



1. Aerifying green first time over with open type spoons.
2. Cross-aerifying the second time.
3. The third aerifying was in a diagonal direction.
4. Generous fertilization followed after aerifying in three directions.
5. Verti-cutting and mowing prepare green for final light topdressing.



3-Way Aerifying Improves Matted Greens

By O. J. Noer

MANY of the greens at Franklin Hills in Detroit had heavily matted surfaces. Peat-like layers consisted of partially decayed stems and leaves. Grass wilted badly in summer and localized dry spots developed frequently. Disease was difficult to control.

Four way aerifying was proposed as a possible remedy. Finally, it was decided to aerify in three directions only on two greens as a test. The plan was to fertilize generously after aerifying to speed growth.

The work was done in late spring after grass had started good growth. The Verti-cut machine was used to shatter plugs; mowing followed with a catcher. Then a very light top-dressing was applied — only half a yard to a green. Drag matting completed the task.

Root systems were so shallow that spoons lifted some of the turf. It was put back in place by the machine operator.

Within 7 to 10 days the marks on the green were gone. Wilting and dry spots became less troublesome on these greens