LAHER TURF-KARE KAR

the Money Maker

SUMMER OR WINTER • RAIN OR SHINE

- When the ground is too soft to walk on, ride the LAHER TURF-KARE KAR without damage to the turf.
- The LAHER TURF-KARE KAR is the only successful design in the field of 15"-tire cars in the golf car industry. That is why LAHER has manufactured more large 15"-tire cars than the combined golf car manufacturing industry.
- LAHER TURF-KARE KARS are a "must" on soft, wet, golf courses and a turf-saver on dry courses.
- NOTE: One famous country club cashed in $100,000 in 12 months on 45 TURF-KARE KARS. The previous year, with other carts, a little over 1/2 that amount. Another club reports, "Our LAHER TURF-KARE KAR fleet has been operating 3 years on original batteries, and carts are as good as new." Another, in the Northwest, paid for entire fleet in one year on rental income.

ASK FOR A DEMONSTRATION — "DREAM RIDE"
SPRING SUSPENSION, FINGER-TIP STEERING,
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Superintendents tell how they

Prevent snow mold by spraying with

Snow mold stops where "Tersan" 75 is applied. An application of "Tersan" 75 would have prevented the snow mold on the apron as it did on the green. Note how the snow mold damage stops right at the green. You can get the same excellent protection on greens, aprons, tees and fairways by applying "Tersan" 75 or "Tersan" OM fall and spring as recommended.
from damaging turf
Du Pont Tersan® 75
TURF FUNGICIDE

No snow mold where he applies "Tersan" 75

“In late November, just before snow time, I apply ‘Tersan’ 75 with sand as a carrier, and I’ve never had snow mold on my greens. Applied properly, ‘Tersan’ 75 gives excellent protection.

“For disease control throughout the playing season, I have used ‘Tersan’ 75 on my greens since it came on the market, spraying at recommended rates every week or ten days. I have never had disease on my greens.”

Mr. Richard Baxter
Pro-Supt., Taconic Golf Club
Williams College
Williamstown, Massachusetts

Experience has taught me that ‘Tersan’ 75 offers excellent protection from snow mold damage. I used ‘Tersan’ 75 for snow mold control on 19 greens of new Pencross grass and had excellent results, even though there was quite a bit of snow mold on the unsprayed fairways. This fall I’m planning to spray the whole course with ‘Tersan’ 75.

“During the playing season ‘Tersan’ 75 gives excellent protection, and it is a real labor saver. It’s compatible with soluble fertilizers and insecticides; it mixes easily and doesn’t clog sprayer nozzles.”

“Uramite” ureaform fertilizer is ideal nitrogen source. Mr. Sirianni goes on to say, “I use ‘Uramite’ on the greens twice a year, once in May and again around Labor Day. I’ve used ‘Uramite’ on two new courses in the last five years and have found it an ideal nitrogen source for establishing greens and maintaining good, healthy turf growth all season long. My father, John Sirianni, superintendent for 43 years at the Conewango Valley Country Club, Warren, Pennsylvania, and I have used ‘Uramite’ ever since it came on the market.”

On all chemicals follow labeling instructions and warnings carefully.

SEMESAN®
turf fungicide
—specially prepared mercurial for hard-to-control diseases

ETERSAN® OM
turf fungicide
—combines the effectiveness of "Tersan" 75 with organic mercury

URAMITE®
ureaform fertilizer
—38% nitrogen—feeds slowly, keeps nitrogen at proper level

Mr. Frank A. Sirianni
Superintendent
Sewickley Heights Golf Club
Sewickley, Pennsylvania

On all chemicals follow labeling instructions and warnings carefully.

October, 1961
Looking Back on '61

Keeping Ahead of Golfers Pushed Maintenance Crews to the Limit

By C. G. WILSON

There was no recession in the wear and tear on golf turf in 1961. Play increased to the saturation point. Supts. everywhere asked not what to do, but "when can we get the job done?"

Art Twombly at New York's James Baird State Park used three tractors with fairway gangs operating in tanden to stay ahead of the thundering herds of golfers. In Milwaukee, two greens on every hole are being contemplated for a new county course. So-called "temporaries" are commonplace on most courses there. However, someone will have to coin a new word for these secondary greens. They are far from temporary. Maintained like regular greens, play can be switched to them at a moment's notice.

