SMART MANAGEMENT

In a profession where growth is an essential prerequisite for quality work and happy customers the last thing greenkeepers want or need is low or, even, no growth. Growth is an absolute necessity for the health of the turf and the development of smooth, true playing surfaces.

Out in the wider world of business the same rule applies. Very low or no growth in the national economy spells trouble for all. The recent recession and the current austerity measures illustrate the point well. More unemployment, less disposable income and less corporate hospitality all add up to less golf being played and less income for golf clubs. This, of course, does not apply in all cases as there are golf clubs in recession time = 108 man-hours

Material purchases can be an area where greenkeepers tend to follow what for them has been a successful formula year on year and there is a reluctance to change greatly from it. This is the entirely understandable ‘if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it’ syndrome. For this reason it tends to be the last area to look for savings, apart from ensuring you get quality products at the best price from suppliers. However, areas to look at might be:

• Reduction of the intensity of pest control
• Spot treating or individually treating turf areas for weeds, pests, diseases and wetting agent
• Similarly as already mentioned above in the materials budget
• Spot treating or individually treating turf areas for weeds, pests, diseases and wetting agent
• Topdressing makes up the major part of the greens budget. If asked to make savings in the materials budget we could find:

Reducing topdressing for greens to 50 tonnes @£46.00 per tonne for this year only = £2,300.00. This results in a budget saving on greens of approximately 20%. This will slow down progress on soil exchange and improved surface drainage targets, but will not cause lasting damage as long as we return to optimum dressing quantities when funds become available.

Alternatively you may decide that maintaining the greens topdressing is imperative and decide not to put forward this proposal and instead consider as a last resort. It is then a case of listing each area of the course and all operations carried out. It is easier to do this in two separate blocks of April to September and October to March as the work carried out in these periods is quite different. For each block state the man-hours it takes and multiply it by the number of times it is done.

eg. Triplex mowing greens (April to September) = 1 man x 3.5 hours x 120 times = £420 man-hours.

Topdressing greens (April to September) = 3 men x 6 hours x 8 times = £108 man-hours

Add the totals for the two six month periods together to get the total annual man-hours required to maintain the course.

The result of this exercise should clearly show that all staff are gainfully employed and any cuts will have severe consequences for the course. Having these facts and figures to hand will greatly strengthen your position in any negotiations on staffing levels.

Weekly time sheets are also very useful in justifying these figures and clearly showing the work carried out. Staff should be encouraged to see the benefit of having a record of the work they do. It is also prudent to discuss with the staff any financial pressure and remind them that their importance to the club will be all the more apparent if they are multi-skilled and fully professional in their attitude. Taking on new skills and training will increase their value and their work opportunities for the future.

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applications where they may not be strictly necessary can be very wasteful of resources and money.

- Fertiliser rates may be historic and therefore it could be worthwhile suggesting experimentation with reduced rates as a trial. High fertiliser rates on large areas such as fairways eat up the cash. It is important to be sure that this is strictly necessary.

Reducing excessive growth may also have knock-on effects in reducing fuel bills, machinery wear, fungicide requirement and the need for expenditure on PGRs.

Machinery

In difficult financial times the machinery replacement budget is often the first to be hit. Greenkeepers are asked to make machinery last just one more year but this can be costly in repairs and downtime and can lead to a serious decline in the fleet, which can prove even more expensive to rectify the following year.

- Dealers should be asked for competitive tenders for hire purchase, lease hire or contract hire as these are essential in offering the club an alternative funding strategy.

- Rather than replacing machines, which are used less frequently, it may prove cheaper simply to hire them until funds for purchase become available. Another alternative might be to purchase such machines by agreement with one or two other clubs in the local area for multi-site use.

- Suppliers should also be asked for all figures related to repairs and running costs as this should be a serious consideration, more especially as fuel costs continue to rise.

As an example, where funds simply are not available to replace a ride-on fairway mower, which needs extensive costly repair, then it might be worthwhile costing out a tractor-mounted hydraulic, or set of gangs towed by a tractor which is currently standing idle most of the summer.

While these machines are not as efficient as ride-on mowers, they are much cheaper both to purchase and to run and produce a good, and in some cases better finish.

They are also much easier and cheaper to maintain and if cash flow is the problem they may fill a gap, which your club may appreciate. Such alternatives, while not ideal, may greatly reduce the necessity to look for savings elsewhere in the budget such as staffing levels.

Course Improvements programme

Course improvements eg new tees, tree planting schemes or bunker refurbishment should not take funding priority over basic maintenance of the main playing surfaces. It is not for Course Managers to decide this but it is important to make the case so that all are aware of the consequences of building new tees, which you then do not have the resources to maintain properly. Some may not see it this way but they may thank you later for pointing it out even though it may seem obvious to you. Spreading time and money on a conservatory when the house is falling down is not good business.

Serious budget reductions can be made by doing course improvements in-house, as opposed to contracting out. The cost of training staff and hiring machines or purchasing used machines is soon recouped with construction works coming in at a half to two-thirds less than the contracted out price. There is the additional benefit that staff derive greater satisfaction from learning and practising new skills and completing a whole job rather than tidying up behind others.

Don’t forget

Staff are the main asset in any organisation. You can have the best school facilities in the world but if you do not have enough well-trained, qualified teachers the kids will learn nothing, so budget reductions should be aimed at those areas which will least affect the course and have minimal long-term detriment.

If asked to produce 10% savings, aim to produce 15% and offer several ways of achieving this.

- Be clear, by explaining in writing, the consequences of any proposed reduction and in stating the need to return to optimum budget levels as funds become available.

- Matching budgets to income can be a stimulating, creative and rewarding endeavour. Remain positive. Some of the best quality courses have historically been run on a shoestring. This could be why they are some of the best quality courses.

Kerran Daly MG, is Senior Consultant for Greensward Sports Consultancy

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**Instrata**

The power of three actives provides fast, year round curative and preventative disease control at your fingertips. Instrata is the simple one-product solution to keep ‘on the shelf.’
Rob Clare is the former Course Manager at Skipton Golf Club and current Course Manager at Brough Golf Club in Humberside. In July 2010 he graduated from Myerscough College as top student on the Turf Science course and was nominated to attend Jacobsen’s Future Turf Managers programme in the USA.

In this short article he describes his trip to North Carolina.

Back in the summer of 2010, I graduated from Myerscough College with a Foundation Degree in Turf Science. It had been a challenging three years, as I had been a part-time student whilst fulfilling my role as head greenkeeper of Skipton Golf Club. A few weeks before graduation, I received a letter telling me I had won the Ransomes Jacobsen Cup for best part-time student in my cohort. I was really taken aback and with great delight that I learned I’d been nominated for an all-expenses-paid trip to the USA. I was off to Charlotte in North Carolina on Jacobsen’s Future Turf Managers programme and I was privileged to be the first European student to be invited.

I was going to their head office and manufacturing facility where I would meet up with 27 students from American colleges who had been recommended by their professors as being top level candidates with great prospects of becoming future leaders in the turf care industry. Since its inception back in the 1970s, over 700 students have participated in the programme.

So, in the middle of May I flew out to America where I was to experience a fantastic four day programme, which was both educational and fun. We worked hard throughout, starting each day at 6.30am with breakfast then onto a coach for the day’s scheduled events.

We began with a tour of the facilities at the two Jacobsen plants in Charlotte, experiencing the production process of mowers and utility vehicles from raw steel and component parts to the finished product. This was followed by classroom presentations by Roch Gaussoin, Professor of Horticulture at the University of Nebraska and Steve Randall, Senior Manager, Chapter Outreach at the GCSAA. After lunch we re-boarded the bus for the short drive to the Quail Hollow Club, where Course Superintendent, Jeff Kent, explained how he prepared for the recently completed Wells Fargo PGA Tour Championship and the reinstatement he was doing following the tournament. We were then able to ride and drive a selection of Jacobsen equipment on a dedicated area of the course.

