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**MSU Endowment Honors Turfgrass Researcher**

James and Harriet Beard are known and respected throughout the U.S. turfgrass development and management arena. Their contributions in education and research helped boost the industry to the success it enjoys today.

Recently, the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences at Michigan State University (MSU) established an endowment to honor their accomplishments. The money will support students who are pursuing doctorates in turfgrass research and management.

Beard is considered one of the industry's pioneers. He retired in 1992 after 30 years of teaching and research at MSU and Texas A&M. He has written three definitive textbooks on turfgrass research, production, and development.

For information about making a contribution to the James B. and Harriet Beard Endowment Fund, write to James Obear, associate director of development, 101 Agriculture Hall, MSU, East Lansing, MI 48824, or call: (517) 432-5179.

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**Lofts Presents Royalty Check**

Lofts Seed recently presented a check for $3,883.30 to Virginia Polytechnic Institute. The check represented 1997 sales of Georgetown Kentucky bluegrass.

Dr. Richard Schmidt was on hand to accept the royalty check from John Brader, branch manager for Lofts Seed in Maryland. "I look forward to presenting the Lofts Seed royalty check to Dr. Schmidt each fall," said Brader, "Virginia Tech's research and the performance of our varieties in Virginia are very important to Lofts. I am glad our customers put us into a position to give back to Virginia Tech."

Since 1984, Lofts has paid a total of $41,195.68 to Virginia Polytech for the bluegrass variety.