Since the 1967 season has drawn to a close in northern climes, and the winter crowd has moved toward the southern courses, it now behooves every management team to take stock of events behind us. What were the "plusses" and what were the "minuses"? Where can improvements be made? This writer exercises the prerogative of "clairvoyance" to assess the development of progress and to propose a "check list" for the guidance of inter-club conferences.

Clubhouse Grounds

Trees—Well-trimmed? New improved varieties planted? Trunks protected from mower-canker?

Shrubs—Properly pruned? Effective placement? New fragrant flowering types introduced? Replace old types with young new ones?

Perennial borders—Color harmony? New types? Efficient maintenance?

Annual beds—Most effective for seasonal color? Many new varieties available.

Club entrance—Attractive and inviting to members and guests? Exit to highway safe?

Golf Course


Car paths—Multiple exits at termination of hard surface? Worn or damaged edges resodded?


Roughs—Provide realistic penalty for off-line shots? Weed control adequate? Tough low-maintenance grasses?

Nursery—Adequate sod for instant replacements? Trial grounds for new improved varieties and chemicals?

Irrigation facilities—Updated? Adequately powered? Clean? Protected against vandalism? Provision for complete drainage before freeze-up? Water supply adequate for next season? Is over-watering or under-watering a big problem?

Other Facilities

Superintendent’s office—Well-appointed? Clean? Good library? Available and known to members? Plans and blueprints up-to-date and stored properly?


Student trainees—Provision for continuity? Facilities to encourage future applications? Approval of club officials for program?
satisfactory green color in warm-turfgrasses so far shows that the season grasses so as applications of non putting green management. This could thatch; 4} closer smoother cut with inventor, collects 40 per cent more in discussion groups. No satisfac- turf is diseases or other ill effects. Could be a significant breakthrough in are in progress officially to check seed heads being collected. Plans on his Penncross greens indicates improved putting qualities; 5} less Poa annua by virtue of virtually all required; 3) reduced tendency to thatch; 4} closer smoother cut with improved putting qualities; 5} less Poa annua by virtue of virtually all seed heads being collected. Plans are in progress officially to check the inventor's claims. This could be a significant breakthrough in putting green management.

Q.—The work of Schmidt and Blaser in Virginia with fall and winter applications of non cool-season turfgrasses so far shows that the turf is greener through the winter but with no noticeable increase in diseases or other ill effects. Could this principle be used to maintain satisfactory green color in warm-season grasses so as to reduce the necessity of overseeding? (Alabama)

A.—Your question is intriguing and has been asked several times in discussion groups. No satisfac-
tory answer can be given right now but there are indications that, to a degree, fall and winter treatments with N may replace overseeding with cool season grasses. Considerable work on this is in progress.

Q.—Some short-term research reports show that recovery of N is quite different from soluble as compared to ureaforms; 51% per cent vs, 19 per cent, for example. What is a reasonable explanation for this big difference? (Maryland)

A.—One answer is that, during the short period covered by the experiments, only part of the useable N in ureaform was converted to nitrate nitrogen whereas all of the soluble material had been converted. Ureaform is made so that most of the N is converted slowly over many months and, if the experiment were continued, there would be total recovery comparable to the soluble. In other experiments different techniques showed a recovery of about 90 per cent for both soluble and ureaforms. Short-term trials are not designed to show ureaforms to advantage; invariably they favor the soluble.

Q.—I am a member of the American Society of Agronomy. In the Agronomy Abstracts all measurements are in metric terms. One paper says, "... both grasses were favored by a mowing height of 5.08 cm rather than 2.54 cm." This means that these grasses were favored by a two-inch cut rather than a one-inch cut. Should we, as superintendents, take steps to convert English equivalents to metric? (New Jersey)

A.—Since the metric system will become the universal system, I would urge the GCSAA and all affiliated chapters to provide members with a conversion chart to facilitate the changeover to metric units. It will not be easy. It will take time. It may be necessary for extension services to give aid through education talks. Turfgrass councils and foundations can help, too. Industry will be of great help through field representatives. OK, boys, on with the kilometers, hectares, liters and kilograms.