

(B) RECOMMENDED SIMPLE FIELD TESTS ON FERTILIZERS FOR TURF

The Committee on Roadside Development has received inquiries as to types of fertilizers available for turf production on highways and airfields, and regarding rates of application recommended for these fertilizers. Research is needed before accurate recommendations can be made particularly concerning rates of application for various grasses and on varying soils in the several climatic regions.

In order to conserve strategic materials and to use them to the greatest possible advantage the Committee offers the following outline of a simple field fertilizer research method which can be applied on road shoulders, lawns, athletic or airfields or elsewhere where turf is to be established or having been established must be maintained.

These instructions for establishing Test Section for fertilizing turf are suggested as a guide to State Highway Departments, Experiment Stations and other agencies in maintaining reasonable uniformity of test methods so that results obtained in one locality can be compared and checked with information obtained in another locality.

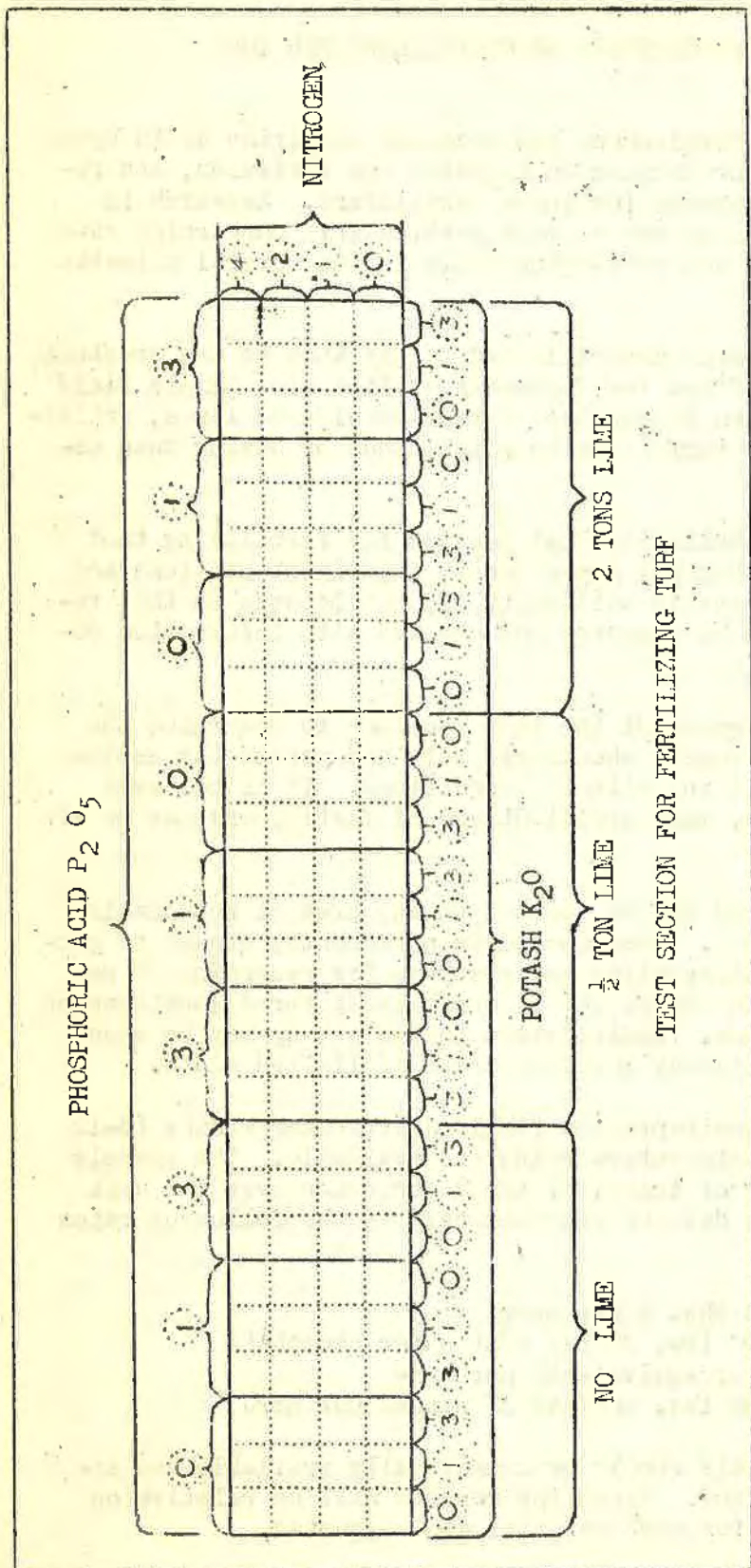
1. PURPOSE: It is the purpose of the test sections to determine the relative requirements of lime, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash for establishment of turf under various soil and climatic conditions. It is believed that, through the medium of tests, more efficient use of fertilizers may be effected.

2. LOCATION: Test sections may be located on any area of reasonably uniform soil and moisture conditions. They should be permanently marked to permit ready location for periodical inspection and check-up for recording of results. Test plots as diagrammed should be set up on at least three locations on major representative soil conditions. Modification in the set up may be made where test checks are located on highway shoulder areas of limited width.

3. APPLICATION: The strips represent single distributor widths (8-12 feet) using ordinary fertilizer distributors which are available. The symbols 0, 1, 2, etc. represent the number of trips, of the distributor over the unit designated with the machine set to deliver approximately at the following rates for single trips:

Nitrogen (1)	= 20 lbs. N per acre
Phosphoric acid (1)	= 200 lbs. 20 per cent super phosphate (or equivalent) per acre
Potash (1)	= 100 lbs. muriate of potash per acre

4. MATERIALS: All materials should be commercially available and accurately described in the test record. Since the results will be relative on each test area, no specifications for each material are suggested.



5. TIME OF APPLICATION: Materials may be applied to test sections prior to initial seeding or on established turf.
6. READINGS: Result readings will be made preferably once each month and will be based upon density of turf growth and suitability for use on shoulders or equivalent areas. Results should be recorded as percentages of 100. The best plot should be assigned a value of 100 and all others scaled down in proportion on a relative basis.
7. PHOTOGRAPHS: "Before" and "After" views of the test areas will be of value in reporting results. The use of a yellow (lens) filter is suggested when photographs are taken.