In the evening we were taken to a local kart racing track for rest and relaxation, but in America everything is competitive, so it was a great night racing karts in teams in a Le Mans type endurance race.

The following day we again boarded the bus immediately after breakfast and drove a couple of hours south into South Carolina, for a visit to Sage Valley Golf Club in Graniteville.

The story goes that the owner was refused membership just over the state line at Augusta National, so having made his fortune as the builder of virtually every Walmart store in the USA, he decided to construct his own course that would rival its illustrious neighbour. The course at Sage Valley is incredible and we were fortunate to walk the course with Chuck Green, the highly entertaining Superintendent at this ultra-exclusive private members’ club.

He doesn’t allow rotary mowers anywhere on the course, so the mower is mown with cylinder mowers and as you would expect, it’s immaculate as is the whole complex. After a buffet lunch and tour of his greenkeeping facility we got back on the coach heading for the state capitol, Columbia.

Here we visited to the sports facilities at the University of South Carolina. They are known as the Gamecocks and we toured the new baseball stadium and the hugely impressive 80,000-seat football stadium with Clark Cox, Field Manager. He explained the techniques he uses to maintain the different playing surfaces at both venues.

We spent the early evening at a local bistro in Columbia, before returning to the hotel in Charlotte. Some of the group went to bed and some didn’t!

The final day saw a later start allowing us to look around Charlotte. The story goes that the owner of the course was refused membership just over the state line at Augusta National, so having made his fortune as the builder of virtually every Walmart store in the USA, he decided to construct his own course that would rival its illustrious neighbour.

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The final day saw a later start with a mid-morning brunch and presentation of certificates of attendance and a complimentary one-year subscription to the GCSAA, courtesy of Jacobsen. Jacobsen’s President, Dan Wilkinson, presented the certificates and in a closing speech thanked us for our attendance and wished us well for the future.

Overall it was a fantastic experience; we were looked after extremely well by all of the Jacobsen staff and although we worked hard, Jacobsen also made sure we were well entertained in the evenings.

I would like to thank Jacobsen for the great opportunity this trip provided, it was a real learning experience and good friends were made. It certainly made the last three years worth all the hard work!
Rob Clare is the former Course Manager at Skipton Golf Club and current Course Manager at Brough Golf Club in Humberside. In July 2010 he graduated from Myerscough College as top student on the Turf Science course and was nominated to attend Jacobsen's Future Turf Managers programme in the USA. In this short article he describes his trip to North Carolina. Back in the summer of 2010, I graduated from Myerscough College with a Foundation Degree in Turf Science. It had been a challenging three years, as I had been a part-time student whilst fulfilling my role as head greenkeeper of Skipton Golf Club. A few weeks before graduation, I received a letter telling me I had won the Ransomes Jacobsen Cup for a fantastic four day programme, which was both educational and fun. We worked hard throughout, starting each day at 6.30am with breakfast then onto a coach for the day’s scheduled events. We began with a tour of the facilities at the two Jacobsen plants in Charlotte, experiencing the production process of mowers and utility vehicles from raw steel and component parts to the finished product. This was followed by classroom presentations by Roch Gaussoin, Professor of Horticulture at the University of Nebraska and Steve Randall, Senior Manager, Chapter Outreach at the GCSAA. After lunch we re-boarded the bus for the short drive to the Quail Hollow Club, where Course Superintendant, Jeff Kent, explained how he prepared for the recently completed Wells Fargo PGA Tour Championship and the reinstatement he was doing following the tournament. We were then able to ride and drive a selection of Jacobsen equipment on a dedicated area of the course. In the evening we were taken to a local kart racing track for rest and relaxation, but in America everything is competitive, so it was a great night racing karts in teams in a Le Mans type endurance race. The following day we again boarded the bus immediately after breakfast and drove a couple of hours south into South Carolina, for a visit to Sage Valley Golf Club in Graniteville. The story goes that the owner was refused membership just over the state line at Augusta National, so having made his fortune as the builder of virtually every Walmart store in the USA, he decided to construct his own course that would rival its illustrious neighbour. The course at Sage Valley is incredible and we were fortunate to walk the course with Chuck Green, the highly entertaining Superintendant at this ultra-exclusive private members’ club. He doesn’t allow rotary mowers anywhere on the course, so the rough is mown with cylinder mowers and as you would expect, it’s immaculate as is the whole complex. After a buffet lunch and tour of the course. The following day we again boarded the bus immediately after breakfast and drove a couple of hours south into South Carolina, for a visit to Sage Valley Golf Club in Graniteville. The story goes that the owner was refused membership just over the state line at Augusta National, so having made his fortune as the builder of virtually every Walmart store in the USA, he decided to construct his own course that would rival its illustrious neighbour. The course at Sage Valley is incredible and we were fortunate to walk the course with Chuck Green, the highly entertaining Superintendant at this ultra-exclusive private members’ club. He doesn’t allow rotary mowers anywhere on the course, so the rough is mown with cylinder mowers and as you would expect, it’s immaculate as is the whole complex. After a buffet lunch and tour of the course. The following day we again boarded the bus immediately after breakfast and drove a couple of hours south into South Carolina, for a visit to Sage Valley Golf Club in Graniteville. The story goes that the owner was refused membership just over the state line at Augusta National, so having made his fortune as the builder of virtually every Walmart store in the USA, he decided to construct his own course that would rival its illustrious neighbour. The course at Sage Valley is incredible and we were fortunate to walk the course with Chuck Green, the highly entertaining Superintendant at this ultra-exclusive private members’ club. He doesn’t allow rotary mowers anywhere on the course, so the rough is mown with cylinder mowers and as you would expect, it’s immaculate as is the whole complex. After a buffet lunch and tour of the course.
Tank mixing

