How I Control Brown Patch

As told to Prof. George M. McClure of the Department of Soils, Ohio State University by Altillio Milrenee, greenkeeper, Columbus Country Club, Columbus, Ohio

This in brief is the way Mr. Milrenee outlined his procedure. Personally, I believe that the daily poling is responsible for at least a 50 per cent control. His practice in using Caloclor differs materially from the one ordinarily followed in that a much smaller quantity is used and the material is put on dry and is not watered in. This method insures the material remaining on the blades of the grass where the fungus gets in its deadly work. This, I think, is a much better method than watering the material in because the watering immediately washes the Caloclor off of the blades of the grass, and renders it ineffective.

EARLY every morning, and by early Mr. Milrenee means between 5 and 6 a.m., he poles the greens thoroughly. For this he uses an

ordinary flexible bamboo pole. Each workman has charge of three greens and the time required for poling each green is approximately 20 minutes. By having the workmen on the job at 5 a. m. this poling is completed by 6.

Following the poling the greens are watered and the watering is completed some time between 9 and 10 a.m. Following the watering the greens are mowed and the traps raked, all of this being finished by 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the workmen having finished a full day's work by 2:30. So much for the daily treatment of the greens.

As a prophylactic treatment, Milrenee applies Caloclor at least once a week to each green at the rate of 3 ounces for every 6000 square feet of turf, which is equivalent to one-half ounce of Caloclor per 1000 square feet. At

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the same time he applies one of a number of fertilizer materials, varying the material each time. One week he may use sulfate of ammonia, the next week an 8-5-3 fertilizer, the next week Urea, and so on.

No matter which fertilizer is used, he puts it on at the rate of 5 pounds for every 6000 square feet of turf. The fertilizer and Caloclor are mixed with sand. He mixes enough for all 18 greens at once, using sand, Caloclor and fertilizer in the ratio of 25 pounds of sand, 3 ounces of Caloclor and 5 pounds of whatever fertilizer he wishes to apply. These are mixed together the day preceding that on which he wishes to apply them.

For mixing he uses an ordinary concrete mixer but he says that a thorough hand mixing does just as well, provided care is taken to get a uniform mix. This material is applied by hand broadcasting, it taking about 20 minutes to treat one green. It requires a certain knack on the part of the workmen to get the material evenly distributed. It is applied only when the turf is dry and is not watered in.

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10 hours after the material has been applied, it greatly lessens the effectiveness of the treatment and consequently Milrenee will make a second application.

In distributing the mixture of sand, Caloclor and fertilizer to the greens, it is first put in bags or buckets at the service shed and Milrenee distributes the proper amount to each green early in the morning so that it is on hand and ready for the workmen. Consequently they lose no time in making trips from the different greens back to the service house.

