

## JACKLIN TO RELEASE BERMUDA, ZOYSIA SEED

Jacklin Seed Company is planning to enter the warm-season turfgrass market in "the near future" with improved varieties of seeded bermudagrass and zoysiagrass. A research effort led by Jacklin breeder Dr. Douglas Brede has led to the development of bermudagrasses with improved cold tolerance, earlier spring green-up, finer texture and lower growth habit. A number are already in commercial production.

The new bermudagrasses will offer many of the advantages of vegetative hybrid bermudagrasses with the convenience of seed. They are more cold tolerant because they put rhizomes deep into the soil each winter, thus avoiding exposure to cold temperatures. They are best suited to parts of the transition zone where other bermudas have been killed during the winter and cool-season turfgrasses exhibit disease problems.

Gayle Jacklin-Ward says the company has also succeeded in developing seeded varieties of zoysiagrass. A limited supply will be available by 1990 with a good supply by the following year. The new varieties are slow growing, very wear tolerant, dark green in color and tolerate a wider range of pesticides than vegetative varieties.

Zoysiagrass, the warm-season turfgrass most closely resembling Kentucky bluegrass, has only been available to sports

turf managers in this country in slow-to-establish vegetative forms. For years, breeders have been trying to develop

seeded varieties of zoysia so more turf managers could take advantage of the dense, low-growing turfgrass.

## COMISKEY PARK HOSTS BASEBALL INFIELD CLINIC



Roger Bossard explaining infield maintenance during clinic at Comiskey Park.

Roger Bossard, head groundskeeper for the Chicago White Sox, opened the gates to Comiskey Park for 130 sports turf managers in June and presented a demonstration of baseball infield preparation. The clinic was sponsored by Aimcor, manufacturer of Turface clay basepath conditioner.

"In my opinion, major league infields should be composed of 75 percent clay and

25 percent Turface," Bossard told the group, "while recreational parks should mix at a 65:35 ratio."

Bossard has maintained the park for 22 years. He is also a consultant to Soldier Field and will be involved in the construction of a proposed new stadium for the White Sox to be built next to Comiskey Park.

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