BUT HOW ARE YOUR BUNKERS?

Introducing The New Tournament Rake. Our new-design finish implement delivers the perfect sand conditions for the best bunker play. So revolutionary it is being patented. Constructed of high grade, rust-proof stainless steel, its new and flexible raking teeth and specially designed blades create the ideal firmness and finish for bunker sand. And it operates silently. Only from Smithco.

Our Speed Boss Invention. The patented, bunker finish speed control that prevents sand throw-out and greatly reduces the time and labor required for edging. You adjust and pre-set the finish speed and the system takes over automatically when the raking implement is lowered, then restores the normal ground speed when it is raised. So, you’re the boss. Only from Smithco.

Many Other New And Exclusive Features. Our liquid-cooled gasoline engine ■ hydraulic power steering ■ extra-high ground clearance for easy bunker entry and exit ■ and our patented, silent, electric-powered “E” model ■ Only from Smithco.

Our extensive line of bunker rakes and implements, with their many new and innovative features, offers by far the widest choice of models and pricing, to meet every need and budget. Call your Smithco distributor today for a demo. Seeing is believing.

Topdressing Continued from page 7

METHODS OF APPLICATION

It seems that most superintendents have adopted the light topdressing program, with applications every 10 to 14 days.

The biggest change in the application method has been the use of hand-push rotary-type fertilizer spreaders. We use this method at the Country Club of the Rockies and have been very impressed with its advantages. This method works best with dried sand. The drying of the sand at plants is becoming more and more common, and some suppliers also bag it. This makes the operation very similar to fertilization.

Calibration is as simple as just eyeing the amount on a nursery green. I strongly suggest using the wheel-to-wheel method and applying in two directions to achieve uniform coverage.

Once the material has been applied some superintendents are simply syringing the material in and not brushing at all. This method works quite well.

At the Country Club of the Rockies we have adapted the Fly-Mo technique for working the sand into the turf canopy. Our method works as follows: cut the greens, apply the sand with Lesco spreaders in two directions, then a team of three with Fly-Mo’s follows each other, going over the green in two directions. That evening we water heavily to help work the sand into the canopy.

This season we also tried a few top dressings using the same method, except with green-colored sand. The results were remarkable. Many of our members said they didn’t even realize we had top dressed. You know that old saying, “Out of sight, out of mind.”

This season we plan to use colored sand during our peak season for all top dressings. It adds to the cost, but the advantages offset the additional dollars.

Kevin J. Ross is director of golf course management at Country Club of the Rockies in Edwards, Colo., and president of Ross Agronomy in Eagle, Colo.