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First Fairway Treatment Program

Big Success at Cincinnati CC

By JOHN McCoy

Supt., Cincinnati (O.) CC

Last year was one that many supt.s in the Cincinnati area would rather forget, but it turned out exceptionally well for us because we undertook, for the first time, an extensive fairway treatment program.

Our club is located on hilly terrain with the steeper slopes to the south. Air movement more often than not is poor, and when humidity is high, we suffer about as much as anyone in the district. In 1955, and again in 1958, a great deal of bent was lost because fairways were not treated. There also was some grub damage in these and intervening years and in 1959, to add to our woes, Japanese beetles made their first large scale invasion.
Gravely Clean-Cuts bring pleasant surprises every day. You’ll be surprised how fast the mowing’s done. You’ll be more than pleased with the final results.

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It’s quality-designed and carefully built to be a real work-horse... with extra speed (up to 5 MPH), extra power (12.9 HP) and extra maneuverability (rear-wheel steering-drive gets you up close to trees and shrubs without endangering them).

The mower unit “floats” on spring suspension ahead of the power unit where it can get to grass before anything can mash the grass down.

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DUNBAR, WEST VIRGINIA
In 1960 we launched our first counter-attack on the various diseases we have had to contend with. Crabgrass and grubs also were on the list of things that had to be controlled.

To knock out disease in bent and poa, we applied PMAS at one quart per acre in late July and came back with two more treatments of the same strength in mid- and late August. Results were excellent although we had to concede the loss of some poa because of high temperatures and lack of rain.

**Crabgrass Checked**

Fairway crabgrass was kept in check with four treatments of DSMA. Four lbs. of technical material per acre were in the first application, and in followup treatments this was reduced to three. Dates of application were July 7 and 21, and Aug. 15 and 31. Fairway watering was passed up for two days except in one instance where it was done after one day. In the latter case, results weren’t quite as good as they should have been. One thing that we made sure of was that ground moisture was at a relatively high level before applications were undertaken. This year we plan to broaden our scope and try to eradicate crabgrass in the rough areas.

For grub control, Aldrin, mixed with a complete fertilizer to give three lbs. of technical material, was used. The mixture was applied to both rough and fairways, but the results won’t become evident until this spring.

About the only place where we tripped up was in goosegrass control. The chemicals which we used didn’t work out satisfactorily. But we have a hunch that Chlordane, double the suggested rate of 2 lbs. of technical material per 1,000 sq. ft., may greatly reduce this grass. We’re also banking on Bermuda to help crowd it out. It has been doing a fair job of keeping goosegrass in check since being introduced at Cincinnati CC a few years ago.

Both PMAS and DSMA were applied with 21 ft. spray boom, front mounted on a Ford tractor with a speed indicator. Rate of application was about 27 gals. of mix per acre.
...on the FAIRWAYS or around the CLUBHOUSE you can depend on Weather-matic

The wide variety of sprinkler equipment, valves, and controls, takes care of every situation. The powerful gear driven Turbo-jet rotary sprinkler, waters fairways, tees, greens, and other large open turf areas. There is a choice of pop-up spray heads to suit any small lawn area — any budget. Matching shrub heads water flower and shrub beds.

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Grau's Answers

(Continued from page 65)

applications be harmful to these areas? I made one application of 10-6-4 in Feb. I would like to make another application before going into a regular summer feeding of long-lasting organic nitrogen.

Our weather here is adverse this spring. For example, today it is snowing and the temperature is 28 degrees. It certainly is not the kind of weather we need for the recovery of desiccated areas. (Illinois)

A.: Desiccated areas on greens that show growth should be given every chance to recover with a minimum of disturbance. It would be inadvisable to apply topdressing with arsenate of lead added since this might retard the new, weak growth. Later, when recovery is complete, the leaded topdressing may be used.

If some of the areas appear very slow, or dead, you would do well to re-turf with sod from the nursery. This is one of the valid reasons for having a nursery.

Do not seed bent ahead of a lead-topdressing mixture. The lead will retard germination of the bent seed.

You do not state the rate of 10-6-4 that you applied. Assuming that you used it at a rate to supply ½ to 1 lb. of N, you may repeat the application now prior to your regular summer program of using slow-release N.

With temperatures below those needed for growth and recovery, re-sodding damaged areas should be of first consideration.

How About Top Dressing?

Q.: We have heard that topdressing greens is not as important as previously thought. Is this true? Is it a common trend to eliminate topdressing?

As to aerating or vertical mowing, could you tell us which is most necessary, or if both are required? How soon after new greens are planted should these machines be used? We have Penncross greens which were planted in July, 1959. The soil mixture of our greens is one part black dirt, one part peat, and two parts sand. (Minnesota)

A.: There seems to be a slight shift toward topdressing but many clubs continue to maintain perfect greens with little or no topdressing. The time when this is done for the most part is immediately after thatch removal and soil cultura-
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May, 1961
tion to help cover over the surface disturbance. If the topdressing material isn’t sterilized, it may be best to learn to get along without it. There is no sense in reseeding greens to weeds every time you topdress.

