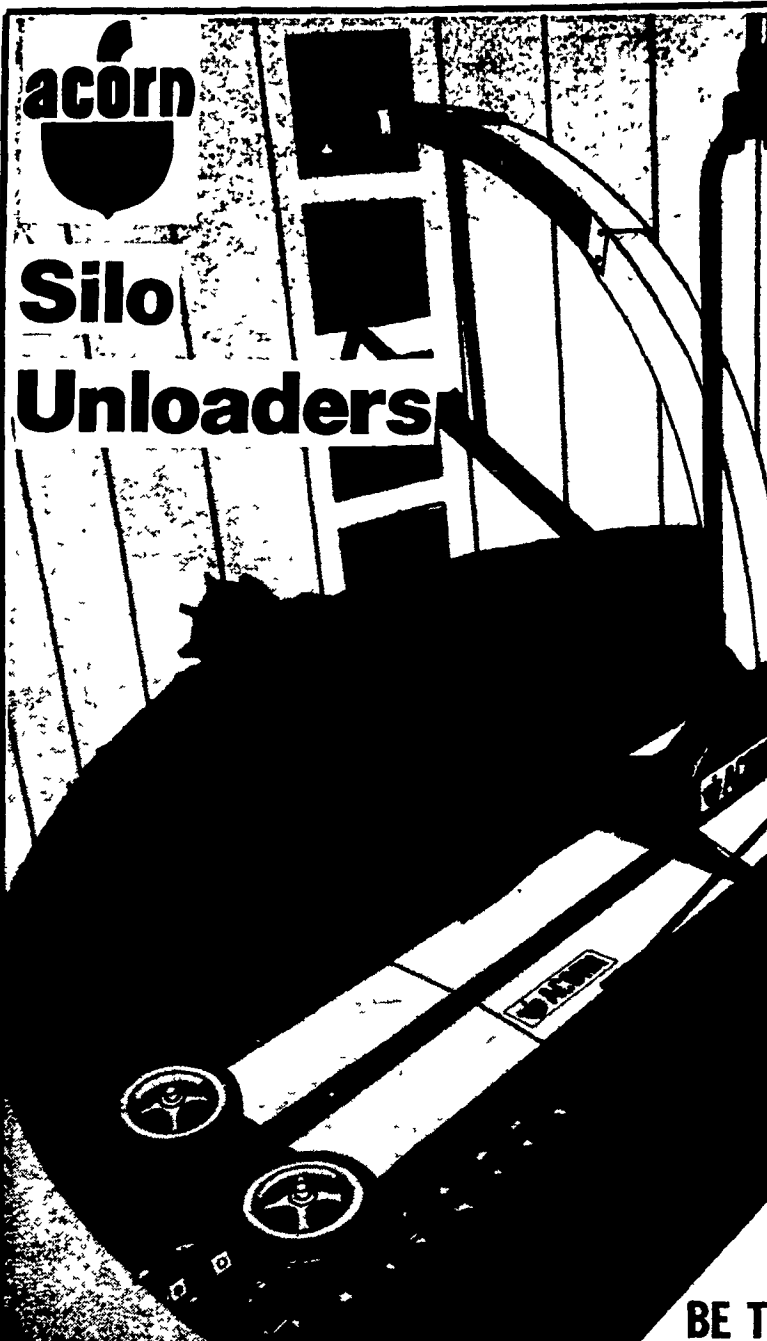
99.80, one bearing the Northeast Associated Grocers label and one bearing the Valley Shore Farms label.

Ranking at the same level were two Pennsylvania entries. A dozen medium whites from Park Products, Inc. Valencia, and a dozen large whites from Robert T. and Robert E. Waltersdorff, York, each scored 99.80.

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A boy who is eager to mow the lawn is usually too young to do it.

xxx
We are judged by what we finish, not what we start.

xxx
Few things are as un-common as common sense.
Kin Hubbard



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