Graham Paul offers another opportunity to earn valuable BASIS points

To mix, or not to mix – that is the question. In this article we may need to adopt this strategy in the management of amenity areas.

The amenity industry has traditionally been a haven for ‘pure’ chemical spray products, one product to do one job. But the increasing complexity of combining two chemicals together to get a more complete result has not been a priority for most Groundsmen in the past. However, in the agricultural market it has been a different story. Intensively farmed arable crops demand a variety of inputs to control weeds and diseases whilst the cost in fuel, manpower and the lost yield caused by competing for the crop with machinery need to be kept to a minimum to maximise profit, so now is the time to consider this working practice more seriously.

The question often asked is: are you legally allowed to mix pesticides or by the labelling of the product. This is called a ‘convenience tank-mix’ and allows a reduction in the number of spray operations.

However, if a manufacturer or approval holder wishes to claim enhanced activity or biological compatibility from a specific tank-mix loaded as a separate tank-mix, this must be demonstrated to the Chemical Regulation Directorate (CRD) to be allowed to be part of the label claim. This is not required when referring to a distributor or contractor backed tank-mix that does not feature on the product label.

There are separate rules governing the mixing of anticholinesterase compounds.

“No person shall combine or mix for use two or more pesticides or by the labelling of the container in which at least one of those pesticides has been sold, supplied or otherwise marketed to that person.”

In order to stay legal when tank mixing it is important to stick with the following guidelines:

• Check with your supplier that the proposed mixture is suitable for the intended use. A supplier offering to support a mix should have tested it and will know if there are any compatibility issues, or effects on the performance of the products.

• Note that when mixing two or more pesticides in a tank-mix all conditions of approval on all of the product labels and safety data sheets must be complied with.

• If any product in the mix is subject to a LERAP requirement, this then applies to the tank-mix as well.

• Two or more anticholinesterase compounds should not be mixed unless such a mixture is expressly permitted by the conditions of the regulatory approval to be used one of the products.

Once ingredients have been carefully mixed the tank must be continuously agitated and the mixture is held as a tank-mix in the tank for longer than necessary as there is a risk of components reacting with one another or precipitating out of solution and blocking the filters and pipe work in the sprayer.

