VELVET bent is becoming one of the most popular grasses for use as putting green turf on golf courses throughout the northern United States. It is also used for fine lawns and other types of grass areas. The production of velvet bent seed is a very recent development and the best conditions of soil fertility have not been known. Considerable velvet bent seed is now being produced in Rhode Island.

Very little experimental work has been reported with regard to the production of bent grass seed. North and Odland studied the influence of different fertilizer mixtures on the yield of Rhode Island Colonial bent seed. The fertilizers consisted of various proportions of nitrogen, phosphoric acid, and potash. The ratios included in the test varied in the amounts of each fertilizer element applied. The yield of seed was influenced chiefly by the amount of nitrogen applied, whereas phosphorus and potash had little effect. With high applications of phosphoric acid and potash without a corresponding application of nitrogen, the yields were depressed. Lodging occurred with high applications of nitrogen. Time of maturity and weight per bushel of seed did not vary to any appreciable extent between the various treatments. Liming had only a slight tendency to increase the yields.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Seed of Piper velvet bent, produced the preceding year at the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, was planted in rows 1 foot apart on an area of the experimental plats on September 20, 1935. The rows were cultivated once with a wheelhoe during the last of October.

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