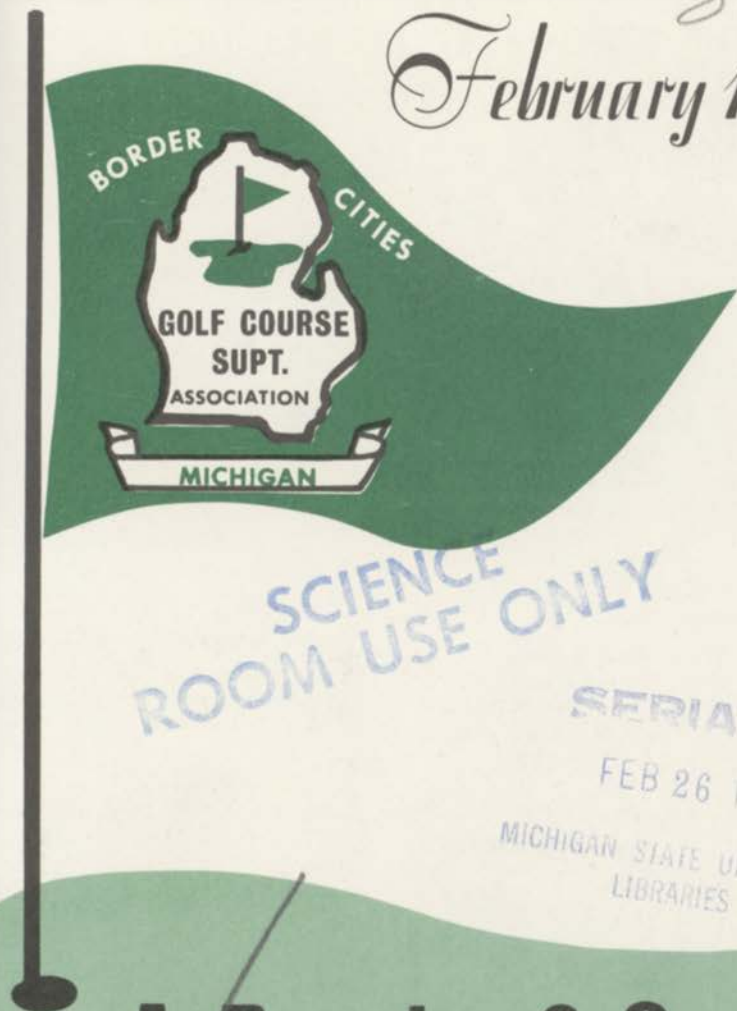


*Si'*  
February 1974



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Official Publication of the  
Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association

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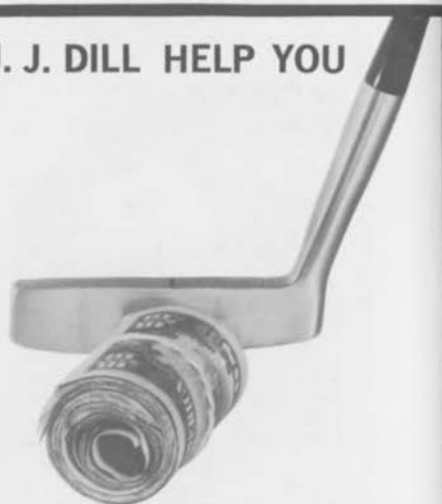
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## "A Patch of Green"

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# Christmas Party



*President Gerald Gill and his wife, Mary — this is the couple responsible for our Christmas Party. Thanks for a great time.*

Sixty couples attended the annual Christmas party held at Edgewood Country Club. Host, Ken McRae and his beautiful wife, Elizabeth, really outdid their usual fine effort. The large hot snack table set up during the cocktail hour was outstanding. As usual the meal and the dancing music was great. It appeared that all in attendance enjoyed themselves.

Chairman Gerald Gill and his wife, Mary, are to be congratulated for the fine job of making all of the arrange-

ments for the party. Everything ran so smoothly that not one complaint was heard. We were honored with the presence of three of our "First Ladies." Mrs. George Prieskorn, Mrs. John Gray, and Mrs. Bittner, all wives of deceased members of the Association graced our party with their attendance. We are always happy to see these women. Mrs. Bittner says that she has been coming to our Christmas party for over thirty years.