So why do we need to consider a change to the chemicals we apply in the Amenity sector? The main reasons are:

• To improve the control of fungal diseases – many of the new products that contain a single active ingredient have been assessed by Government scientists as having a greater risk of mixing the development of resistant strains of fungal pathogens. (See Table 1 below)

• To improve the effectiveness of fungicide applications – increasing the number and in some cases reducing the overall cost involved.

• To increase the weed spectrum of selective herbicides so that the mixture can be completed with one application.

• To improve the efficiency of applications by reducing the frequency of operations.

The practice of tank-mixing is governed by the regulations which made the position a bit clearer.

“No person shall combine or mix for use two or more pesticides unless:

(a) all of the conditions of approval given on both labels in respect of these pesticides, and

(b) the labelling of the container in which each of these pesticides has been sold, supplied or otherwise marketed to that person, can be complied with.”

The answer to the question; “Are you legally allowed to mix chemicals?” is ‘YES you are’. Tank mixing, when referring to a distributor or contractor backed tank-mix recommendation, is perfectly legal provided all the label requirements are followed for the tank-mix constituents and partner products. This is called a ‘convenience tank-mix’ and allows a reduction in the number of spray operations.

BASIS POINTS

The Amenity industry has traditionally been a haven for ‘pure’ chemical spray products, one product to do one job. But the increasing complexity of combining two chemicals together to get a more complete result has not been a priority for most Groundsmen in the past. However, in the agricultural market it has been a different story. Intensively farmed arable crops demand a variety of inputs to control weeds and diseases whilst the cost in fuel, manpower and the lost yield caused by competing for the crop with machinery need to be kept to a minimum to maximise profit, so now is the time to consider this working practice more seriously.

The question often asked is: are you legally allowed to mix two or more pesticides together? "No person shall combine or mix for use two or more pesticides together unless such a mixture is expressly permitted by the conditions of the regulatory approval given in relation to each of those pesticides." (a) The Pesticides Regulations first appeared in statute books in 1911. b) The Environment Agency c) 1986 d) 1984

1) In the amended Regulations, which group of chemicals is governed by special regulations when it comes to tank-mixing?

a) Anti-coagulant compounds
b) Antioxidant compounds
c) Anti-misting compounds
d) Anti-chlorinated agents

2) In the trial data for the Amichem tank-mix trial, how long were the results compared to the initial treatment?

a) 3 months
b) 2 months
c) 34 days
d) 83 days

3) If a pesticide manufacturer or approval holder wishes to claim enhanced activity from a specific tank-mix involving one or more of their products they must provide data to which of the following organisations?

a) The British Crop Protection Council
b) The Environment Agency
c) The Chemical Regulation Directorate
d) Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

4) In the trial data for the Chipco Green label. This trial demonstrated excellent control of the foliar blight stage of the disease, especially when applied with ‘P Kursor’. The results were particularly impressive, as the Chipco Green in the mix was used at 10x, ha (had the normal rate) - a factor that has implications for cost saving as well as minimising the impact of chemicals in the environment. The excellent performance of the tank-mix is attributed partly to the beneficial effects of P Kursor in encouraging rapid recovery of the health of the grass plant. In the control fungicide has cured the disease.

Table 1 shows the fungal disease treatments that can be accomplished by the addition of a liquid fertiliser product or a soluble fertiliser such as Urea to the fungicide product. This will often give faster, more complete control of the selected herbicide on its own.

As a general rule, do not mix selectivity herbicides. "No person shall combine or mix for use two or more pesticides unless such a mixture is expressly permitted by the conditions of the regulatory approval given in relation to each of those pesticides.”

Research has shown that the effectiveness of some fungicide applications can be improved by adding growth stimulants to the spray mix. These can work along side the fungicide, encouraging rapid healing once the disease has been treated. In such a trial, conducted by the (STIRR) the fungicide iprodione (Chipco Green) was applied with the ‘P Kursor’, a product designed to promote plant health and support the plant’s natural defences.