Private Clubs Pressed

Even the private clubs were finding it increasingly difficult to stay ahead of play. Vanishing from the American scene is Monday's day of turf rest. It has been usurped by caddies, policemen, etc., as well as the regular member who finds more leisure time to enjoy his game. In some respects this has increased private club turf problems so that they are more numerous than at daily fee courses. Turf supplier, C. O. Borgmeier, George A. Davis, Inc., Chicago, estimates machinery operation at 50 percent of efficiency due
to the private club golfer’s insistence on quiet and no distractions from labor while playing. Naturally this occurred while the same golfer was fussing about the high cost of course upkeep. Meanwhile his public counterpart was dodging sprinklers and putting out while the mower was cutting the green, and taking it in stride.

Impressive as the figures are, new course construction is not solving the traffic headaches now, nor is it expected to in the future. Possibly the answer is a holiday for turf in the growing season. One nine at a time could be closed on 18-hole links. Smaller clubs could stagger their days of rest with neighboring courses where guest privileges could be exchanged.

Secondary Tees, Greens?

Short of this, permanent secondary greens and tees will find increasing favor on private and public courses alike; or maintenance after dark will receive more than lip service. Incidentally, this has been done successfully on some courses entertaining major golf tournaments.

It is possible that greenmasters at future turf meetings will be as interested in tractor lights, dew removal and wet grass cutting, as they are today in horsepower, draw bar pull and the frequency of cut. Certainly turf experts everywhere will be discussing the merits of preventing compaction as they now talk about prevention of disease. Many now rightly think the two are related. Compaction from traffic influences disease as well as weeds, availability of nutrients and other turf problems.

All problems turfwise are influenced primarily by weather. This brings us to a detailed description of what happened to golf turf in 1961.

While growing conditions were generally good in the Midwest, they were good only for bents and bluegrasses until late summer. The poor Kansas City supt. who had renovated fairways and planted Bermuda experienced nothing but grief until the weather warmed.

Arctic vs. Tropical

Transplanting a shrub from the north to the south side of a clubhouse is equivalent to a 200 mile journey due south, according to the Kansas State agronomist, Ray Keen. Although the actual distance is only a few feet, the climatic change is drastic. Such is the case on every course. The grass in turf areas facing north is growing under near polar conditions. On the other side of the hill, heat from the southern sun is adding 4 to 6 weeks to the growing season.

Many southern courses will be overseeding winter grass greens as this issue of Golfdom comes off the press. Several will be using a mixture of bent, domestic rye and poa trivialis with or without fescue and Kentucky blue grass. Bent is too slow in becoming established when used alone. Rye is good initially, but fades rapidly with hot weather in the spring. Pennlawn fescue, when used alone, was only satisfactory the first of two winters at East Lake in Atlanta. It has not been good either year at Sea Island, also in Georgia. Farther north, it has been very good in Schmidt’s trials in Norfolk and Blacksburg, Va. Poa trivialis has been outstanding among the individual grasses in our trials, but performs even better in mixtures.

It Wasn’t a Bargain

One thing sure, clubs that bought bargain, non-certified Seaside bent last fall will pay the added price for certified seed this year. The rosette type weed present in the bargain seed was costly to get rid of and displeased the vacationing golfer.

Spring kill problems were intense in some areas. The Eastern seaboard had (Continued on page 132)
Fred Grau (r), as well known as a speaker as he is a writer on turf topics, addressed a recent meeting of the Pocono Turfgrass Assn. at Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, Pa. In the photo at left are (l to r): Paul C. Grant, inkeeper, Shawnee Inn; Paul E. Weiss Shawnee supt.; George Smith, pres. of the assn. and supt. at Allentown Municipal; Grau; Fred Waring Shawnee proprietor; John Patterson, vp of the assn., of Sparrow Bush, N. Y.; and Francis Leferts, Pocono sec.-treas., of Port Jarvis, N. Y.

Need Is Desperate

Wanted: Tougher Grasses for the Transition Zone

By FRED V. GRAU

Tougher grasses that snap back more rapidly desperately are needed for tees and fairways. Better equipment and management methods deserve attention simultaneously. The inferior grasses on many tees and fairways simply vanished in 1961 during periods of high temperatures and humidity. The destruction was greatest in the twilight or transition zone where too much reliance has been placed on bents and bluegrasses. Not all the grass was hacked to death. Water, traffic and disease played a big part. Countless acres of turf will be renovated this fall and reseeded to what with what results?

The normal putting green problems appeared. They were minor compared to tees and fairways, and were mostly man made. The tragic episodes on greens were those where rebuilding was necessary before the new course was properly in play. Improved grasses with modern equipment and knowhow have provided golfers with more and better greens than at any time in history in spite of the useless deterioration of turf caused by human error. Water, more than any one thing, was the villain in disguise. Too many golfers and green chairmen insist that the greens be kept soft with excess water. In one instance (not an isolated one) the greens were watered 4 to 5 hours in the front, then 4 to 5 hours in the back, using a set sprinkler. Poa was the only grass that
guard against snow mold
all winter long

CALO-CLOR® YOUR GREENS

Turf severely attacked by snow mold usually must be completely re-seeded or sodded. Prevention is your only sure protection.

