Tests of Plugs from Putting Greens

From Ohio Humus Laboratory, London, Ohio

These photographs were taken from plugs during the early fall before close cutting had been stopped. They show how the amount of soil humus present controls the amount of water and air it is possible to get in the soil of the green. Also the rootage which comes from the creation of healthy conditions for our Nitrobacteria.

Green No. 202. This green required ten hours of slow watering in order to get one and one-half inches of penetration. Conditions in this green were uniformly bad with a very low soil humus content.

Green No. 209. This green required three hours of slow watering for a penetration of three inches to which depth rootage extended. This green by careful watering was kept in fair condition. The amount of soil humus was greatly increased over Green No. 202. There was no humus added in the original construction of the above green.

Green No. 207. This green required thirty minutes for a penetration to four and one-quarter inches which was the depth of rootage and the limit of abundant soil humus. One inch hose at 35 pound pressure at the green was used. This green was one year old the day sample was taken.

The lower white line on each cross section of each plug indicates the depth of greatest soil humus supply and depth of rootage. Below this line, moisture penetration was very slow.