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and thoroughly spike the greens in several directions before sowing the seed. After sowing, put on a very light sandy topdressing and keep the green moist to germinate the seed rapidly.

If you are blessed with a naturally sandy soil, you might wish to consider seeding Pennlawn creeping red fescue into your Kentucky bluegrass greens. This grass can stand much closer mowing than bluegrass and has the possibility of making a very good putting green. If, however, your soil is heavy, it would be much better to use the Penncross creeping bent seed.

Greens Went Out

Q. Last spring (1958) I seeded 9 new greens. I laid sump sand (which is a by-product of washed river gravel) over farm meadow. This sump sand had a pH of 6.5. I then seeded colonial bent on top of this sump sand. I watered the greens about every day and fertilized three times during the summer. The bentgrass came up good but never showed a dark green color. My course is located in northern Vermont and this past winter was very cold and snowy. This spring, as of May 8, the new greens were completely browned and dead. I wonder if you know what caused the Colonial bent to die and what would be the best thing for me to do as far as rebuilding the greens. (Vermont)

A. Colonial bent and Poa annua both took a severe beating this past winter and spring. Poa is recovering but the colonial bent does not recover.

Not knowing more about your “sump sand” it is difficult to answer your questions intelligently. You have not identified your feeding program. The lack of dark green color would indicate nitrogen hunger. There could have been a severe potash hunger. Above everything else, Colonial bent is the least likely to produce a putting green.

Had you considered the possibility of seeding the greens to Pennlawn creeping red fescue? This grass will do well in sand with minimum water and attention other than proper feeding and mowing. It would be my choice of a grass to seed now in order to have greens to play on this summer. Red fescue germinates quickly. Seed at rate of 4 lbs. to a thousand, fertilize with a gentle, safe, long lasting nitrogen balanced with P and K in about a 3-1-1 ratio.

USDA Field Day
To be Held August 4

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture turf grass field day will be held Aug. 4 at Beltsville, Md. The research service div. has considerable research work in progress and a review of it will be one of the highlights of the field day.