A study of the companion grasses was run for the purpose of determining if there was any possibility of their use in seed mixture for golf courses. We were not able to find a place for a companion grass under golf course conditions where a good stand of permanent grasses is desired in a minimum of time.

It may be of interest to you that we found under our conditions that perennial rye grass and common rye grass were far more competitive than redtop. However, we did not like the performance of redtop in our area because it tended to die out quite suddenly and leave the turf discolored and unattractive. Neither of the grasses disappeared entirely in 2 years. In one part of the study, we seeded a mixture of 15% rye grass and 25% redtop. With higher rates of seeding, the stand became predominantly rye grass with a loss of Kentucky bluegrass and Colonial bent.

Chemicals As Weed Control Tool

When speaking about the use of chemicals for weed control I have the habit of emphasizing the importance of good maintenance practices. I have not been alone in suggesting that chemical weed control is not a "cure-all," but another tool. In 1947 the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station started a test in cooperation with the USGA Green Section and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to determine the value of 2, 4-D along with fertilizer and seeding in renovation programs.

The use of 2, 4-D only gave very good control of broadleaved weeds for the first two seasons. However, after that a noticeable number began to reappear. Plots that were treated with both 2, 4-D and fertilizer showed far better control of the broadleaved weeds after two seasons. This gave us data to show that chemicals for weed control give the best results when they are tied into a well-balanced program of turf maintenance.

We have put out approximately 1000 plots on chemical crabgrass control in the past two seasons. Of the phenyl mercuries, the commercial preparations of C-Lect, Puraturf crabgrass killer, and Seltox were included both seasons. Also, the experimental materials, phenyl mercury acetate solubilized as prepared by the Gallowhir Chemical Co. and S-2000, an experimental phenyl mercury, were included. We have tested potassium cyanate and several of the Sowa chemicals such as S-1998 for two seasons. Several new materials were tested this year that have given us enough promise that we hope to study them further in the future. While we do not profess that the ideal chemical has been found, we feel that progress has been made and that with the tremendous amount of work being done on chemicals for weed control in crops, something even better may be found.