The recommendation for the use of iprodione to control Anthracnose is a relatively recent addition to the Chipco Green label. This trial demonstrated excellent control of the foliar blight stage of the disease, especially when applied with ‘P Kursor’. The results were particularly impressive, as the Chipco Green in the mix was used at 10x, ha (had the normal rate) - a factor that has implications for cost saving as well as minimising the impact of chemicals in the environment. The excellent performance of the tank-mix is attributed partly to the beneficial effects of P Kursor in encouraging rapid recovery of the health of the grass plant. In the control fungicide has cured the disease.
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Graham Paul offers another opportunity to earn valuable BASIS points

To mix, or not to mix – that was the question. However, we shall consider the legal position regarding the practice of tank-mixing of pesticides and how we may need to adopt this strategy in the management of amenity areas.

In the past, the industry has traditionally been a haven for ‘pure’ chemical spray products, one product to do one job. The growing complexity of controlling weeds and diseases by using mixes of two or more pesticides, and the possibility of combining two chemicals together to get a more complete result, has not been a priority for most Groundsmen in the past. However, in the agricultural market it has been a different story. Intensively farmed arable crops demand a myriad of inputs to control weeds and diseases whilst the cost in fuel, manpower and the lost output from failing to control the crop with machinery need to be kept to a minimum to maximise profit, so now is the time to consider this working practice more seriously.

The question often asked is: are you allowed to tank-mix two or more approved pesticides together? To answer this question, Pesticides Regulations first appeared in statute books in 1866, the Rules Regarding the tank-mixing of approved products appeared to be strictly controlled under the Ag lasts of the Schedule 3 of the original regulations, section 2 declared: “No person shall combine or mix for use two or more pesticides except in accordance with the conditions of approval given in the label or on a list of approved mixes, then it was outlawed. The regulations were updated in 1997 by the Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which made the position a bit clearer.

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(1) When did the Control of Pesticides Regulations first appear in statute books?
(a) 1865
(b) 1957
(c) 1986
(d) 1984

2) In the amended Regulations, which group of chemicals is governed by special regulations when it comes to tank-mixing?
(a) Anti-coagulant compounds
(b) Anticholinesterase compounds
(c) Antifoaming products
(d) Anticholinesterase products

3) If a pesticide manufacturer or supplier is wishing to claim enhanced activity from a specific tank-mix involving one or more of their products they must provide data to which of the following organisations?
(a) The British Crop Protection Council
(b) The Environment Agency
(c) The Pesticides Regulation Directorate
(d) Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

4) In the trial data for the Anthracnose tank-mix trial, how long were the results in the label or on a list of approved mixes, then it was outlawed. The regulations were updated in 1997 by the Control of Pesticides (Amendment) Regulations 1997, which made the position a bit clearer.

(a) 3 months
(b) 2 months
(c) 34 days
(d) 83 days

5) As a general rule when tank-mixing select herbicides, which of the following can be added to the herbicide? Use the correct answer(s)!

(a) Anticoagulant
(b) Antarthrin
(c) Growth Regulators
(d) Liquid Fertilisers

The excellent performance of the fungicide in controlling the disease, especially when applied with ‘P-Kursor’. The results were particularly impressive, as the Chipco Green in the mix was used at 10x, had the normal rate – a factor that has implications for cost savings as well as for preventing the impact of chemicals in the environment. The current performance of the fungicide is not always up to the beneficial effects of P-Kursor in encouraging rapid recovery of the blast stage of the disease, especially when applied with ‘P-Kursor’. The results were particularly impressive, as the Chipco Green in the mix was used at 10x, had the normal rate – a factor that has implications for cost savings as well as for preventing the impact of chemicals in the environment.
To ensure that you get the most from your overseeding programme there are a number of issues to take on board.

1. Planning

Make time for your operation. Realistically evaluate what you want to achieve and draw up a schedule of how to get there. Included in this schedule should be comprehensive evaluation throughout the year after application. Part of your research should include that you are buying the correct mixture, species and variety of grasses for your situation.