In maintaining greens these considerations are important: (1) The soil must be loosened (aerated and cultivated) occasionally to get water, air, and nutrients to the rootzone; (2) thatch (accumulation of undecayed plant material) must be removed to such a degree that continuous firm healthy growth may result.

Machines that punch holes in the turf do limited cultivating and loosening but they aid in letting water, air and nutrients into the rootzone. The operation of vertical mowing equipment following aerating removes some of the thatch from the surface but cannot get at troublesome, deep-seated thatch.

None of these machines should be used on new Penncross greens until you begin to experience difficulty in getting water into the soil. Allow at least a full year to elapse before starting soil treatments unless trouble shows up sooner.

A better mixture for topdressing may be four sand, two soil, one peat. Too much peat may cause serious difficulty by retaining too much water.

Eliminating Clover

Q: We have a problem of clover on our nine greens. It is coming in more and more each year but up to last summer there was not too much. One green was just full of it.

A supply company salesman told me that some supts. are using 2,4,5-T to eliminate the clover condition on greens and said this would not harm the bent grass. Our grass is Seaside bent. (Illinois)

A. You may use 2,4,5-T on greens to control clover but use it at only about one-quarter recommended rate. Repeat as needed. Be sure to maintain a good feeding program. Clover can be reduced, and even eliminated, by a good nitrogen feeding program balanced with low P and medium K.

To Prevent Erosion

Q: On our course we have a very steep hill with a fairway at the bottom. The side of the hill is covered with rock to prevent erosion. We plan to cover it with dirt and plant over the rocks. Can you tell me what you recommend for this situation? (Wisconsin)

A: I suggest use of Penngift crownvetch. It will grow in unbelievably low fertility conditions and do a good job of preventing erosion while, at the same time, create a very attractive appearance. It needs no maintenance on a rocky hillside.

With crownvetch there is no need whatsoever to cover the rocks with dirt. If you use seed it lodges in the pockets and crannies and crags and will spread very nicely to cover the rocks.
Bob Duguid Winds Up Long Career as Superintendent

Robert Duguid, Sr., who learned the greenkeeping art in Scotland and brought his knowledge to Canada and later U. S. courses, retired as supt. of Timuquana C.C., Jacksonville, Fla., Apr. 30. Bob, whose son is sales mgr. of Roseman Mower Corp., Evanston, Ill., is a native of Aberdeen, Scotland. He came to this continent before World War I, worked at courses in British Columbia, served with the Canadian Army in France as a 1st sergeant and was named supt. of Evanston CC in 1923. In 1943, he left the golf business to manage a citrus farm near Dunedin, Fla. Seven years later Duguid returned to Evanston CC and stayed there two years before accepting the supt’s position at Timuquana.

Bob is a charter member of both the GCSA and Midwest GCSA and at one time was pres. of the Georgia-Florida Turfgrass Assn. He and his wife, Nellie, also a native of Scotland, will continue to make their home in Jacksonville.

Roots Get Hurt

(Continued from page 40)
in. as at 2 ins. Even Merion and selections similar to Merion are favored by high mowing, although obviously they are much better able to withstand close mowing than other varieties and common lots.

If all other factors in the growth of grass, fertilization, temperatures, lack of compaction, etc., were ideal, mowing practices alone would prevent natural root growth. It’s a small wonder that supts. have done as well as they have in learning to live with shallow-rooted grass and managing to keep it functional. Mowing as high as use will permit and cutting frequently to remove only a low percentage of top growth will help root development.
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(Continued from page 32)

Philly Golf Show

fields who, in the opinion of a section committee have contributed most to the furtherance of golf in the Philadelphia area over the past few years. Winners were Joe Schwendeman of The Evening and Sun Bulletin; “Red” McCarthy of the Norristown (Pa.) Times-Herald; Tom Rodgers of WFIL and WFIL-TV; Otts Hullesberg of the Camden (N. J.) Courier-Post; Fred Byrod of the Philadelphia Inquirer; Mayer Brandeschain of the Philadelphia Inquirer; Bill Cambell of WCAU and WCAU-TV; and Jack Whitaker of WCAU and WCAU-TV.

The show ran from noon to 10 p.m. Prior to the admittance of the public the pros had an opportunity to inspect the various exhibits and to get acquainted with some of the new equipment and accessories available to them.

There was always some attention-getting event in progress from the opening hour until closing. Lesson and driving areas were constantly in use when the panel discussions were not in progress.

Need More Clubs

“I think this show demonstrates,” Fraser said, “that there is increasing enthusiasm for golf. At present, we really need more clubs to take care of this great swing to golf as a participant sport. A lot more questions were asked of the pros this year than at any other show we have sponsored.

Television showings of championship golf matches have stimulated a tremendous interest in golf. Women are following their husbands in taking up the game. Where the women are concerned, golf styles offered in the pro shops are attracting great attention. The free swinging skirts insure comfort as well as high style. There is also a trend toward lighter type shoes.

“This show really kicks off the season in the Philadelphia area, especially with the weather getting balmy and interest at such an all time high. I was interested in listening to the great number of questions asked of the panel members and the pros who gave free instructions. Many of the questions were concerned with the transfer of weight in handling a swing. This is a good tipoff that people are intensely interested in improving their games.”

Fraser said that the Par 3 courses, ranges and miniature layouts have helped