*Right: Mr. & Mrs. Bud Hooper enjoying a break at the party.*



*Below: L to R; Mrs. George Prieskorn, Mrs. John Gray, Mrs. Bittner, three of our honored guests attending the party.*



# A Word from the Golf Association of Michigan

Many of you may not be aware of the fact that the Golf Association of Michigan established a Pension Trust and a Master Pension Plan for the use of member Clubs.

By joining the GAM plan the Clubs are able to take advantage of the economy involved through combined investments under one trust. There is only one fee charged although each Club will still have separate accounting of their assets.

It is more advantageous for an employee to be under a formal plan than to try to accomplish retirement on his own. The contributions under this plan are not currently taxable to the employee and the funds also have the additional advantage of growing free of current tax.

You may want to make your Club aware of the services and plans available through the GAM. It is much better for a Club to have a formal plan of retirement and to begin to fund it now than to try to solve the problem of retiring employees when they actually reach retirement age.

More and more Clubs are recognizing the responsibility of preparing for the orderly retirement of their employees and more and more employees are looking for their employers to provide such benefits.

Further information is available through the GAM or by writing;

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# GCSAA



## Open House

Opening ceremonies for the new national headquarters of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) on Saturday, January 12 in Lawrence, Kansas was attended by nearly 300 people, including Kansas Governor Robert B. Docking, U.S. Senator Robert Dole, Lawrence Mayor Nancy Hambleton, nine Association Past Presidents and the current Executive Committee.

The day's activities included a pre-showing for members in the morning, as well as a public showing in the afternoon with official welcomes to Kansas and Lawrence, a dedication plaque unveiling and a ribbon cutting. The building remained open for public tours until 4 PM.

Members from 14 states and Canada were on hand for the festivities which marked the opening of the first solely-owned facility for the Association in its 47-year history.

### SUNNY BUT COLD

Sunny skies prevailed in the afternoon, but because of a record setting cold wave which had blanketed the area

with up to a foot of snow, most of the ceremonies were held inside. The large afternoon crowd filled the foyer and hallway of the 6,000 square-foot building to overflowing as the ceremonies began at 1:15 PM.

Welcoming speeches by Governor Docking, Senator Dole and Mayor Hambleton, and a response by GCSAA President Clifford Wagoner of Modesto, California preceeded the plaque unveiling and ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Association Executive Director Conrad Scheetz opened the official afternoon ceremony by introducing President Wagoner, who in turned asked the Reverend Norman Steffen, Chairman of the Douglas County Ministerial Alliance to lead the invocation.

Following the invocation, President Wagoner introduced the Past Presidents, Executive Committee and national representatives from the Professional Golfers Association, Club Managers Association of America

Continued on Page 17

## **President Gill Announces Committee Chairmen**

The following men were appointed  
Chairmen of these committees:

Education - Bill Milne

Arrangements - Don LaFond

Golf - George Prieskorn

By-Laws - To be announced

Publicity - Ted Woehrle

Membership - Al Kaltz

Christmas Party - Gerald Gill

Golf Day - Chairman, Glem Wolfrom  
and Co-Chairman, Roger Gill and Jim  
Vlassis

Patch of Green - Editor, Ted Woehrle  
and Asst. Editors, George Prieskorn  
and Bill Milne

The Chairmen of these Committees  
ask for your support and assistance  
during the coming year. Please give  
freely of your time if asked to help.  
Volunteer any time for any of the  
above committees if you feel inclined.  
This is a joint effort of the entire  
membership.

If you feel that you qualify for a  
change in membership classification  
please notify the Secretary, Bob Hope.  
He will make the necessary arrange-  
ments. This holds true for the National  
Association, too. You must notify  
headquarters of any classification  
requests.

## **MBCGCSA Check Presented to Michigan Turfgrass Foundation**

President Gerald Gill presented the  
Michigan Turfgrass Foundation with a  
check for \$6,623.94 at the 44th turf-  
grass conference on January 15, 1974.  
This money was raised at our annual  
golf day outing held at Bay Pointe  
Golf Club back in September. Details  
of the entire Conference will appear  
in the March issue of the Patch of  
Green.

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## What's in Store for '74?

To attempt to predict the future is presumptuous at best; at worst, an exercise in sheer fantasy. As this is being written, the energy crisis is much with us as so is Watergate, and the war in the Middle East may or may not be over with. How these and other situations will be resolved no one can be sure. Nevertheless, some of the broad outlines of 1974 are visible, for many of the forces that will affect the future have been set in motion.

