tacks which would be active most of the winter but the effects would show only after the snow and ice left.

The effect of dessication could be lessened by using tree branches to hold a snow cover until late spring when the soil would be thawed so that roots could absorb moisture.

Snowmold can be reduced by using a resistant grass (Congressional bent) and by making fall applications of specific fungicides, according to manufacturers' recommendations.

I favor the tree branch cover if a mercury treatment is to be made in advance.

Q. We are planning to start several experimental plots of bent grasses with the idea of eventually using the most satisfactory strain on our own courses. We would like your recommendation as to the most satisfactory strain or strains to use in this locality. Washington bent has been highly recommended to us.

We have a small plot of bent grass on one of our golf courses. No one seems to know where it came from but it is apparently doing very nicely. Is there anyone that we could send some sample plugs to and have it identified?

(N. C.)

A. You are wise to start a test nursery so that your eventual choice of a grass will be the one which performs best under your conditions.

Washington bent has been a good one. The only trouble is that there is more than one "Washington" and some are better than others. Their identity has been clouded over the years.

Cohansey (C-7) creeping bent is giving a good account of itself where summer heat is hard on other bent. Arlington (C-1) and Congressional (C-19) mixed together are doing very well near you. Arlington alone is very good on many courses. Right now, that just about exhausts my choices. You could add Pennlin to your nursery because it needs to be tested in the south. When Penncross seed is available (this fall, we hope) you certainly should have a plot of that.

Perhaps you would like to establish a few test plots of fine-bladed Bermuda grasses. With poa annua as a naturally occurring cool season grass, you might be pleased with the performance of Bermuda. I would suggest trying three to start with: Gene Tift, Tifgreen and Ugandagrass.

When you find patch of a grass that is outstanding by all means preserve it and send a specimen (a 4-in. plug, soil shaken out, dried almost to wilting, wrapped in polyethylene and mailed parcel post special delivery) to someone who can evaluate it.

I would be glad to plant it in my nursery where I am observing several interesting grasses and I would identify it for you if I am able. If it shows promise it can be increased and sent to experiment stations for further testing.

Q. We are building a new 18-hole course at Vineland, N. J., greens to be planted in C7. I am interested in finding out more about this grass. Do you have any information about it?

(N. J.)
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UNCONDITIONAL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

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A. Cohansky (C-7) creeping bent was select-
ed by E. R. Steiniger at Pine Valley, N. J. It
is an excellent hot-weather grass which holds
good color early and late as well. It has a light
yellow-green color which is very pleasing when
a green is planted solid to this grass. By con-
trast with a dark green bent, often it is unfair-
ly graded down by those who have a personal
preference for dark green.

It is somewhat susceptible to dollar spot
which is easily to control with nitrogen feed-
ing and suitable fungicides. It is quite resistant
to brown patch. It is vigorous, aggressive grass
and resists the invasion of poa annua very well.
develop a sense of when to use it.

Q. I have just purchased an aerifier with
the idea of using it not only on my private
lawn, but on our course as well. I have been
chairman of our green committee for many
years. How often should we aerify each of
the following:

Lawn — centipede, zoysia and Bermuda;
fairways — centipede and Bermuda; tees —
Bermuda; greens — Bermuda (summer)
and rye (winter)?

Our soil is a sandy loam with very little
organic matter in it. It is not a good soil.
We do not add much fertilizer to our fairways.
We do use quite a lot of fertilizer on lawn,
tees and greens. (Ala.)

A. The "rat" answer to "how often should
we aerify?" is "as often as necessary". Now,
all I have to do is tell you when it is neces-

You can aerify to advantage just before
you fertilize. This promotes deep penetration
of materials. When water begins to run off
instead of soaking in, it is time to aerify.
This is good procedure in connection with
seeding. In general, Bermuda can use more
aerifying than centipede and zoysia.

Aerifying promotes the free circulation of air (oxygen) in the soil, enhancing value and
efficiency of fertilizers. Some courses aerify
Bermuda fairways once a month.

Aerifying helps to topdress turf and create
a firm resilience. Fairways that get hard in
summer can be softened mechanically by
regular aerifying, starting when there is
natural moisture in the soil which improves deep
penetration. Golfers claim that aerified fair-
ways are easier to walk on.

The need for aerifying greens will depend
upon the kind of soil, how badly they need
cultivation and other factors. I am a firm
advocate of four-way aerifying, doing a
job while you are at it, then leaving the greens to the golfers until needed
again. Twice or three times a year for
four-way aerifying should be sufficient in
most cases. Tees will need cultivation more
often than fairways—about once a month

Your sandy loam soil can develop a crusted
condition which can shed rain like a roof.
When that happens you can be sure that
it is time to aerify again. As you operate the
machine and observe the results you will soon
develop a sense of when to use it.