One CALO-CLOR application before the first hard freeze can protect your greens against ruinous snow mold for the entire winter.

Apply 3 ounces of CALO-CLOR per 1,000 sq. ft. of green. Where conditions are severe, make a second application after a midwinter thaw.

Stock up now, so you’re ready to spray quickly when the wind begins to bite.

PREVENTION IS YOUR ONLY SURE PROTECTION

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could grow but the question was, “What can we do about Poa?” We still have a long way to go in the educational field on the simplest basic management procedures.

A great deal of grass needlessly is injured by burning with excessive and uneven applications of “hot” fertilizers, another example of human error.

**Renovation of Greens**

Complete rebuilding is the best cure for many old, unsatisfactory greens. Lack of drainage basically is responsible for poor performance. This fault should be the first to be corrected during reconstruction.

Decisions on proportions of sand, soil and organic material largely are individual propositions. Sands vary widely in particle size and shape, silt content and gradation. Soil ranges from sand to loam to clay and no two are the same. There are many sources of organic matter which have individual characteristics. Should we use calcined clay — leavened lava — or modified mica? Agreement on “ideal” mixtures remains to be developed. Much dissatisfaction is heard concerning greens built with “high-sand” mixtures because they do not hold enough water. It becomes clear that mixtures for greens need to be defined more precisely in more technical terms so that final mixtures that work can be more nearly reproduced. Work in this direction is in progress. The most ambitious program known is under the direction of Joseph Duich at Penn State where 80 mixtures of 9 materials in varying percentages are placed on a uniformly well-drained base for a long-term study under turf.

**Improving Mediocre Ones**

Many mediocre greens are being improved by a process of frequent cultivation, thatching, spiking, vertical mowing, fertilization, top dressing and replanting. Seed most commonly is used in renovation. Penncross and Seaside are employed with something less than total agreement on the pros and cons of each.

Hydroseeding is a term familiar in highway development. The Finn Co. in Cincinnati has developed remarkable equipment for planting seed mixed with water, lime, fertilizer and inoculant. Some use has been made of this equipment for planting golf courses.

Recently a notable first was achieved whereby a power sprayer was used for hydroseeding established greens. The scene was Maple Bluff CC, Madison, Wis. The idea was related by this writer to Roger Larson, course supt., and to Ralph Christopherson of Janesville during a visit in August. In Sept. the plan was executed and pictures were taken to record the event.

**Madison Experiment**

The half green (2,000 sq. ft.) was pow-er-spiked in three directions to provide a multitude of “pits” to catch and hold seed and fertilizer in contact with soil. All screens were removed from the spray-er. The tank was loaded with 75 gals. of water, 10 lbs. of insoluble powdered nitrogen fertilizer (no P&K needed) and one lb. of improved bent seed. The agitated mixture, with a wetting agent added to cause seed to blend, was sprayed in three passes to exhaust the tank. Counts made on a tee towel laid out for a check showed 35 to 40 seeds per square inch with excellent uniformity of distribution. The operation was declared an unquali-fied success.

A similar procedure was carried out at Tyranena GC in Lake Mills, Wis. Tom Lees, owner, soaked the improved bent seed for 2 hours before adding it to the spray tank. For 4,000 sq. ft. the tank was charged with 75 gals. of water, 2 lbs. of seed and 20 lbs. of 38-0-0 insol-uble powdered fertilizer, well agitated. Greens were prepared by 2-way vertical mowing, hollow-tine aerating, calcined-clay topdressing, 2-way power spiking, and complete fertilizer with trace ele-ments. Five days after hydroseeding the bent seeds were showing visible green sprouts.

Overseeding Bermuda greens with improved creeping red fescues, and mixtures containing red fescue, will be popular following the research work of Schmidt and Blaser of VPI and others. Never be-fore has such high quality winter turf been experienced for such a long period of time and up until the new Bermuda growth takes over in late spring. Hydro-seeding fescue and fescue mixtures offers distinct possibilities for uniform distribu-tion of seed and fertilizer.

**Fairway Problems**

Considerations for better fairways (and tees) must be approached on the basis of the dominant grass involved. Bermudagrasses furnish excellent turf, resistant to wear, heat, close mowing, diseases and insects especially when man-aged intelligently. Improved cold-tolerant types permit this grass to be used on the (Continued on page 128)
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