

O. J. Noer's Turf Tips



Staking Out the Test Plot

Supts. and others like to test the effect of new materials, such as lime, fertilizer, insecticides, etc., on plots before large scale use. Unless the boundaries are well defined it is hard to locate the plots, especially when results are not strikingly visible to the eye. Marking the corners is difficult on large size plots. Stakes placed in the rough are a hindrance to mowing and may be pulled out by players.

Eliot Roberts, now in charge of turf-grass investigations at Iowa State University, has devised a very good marker for placement at the corners of plots.

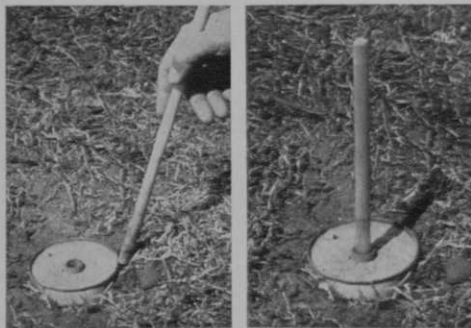
Concrete Used

He gets empty quart size oil cans from a nearby gas filling station. A small hole is made in the exact center of the bottom. He cuts a piece of quarter in. pipe to the exact length of the can. It is placed in the exact center of the can, directly over the hole. Then the can is filled with ready-mix concrete. The marker is ready for use after the concrete sets.

Roberts inserts $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. round wood stakes in the pipe whenever he wishes to outline the plots at the time treatments are made or, later, to judge results of the test material. Stock for making the stakes is obtained at the local lumber yard.



Plot marker made from a used quart size oil can. The drainage hole is shown at the right, pipe and stake at left.



(Left) Marker in place, flush with the ground, to permit mowing, and the round marker stake. (Right) Marker with stake in place.