2. Buy the best you can afford

As with all things in life not all grasses are the same, within any species there are different varieties known as cultivars. In trials some cultivars perform better than others when assessed for traits such as wear tolerance, recovery, shoot density etc. Know the traits that are important to you and research the best cultivars or mixture of cultivars that suit your situation. You will pay a premium for a mixture of the better performing cultivars, but you wouldn’t expect to pay Ford Mondeo prices for a Lamborghini, and the same is true of grass seed.

3. Timing

Throw away the general rule of thumb for overseeding, that it is best carried out in early Autumn. This can work at any time the soil temperature is favourable. If you have a comprehensive, efficient irrigation supply the warmest soil and air temperatures the better. Alternatively, seeding in advance of warm weather or moisture allows utilising quieter times and waiting patiently for germination.

4. Application - Ensure good seed soil contact

Having bought a bag of quality grass seed you want to make sure that you get good germination in order to take advantage of all the desirable traits you have selected it for. There is no right or wrong way to create the correct environment for germination, settling into linear grooves, hollow cores or tine holes can all work, the most important thing is to ensure that the seed has good contact with the soil.

In order to germinate a seed has to take in moisture through its permeable outer coating, as the seeds swell a chemical reaction takes place and germination is initiated. It is vital that the seed remains moist throughout this process in order for the process to take place as quickly and as smoothly as possible. Fluctuation in available moisture can hinder the process and as with all plants, grass seedlings that have a stressful germination are less likely to ever be as healthy as those that germinate under most favourable conditions. Seed that is left on the surface risks drying out and becoming unviable, similarly seed will not germinate well in thatch and seed that does germinate will be weak and won’t survive long, because it hasn’t rooted into a good growing medium.

5. Work to seed at the required depth

It is important that seed is not sown too deeply. A seed only has a small store of energy and so needs to take advantage of all the desirable traits you have selected it for. Photosynthesis as quickly as possible, to start processing it owns energy and establishing. If a seed is sown too deep then the plumule has a long way to travel to the surface and risks running out of energy before it gets there. Ask your seed rep what depth you should be aiming to sow your chosen mixture at.

6. Watering

Assuming adequate soil temperatures and good seed soil contact the seedlings of some species can appear within seven days, although generally 14 - 21 days is more likely.

During this period irrigation is really the only controllable resource you have. Ideally the surface should be permanently damp and as soon as the surface feels dry and no material particles stick to your hand the surface should be covered with a light sprinkling of water.

7. Establishment

When seedlings start to appear and the sward is forming, applications of water should become less frequent and heavier, allowing drying time between applications in order to prevent damping off.

With regards to first cut it is obviously an advantage to raise the height of cut especially for bent grasses, this need not be as drastic as you think and many newer cultivars of bent grass can take a first cut as low as 7 - 9mm, for ryegrasses on tees 10 - 12mm is fine.
A Quick Guide to Successful Overseeding

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Back in time

to this month in...1972

The September 1972 issue of The British Golf Greenkeeper, the official magazine of the British Golf Greenkeepers Association, edited by Fred Hawtree, contained an article (below) from the Chipman Chemical Company on The Treatment of Fungal Diseases. Included in the advice was “By knowing the conditions which fungi find most desirable it is possible to produce a non-conducive environment by good cultural turf management practices.”

The tractor shown on the cover is a Howard Bolone 1477, which is being seen towing a barge on the Grand Union Canal.

The treatment of Fungal Diseases

The Chipman CHEMICAL COMPANY treatment works wonders on controlling and preventing fungal diseases.

Last September, 26th, marked the opening of the second out-of-town and out-of-name garden centre named after the garden centre.

The premise is the garden centre and the manufactory are two completely different businesses. The garden centre is a business that has been operating on the outskirts of London for over a decade, and the manufactory is a business that has been operating on the outskirts of London for over a century. The garden centre is a business that has been operating on the outskirts of London for over a decade, and the manufactory is a business that has been operating on the outskirts of London for over a century.

A series of adverts from the issue, with Ransomes appearing separately from Jacobsen, in the days before they merged.