As to the new clothes we will wear, the energy crisis will severely limit the production of nylon, polyester and other synthetic fibers. It is back to cotton and woolen material to keep us clothed. The cars we will drive will be determined again by the availability of fuel. Most of the goods and services we will utilize through the coming year for the most part have been predetermined by production and planning schedules set up months and in some instances years in advance.

With these production schedules set up many months in advance, now it will be important to have a larger supply of spare parts on hand, because of the difficulty of the local distributor getting delivery from the manufacturer. In the future, it may become necessary to order new equipment six months in advance to ensure delivery when needed.

Although this is just one problem turfgrass managers and Golf Course Superintendents can expect to face in '74, many more "supply-demand" and availability problems will have to be dealt with, such as the possible

shortage of fuel, seed and fertilizer. However, be optimistic; think positive and look at the advantages derived from the difficulty in obtaining fuel, such as less cart traffic that will cause less wear and damage to the course.

Since the golfer will want the course mowed and maintained in the style and manner to which he has become accustomed, it will be necessary to use the available fuel for the mowers, tractors and other power equipment; not for the carts. However, should the golfer still insist on using a cart, it may be time to start looking for a team of draft horses. After all, horses have the added benefit of supplying fertilizer! An alternate solution may be to provide a horse for every member and let them ride, thereby inventing a new form of recreation called "golo" or "polf" - a combination of golf and polo.

With the lack of fuel, the golfers may not show up at the course in an attempt to save the fuel allowance for other trips. Of course, it is also possible that the golfer will show up early in the morning and stay all day, playing upwards of 27 to 36 holes!

Since most nitrogen is produced with the use of fuel, it is only natural to expect a decline in the production and availability of fertilizer. Think of the advantages of fertilizing less; the growth rate will slow down, thereby requiring less mowing. Less growth, less mowing means less gas needed to keep the equipment running; the Domino theory will be in action on the course. Just see how the shortage of a commodity, whether it be fuel, fertili-

Continued on Page 18



# We Know Agrico 18-5-9 Can Improve Your Fairways. And We'll Go To Any Links To Prove It!

We know Agrico Country Club Fertilizer can improve fairways. Because it feeds more efficiently to help build pusher turf—turf that will approach your greens in quality.

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Formulated with moderate-size granules, Agrico 18-5-9 can be spin-spread faster and more accurately. Once spread, 18-5-9's power-feeding formula makes your fairway turf uniformly thicker. This helps "keep the ball high on every lie" and gives your golfers better fairway shots.

Because 18-5-9 is high in nitrogen content, you need fewer bags for normal fertilization. A real savings when you've got 40 to 65 acres of fairways.

The nitrogen is derived from organic as well as quick green-up sources. Five units of nitrogen are in water insoluble form to keep your turf greener—longer.

Higher potash content, one-third from sulphate, makes turf so resilient that it resists tracking—even under heavy traffic conditions. Five units of phosphorus will maintain, but not increase soil levels.

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To prove that Agrico can improve your fairways, we'll go to any links. Complete the coupon below and we'll come to you—with a free product demonstration. We'll prove beyond a doubt the effectiveness of Agrico's 18-5-9 formula for fairways. And we'll fill you in on Agrico's full line of dependable course-care products.

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# Beman to Run Pro Golf Tour

Deane Beman, recently named commissioner-elect of the Tournament Players Division of the Professional Golfers Association, takes control of the multi-million dollar golf tour with the game facing a multitude of changes and challenges.

Beman, a 35-year-old former touring professional, broadly hints that changes in the conduct of the tour will be forthcoming - but they won't be immediate, drastic or dramatic.

"We're looking at the 1974 season as a period of taking stock, of experimentation, of finding out just where we're going and what we want to do," Beman said.

"We have a number of programs we want to look into. But I want to emphasize that I'm not wedded to any of them. If we find a particular program won't fit our needs, we won't stay with it.

"I want to remain flexible."

Beman will take over, sometime after the end of February, from Joe Day, the 66-year-old former head of the U.S. Golf Association who took the post as commissioner of the TPD when the organization was born out of the bitterness and frustration of a long,

complex power struggle with the PGA's club pros.

"I'm very glad to be taking over at the time I am," Beman said. We've got an established, smooth-running organization.

Beman comes to the job with one credential that is unmatched for a commissioner of a major professional sport - he has actual playing experience.

The 5-foot-7, 150-pounder won three national titles as an amateur before turning professional seven years ago. In that time, he won almost \$400,000 and four titles.

