of the bulb is covered with a thin layer of absorbent cotton. On this is placed a half-inch layer of 8-mesh ascarite. Above this is placed a 1-inch layer of 20- to 30-mesh ascarite and on top of this another ½-inch layer of 8-mesh ascarite. The remainder of the bulb is now filled with dehydrite to absorb any moisture that might be lost from the ascarite.

Should any precautions in procedure be necessary, they might be taken as follows:

1. Maintain constant air flow through train. The proper rate may be determined by experience.

2. Remove or control flame at the instant chlorine gas begins to evolve in heating flask until reaction ceases.

3. Change the constant-boiling sulfuric acid when necessary, as determined by experience. Used acid may easily be recovered by boiling it sufficiently.

4. Change the chlorine absorbent when the silver sulfate solution indicates presence of chlorides. Fifty ml of this absorbent is usually sufficient for 25 determinations.

The above-described method of determining organic matter in soils gives results which compare very favorably with those produced by the gas or electric combustion furnace, as shown by the data in the accompanying table. Furthermore, determinations can be completed in approximately half of the time required by the combustion furnace method.—M. J. Plice, Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, Stillwater, Okla.; and Jesse Lunin, U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

RIBBED PASPALUM, PASPALUM MALACOPHYLLUM

The first introductions of Paspalum malacophyllum Trin. were made in 1921. F. C. 03490 came in indirectly from Brazil under the name Andropogon scaberrimus (Nees) Kunth, but plants grown from this seed were identified as P. malacophyllum. F. C. 04240 was received from Argentina as P. malacophyllum. They were first grown at McNeill, Miss., in 1924 where they made good growth. In 1929, 10 plants each of F. C. 03490 and F. C. 04240 were sent to Tifton, Ga., and to Gainesville, Fla., where they developed rapidly. They resembled Dallis grass somewhat in growth habit. The preliminary tests indicated that P. malacophyllum is a promising hay and pasture grass, and seed was increased for more extensive tests which began in 1936.

Ribbed paspalum is a perennial, semi-upright, bunch grass growing to a height of 3 to 4 feet, the leaves and stems are fine, being smaller than Dallis grass, with the greater mass of leaves on the lower 12 to 16 inches of the plant. The leaves are hairy and usually yellowish green in color, remaining tender throughout the summer. Many panicles 4 to 5 inches long are produced and one plant may


1Cooperative investigations of the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga.