Stagnant Water

Q. We have a storage pond for water. Water drains into it from the backwashing operation of the swimming pool, which has all the necessary chemicals such as chlorine gas, HTH, Soda Ash and Alum. Also, water from the sewage system from two septic tanks and shower room drain into the pond. Of course, soapy water goes right along with it. We have had three to four weeks of dry weather, so that the only water going into the pond is the above mentioned water. There is not enough water to flow over the breast of the dam so that all that material settles in the pond along with the swimming pool chemicals and soapy water.

I have watered the greens twice in the past 10 days at night with sprinklers 3-1/2 to 4 hours in one position; then a couple of mornings I hand watered the high spots and trouble spots on the greens. Fairly large brown areas have appeared in the greens, especially where velvet bent has been growing. Other areas seem to be doing fairly well—we’ve had no brown patch. We’ve been using alternating fungicides.

I feel that the trouble is in the stagnant water. I am having a sample tested and, as soon as I get the results, I will send the test to Al Cooper at Penn State to get his opinion. I have talked with my county agent and he feels that this is the best procedure. If you can give me any further information, please do so. (Pa.)

A. You are following a wise procedure. Your county agent can get you the information that you need, because you have available from the Penn State University the very best information available. I feel somewhat as you do that the quality of the water which you have available for the greens is not entirely satisfactory.

Rain and Dollarspot

Q. Has the past rainy season had anything to do with our greens becoming afflicted with dollarspot? Was this caused by lack of fertilizing? (Ill.)

A. A rainy season can be responsible for removing by leaching a large part of the nitrogen that would be applied to the greens. This is particularly true with the soluble forms of nitrogen, but it is not true of the Urea-form fertilizers, which are not subject to leaching. As the nitrogen is leached out of the soil the grass becomes hungry. It is well known that hungry grass always is affected by dollar spot. It is true that dollarspot actually can be reduced and almost eliminated by adequate nutrition.

Managers’ Assn. Moves Headquarters

Club Managers’ Assn. of America has moved its offices from St. Louis to 1028 Connecticut Ave., Washington 6, D.C.