As such, he knows the game from the player's standpoint.

"Golf is the only major sport in the world that is controlled by the people who play the game," he said. I'm pleased and proud to be coming to the job from - and through - the players.

"I think it's only fitting that a player be chosen for the job."

"A drunk put a dime in a parking meter, watched the needle go to 50, and said, 'Oh, my gosh! I lost 100 pounds.'"

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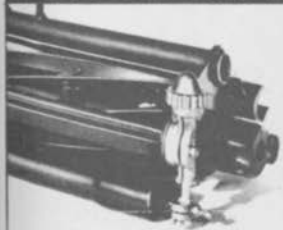


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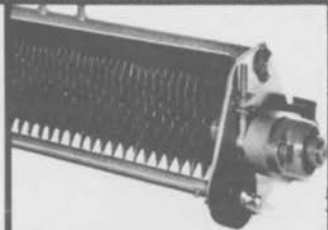
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**Or you may contact the next golf course supplier who calls on you and give him the information needed for application.**

# Energy and your Operation

This is no spot to elaborate on the causes of the high prices and the shortages that we all face due to the energy crisis and its many ramifications. Just pick up any newspaper and get a different slant on it every day. Whether we like it or not, it's here and will be here until something a whole lot better comes along.

On a practical basis, however, there are some things we golf course supers can do to temporarily head off some inconveniences in our jobs and in our personal lives. It behooves us to give a great deal of thought to this problem and its seriousness. Get all the facts you can and plan for the worst - remember the old adage - "better to be safe than sorry".

It may already be too late to beat the high prices on fertilizers, seeds and many other supplies, but you had better stay abreast of the availability and cost of these items or you'll be in for a big surprise when it comes time to order. Plan way ahead!

Think about the frequencies of performing certain operations on your course and their relationship to fuel consumption. It'd be better to mow fairways once a week all month than

to mow five times a week for the first two weeks then run out of gasoline! (You think your golfers complain about your fairways at one inch, try 'em at six!)

Make a chart showing the estimated daily consumption of each of your machines, expand it to a weekly and monthly chart and compare it to what your gasoline supplier estimates he can deliver.

Your members may need to be informed that certain operations may not be performed as often as in the past and to expect it. If gasoline is scarce enough that people can't get out of town for recreation, we should expect more golfers - be ready.

Some of our new labor saving machines may necessarily be replaced by hand labor. Be realistic, many operations must be done by machine, but count how many tasks on your course could be done by hand to conserve your supply of gasoline. Trap raking, hand sickling, walking instead of riding, etc.

You may want to consider growing your turf at lower levels of nutrition and irrigation to save some on your

Continued on Page 16

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"Because of these laws of many kinds I am compelled to pay taxes - a business tax, amusement tax, head tax, bank tax, school tax, gas tax, light tax, water tax, sales tax, excise tax, auto tax, phone tax, sewer tax, garbage tax, fire tax, highway tax and three kinds of income tax - federal, state and city.

"These laws also require me to get licenses at varying fees for my small meat store - a business license, refrigeration license, retailers' license, sanitation license, inspection license, weighers' license, dairy license, carter's license, delivery truck license and interstate deliverer's

license. I bought two licenses voluntarily, a marriage license and a dog license.

"My trade association insists that I contribute to causes. I have given to the Red Cross, Community Chest, United Fund, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Brownies, Salvation Army, Heart Fund, Cerebral Palsy Fund, Muscular Dystrophy Fund, Child Care Center, Old Folks' Center, Fund for the Blind, Fund for the Indigent, four hospitals, four churches, one synagogue and two volunteer fire companies.

"I have one employee. I must pay his Blue Cross, Blue Shield, unemployment compensation, workmen's compensation, Social Security, Retirement Pension Fund, and company life insurance premiums.

"For the sake of my bank, my creditors and my business, I am required by law to carry life insurance, property insurance, liability insurance, burglar insurance, fire insurance, accident insurance, windstorm, flood and earthquake insurance and freezer-loss insurance.

"I must pay these premiums promptly or my insurance coverage, like my electricity, will be turned off.

Continued on Page 16

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## Energy & Your Operation Cont.

mowing operations. We may see some sacrifices made in turf quality depending on the individual situation.

Good gasoline records, locking gas caps, and any other measures to prevent theft from your machines or gas pumps might be worth the small cost and effort involved. Have you considered additional gasoline storage tanks?

