

Fall Seeding Helps Greens

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PUTTING greens are seldom so good that they do not require repairing at some time of the year to thicken the stand of grass on the filling in of small bare patches resulting from the removal of weeds or other causes.

The advantages to be derived from fall seeding are several and should be completed by the 15th of September as at this time the ground is warm and full advantage can be taken of the fall rains giving the young plant ample time to establish before the early frost and short days come along. The weather at this time of the year being particularly favorable to the quick growth of grass—the ground being both warm and moist so that the young plant gets a chance to root deep as well as growing upwards and be in good condition to stand any ordinary winter and start away strong in the spring hardy enough to withstand the cold winds of early spring.

Preparing Established Greens for Fall Seeding

THIS work pays to be done thoroughly by taking sharp-toothed steel rakes and rake well in different directions. This cleans out any rubbish as well as opening up the surface for a seed bed. After a good scarify with the rakes take a machine set as low as possible and double cut. If turf is thin sow from 25 pounds to 50 pounds of seed, but if turf is thick and of good texture from ten pounds to fifteen pounds will be ample to a green from thirty yards by thirty yards using two cubic yards of good screened compost enriched with one hundred and fifty pounds of fertilizers.

I am using 5-12-2, as a general rule any of the less soluble fertilizers should be used in the autumn. The idea is to strengthen the grass after the trying summer weather and nourish it through the winter months. To do this it is necessary to use a fertilizer slow in ac-

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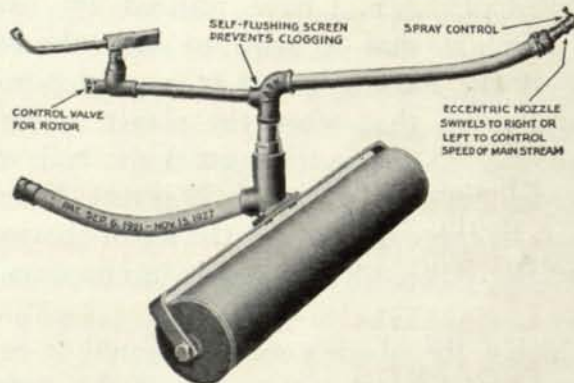
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tion and not to force a strong growth of soft grass at this time of the year. Whilst the compost or basis of the mixture for a spring dressing remains the same, the chemical composing may be different. The autumn dressing precedes a period of rest, the spring dressing one of activity and life and so requires a quicker action.

Greens that are established and of good thick turf texture may not need any seed, but a good scarify with the rakes and cut low and when topdressed the same as described the green will take on new life and will well repay for the work done.

Tees and Fairways

FAIRWAYS that are thin or weedy should be attended to at this time of the year. Weedy fairways will be greatly improved by applying fertilizers. In the fall of 1927 I used bone meal and sulphate of ammonia, eighty per cent bone meal to twenty per cent of sulphate of ammonia at the rate of five hundred pounds per acre with excellent results. Tees treated the same way responded well to this treatment.

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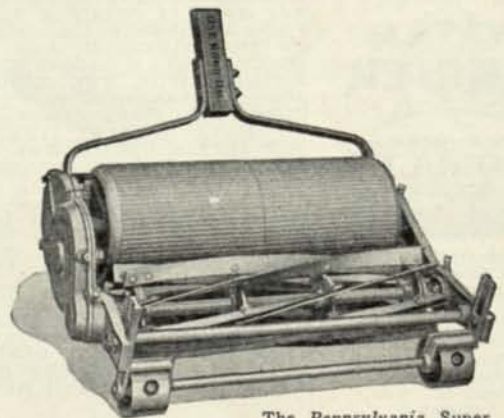
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