A. Early morning watering helps grass to dry more quickly for pleasurable play and for machinery operation. Disease reduction still is the big reason. There is no standard for "swishing" (syringing, showering-off). This largely is a case of judgment and constant watching.

Q. I believe it is generally agreed that it is a poor practice to feed bent greens with nitrogen in warm humid weather, or when we know such weather is approaching. If this is so, then wouldn't a spring application of one of the urea-formaldehyde fertilizers (such as Uramite) in sufficient quantity to last all season be injurious to the extent that you would lose control of nitrogen feeding in hot weather? I realize this form of nitrogen is released gradually all season, but in warm, humid weather there would be no way to stop nitrogen release, thus increasing the chance of more rapid spread of disease. (Wis.)

A. It does not appear that the U-F fertilizers (Uramite, for example) release nitrogen "explosively" when hot weather comes as we have observed at times with natural organics under conditions of high heat and humidity. Release rate appears to be nearly constant and is not dependent upon temperature and humidity. Research data do not indicate any loss of control of nitrogen or any additional disease with the season's supply of N being applied at one time in the spring. It helps, naturally, to have a good sturdy strain of grass to start with. To date, it appears that we can say with assurance that the U-F fertilizers tested thus far are equal to the best organics in performance and N release is more constant.

Q. With winds of 35-45 m.p.h. I have trouble keeping sand in my traps in spite of steeply (Continued on page 82)
Turfgrass Questions
(Continued from page 64)

banking them to the limit for "good golf's
sake." I use sand finer than "sharp" or con-
crete sand. I do this out of consideration for
my greens mowers which wear very fast with
coarse sand. What grade or density sand do
you recommend to meet these conditions?

A. Your's is a difficult problem. It is useless
to go to a coarse sand because of your mowers,
and for player reasons. Pebbles on the green
do not help the ball to roll true.

Have you considered planting a few clumps
of bunch grasses in or near the traps to break
the force of the wind? I have seen this done
to good advantage. Broom sedge (Andropogon
virginicus) is a native and grows well under
poverty conditions. Another grass is Indian
grass (Sorghastrum nutans) also a native.

Groups of bunch grasses can be very at-
tractive, break the monotony of an expanse of
sand and reduce wind erosion. Occasionally, a
ball will come to rest in or near a clump
which may not please the player but if you
explain your problem to the membership I
feel reasonably certain members will under-
stand and will go along with you.

Q. At what height should fairways be cut in
Apr.-June, and July-Sept.? (Ky)

A. Height of cut on fairways will vary slight-
ly according to the kind(s) of grass present.
For creeping bent and Bermuda — ½ in.; for
bluegrass fescue — ½ to 1¼ in.

These suggested heights mean little because

the type of mower used will affect the way
the grass is cut, even when all are set the
same. Well fed grass will tolerate closer mow-
ing than starved turf. Terrain will affect
height if cut. Longer grass often is demanded
on steeply sloping fairways to reduce roll
of ball. Generally speaking, the height of cut
should be the same the year around.

Q. We have three greens which are very
hard, full of clay, and fine sand. Is there any-
way to repair them without rebuilding? (Ky.)

A. It is a long slow process to repair and
change soil in a green without rebuilding, but
it can be done. It will take regular aerifying
and the use of a suitable topdressing material
used generously and frequently. This does not
mean that the green will be as satisfactory as
though it had been rebuilt. It keeps it in play
and minimizes annoyance of temporary greens.
A change of grass during the process might be
in order. This should be carefully considered.

Q. October, 1955, Golfdom stated that 2-4-D
will weaken bent grass. For what types of weeds
and when can 2-4-D be used on greens? What
is a good herbicide for crowfoot? Craig Herbi-
cide #1 for crowfoot and crabgrass has been
suggested. What is its potential? (Ky.)

A. 2,4-D has little or no place on greens ex-
cept under very unusual circumstances. From
what I have seen my advice is to use disodium
methyl arsonate for crowfoot and crabgrass on
greens. DSMA has good potential. Phenyl mer-
cury plus 2,4-D has been used but it must be
handled with care and precision. Pre-emerg-
ence chemicals are not recommended on greens.