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that it runs more efficiently and uses less gasoline.

As you hire your summer help, maybe you should consider how close the applicant lives to your course. Maps for car pools, motorcycles, bicycles, and walking may become popular.

Too pessimistic? "It's not going to be that bad", you say? Some predictions say we're in an era of untold turmoil. In either case, don't be caught saying you didn't know. Look long and hard for the solutions long before the problems arise!

Larry Eggleston

Conserve fuel - use human energy.

## American Life Cycle Cont.

"I am inspected, suspected, and disrespected, and though I am bled white while maintaining a constant flow of money to other people, there simply does not seem to be enough to go around.

"Please do not turn off my electricity, for due to a miraculous stroke of good fortune, you will get your money. While chopping out a loin of pork this morning, I was lucky enough to miss and completely sever my thumb. It was insured. The money will arrive next week, at which time I will endorse the check and forward it to you.

"I shall be grateful for your patience.

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### GCSAA Open House Cont.

and the United States Golf Association. He also acknowledged the presence of the Association's architects and general contractor.

#### OFFICIAL WELCOMES

Recognizing the golf course superintendents as scientists and specialists of the highest order, Governor Docking said in his welcoming address that he was very pleased Kansas had been selected for the Association's national headquarters. He cited the central geographical location of the state and several other advantages which have attracted other national groups to Kansas. He concluded by GCSAA's presence further demonstrates the high caliber of organizations headquartered in Kansas.

Senator Dole reiterated the Governor's welcome to the state and noted that golfing is one of the few sports which has not required national regulatory legislation. He added that

he wished every area of the professional and amateur sports world could conduct itself in a similar manner.

With the total concurrence of the Lawrence City Council, Mayor Hambleton proclaimed Saturday, January 12 as "Golf Course Superintendents' Day." In her welcoming remarks she expressed her intent to assist the Association in any way possible and hoped that the headquarters staff and their families would find Lawrence a pleasant city in which to live. She also said that she was happy to add the Association to the local business community.

#### UNVEIL PLAQUE

President Wagoner thanked each of the officials for their welcomes and stated that the Association was pleased to be in Lawrence and hoped that the cooperative relationship and hospitality which had been displayed so far would develop even further. He

Next Page

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**GCSAA Open House Cont.**

then asked the three officials to join him in unveiling the dedication plaque.

The 10 by 18 inch cast bronze plaque, which will be mounted at the entry way of the building read, "Home of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Dedicated January 12, 1974."

Following the unveiling, all of the dignitaries assembled outside, between the center columns of the projected roof and cut a three-inch wide green ribbon, officially marking the opening of the building, and the conclusion of the ceremonies.

**HONOR PAST PRESIDENTS**

GCSAA Past Presidents were honored by the Executive Committee and other Association members during the member only pre-showing and continental breakfast from 10 AM to noon. Chester Mendenhall of Overland Park, Kansas, who was President from 1941 to 1945 was the earliest President in attendance. Others on hand were Ray H. Gerber, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 1950; Elmer G. Border, Trazana, California, 1959; Sherwood A. Moore, Darien Connecticut, 1962; David S. Moote, Windsor, Ontario, Canada, 1964; L. R. "Bob" Shields, Rockville, Maryland, 1965; Walter R. Boysen, Santa Rosa, California, 1967; James W. Brandt, Danville, Illinois, 1968; and John J. Spodnik, Westfield Center, Ohio, 1969. These nine men represented the Association's 21 Living Past Presidents.

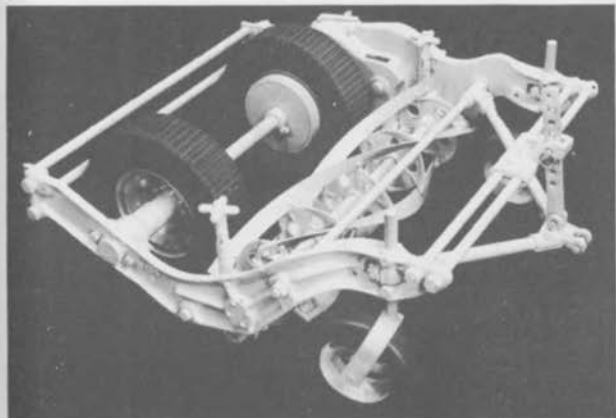
**Carl's Comments Cont.**

zer or equipment, affects our life on the golf course.

The year 1973 will go down in the history book of turfgrass management as "twelve months of miserable weather." Should the production problems continue as they have begun, the year 1974 may be recorded as "the year of the shortages."

# ROSEMAN HI-CUT

HEAVY-DUTY REEL • REAR DRIVE MOWERS



ROSEMAN HI-CUT gang mowers with large heavy-duty 4-bladed reels are designed to withstand the rugged demands of tall grass mowing to more efficiently and safely mow dense, thick, deep turf, and to give a better finished appearance.

Roseman rear-drive design, with drive wheels located behind the reel, hugs the ground and eliminates bob-

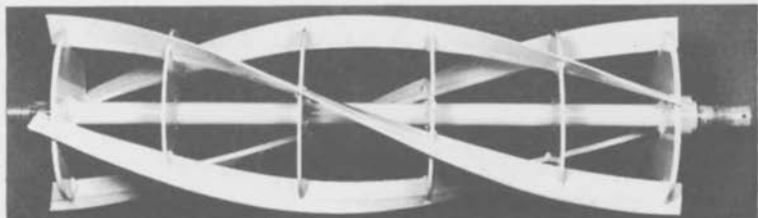
bing of cutting reel. Mowing speeds can be considerably increased with all grass cut uniformly.

Roseman rear-drive designs also trim over curbs and shrubbery beds and close to obstructions. Savings in hand labor and small trimming equipment are tremendous. Appearance greatly improved at no extra cost.

Roseman Mowers operate safely at low RPM's and do not throw debris with missile force and potential danger to tractor operators and passers-by. Roseman gang mowers offer maximum possible safety while mowing.

Greater capacity, an improved mowing job, elimination of hand trimming, heavy-duty quality construction and the built-in safety of ROSEMAN HI-CUT mowers, assure you of efficiency, economies and safety available with no other mower.

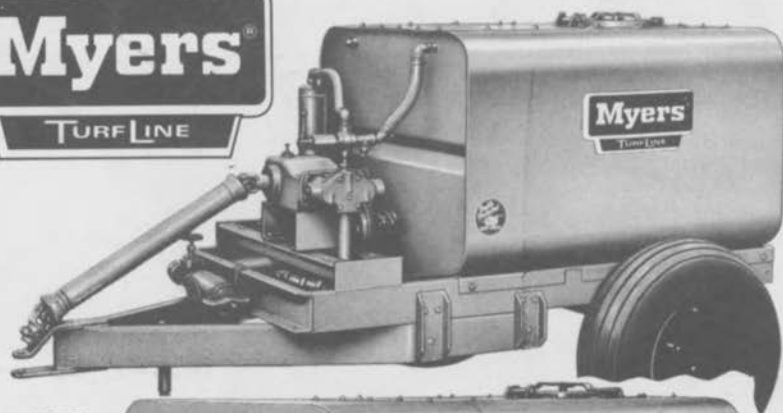
Roseman heavy-duty 10" 4-blade reel. Tough chrome-nickel alloy reel blades assure trouble-free service. Large diameter and fewer reel blades top seed heads and cut high grass.



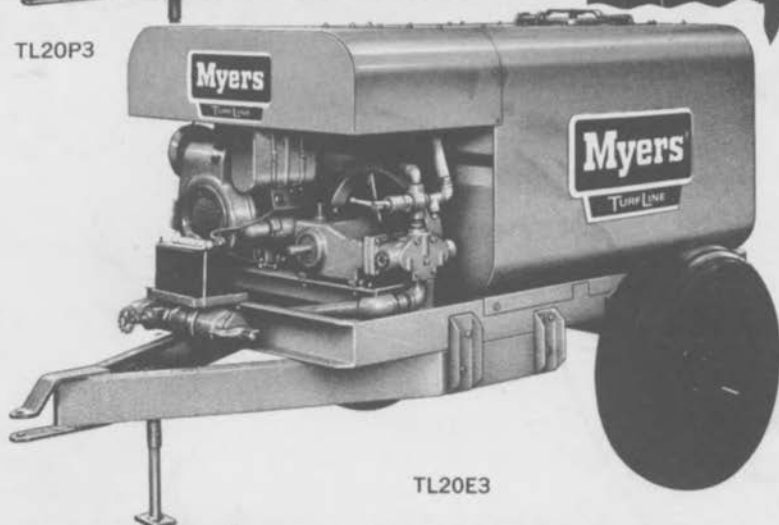
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