

ber 1 for the Northern latitudes) and the ground permitted to remain fallow for about two weeks.

It should then be prepared for seeding. If the area is not ready until mid-summer, grow only one cover crop, and if it should be fall before any work could be done on the lawn area, sow winter rye to plow in early spring to be followed by two more cover crops. If the soil contains over twenty-five percent clay, one application of lime at the rate of fifty pounds per one thousand square feet of surface will be of great benefit.

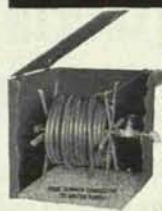
On soils capable of growing a fair vegetable garden cover-cropping need not be practiced, but it is very necessary on sandy or clay soils. In all cases the seed bed should be fully prepared in the fall, if possible in time for fall seeding and if not for spring seeding on the "honey comb," when the top is thawing and freezing.

All soils are improved by the addition of manures, and often they can be substituted for cover crops. The only factor against the use of manures is their unknown weed seed content. However, this liability need not be very serious if the manure is applied several weeks before seeding time, for a great majority of the weed seeds will have germinated and the young plants will be destroyed in the final preparation of the seed bed. It is far better to harrow the manure into a lawn surface than to plow it in.

PREPARING THE SEED BED

IN preparing the real seed bed (bed covers) the molded lawn should be thoroughly harrowed or shallow spaded. Grade strings should then be re-strung and the entire area raked with iron rakes. This raking should not only remove stones and debris, but should smooth out any unevenness and round off all sharp corners caused by abrupt bending of the grade lines. The raker should be cautioned to do as much "pushing" as "pulling" with his rake, otherwise there will be an excessive accumulation of loam at the lower part of the area.

Experience teaches (though it is seldom practiced) that it is better to rake up the slope than down it, for the same reason. As soon as this raking is completed and the area appears ready for the seed, roll the area with a medium heavy roller. Unexpected hollows and hills will appear, lumps of earth will be crushed and the temptation to seed after the first raking is alleviated by the obvious necessity for another raking. This raking, the final



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one, should be done with a wooden lawn rake. It should effectually smooth the surface and loosen the soil to a depth of at least three-quarters of an inch, leaving a soft, open clean and thoroughly pulverized seed bed.

If one desires to use a pre-seeding fertilizer other than the manures, super-phosphate at the rate of sixteen pounds per one thousand square feet will be found to be very helpful to the young grass plant. This should be incorporated into the soil with the first raking.

Golf Course News

A column of information brief and accurate.
Items are welcome and will be published.

NEW ENGLAND NOTES

By GUY C. WEST

GOLF in New England this spring has been largely very dependent upon the weather. Following a rather open winter when most courses used their regular greens at all times, April brought a very excessive rainfall, and the result was flood conditions, with many courses suffering from flooded lowlands, soggy fairways, etc.

The "No Play" signs were hung out in many clubs due to these wet conditions, and even the best of drainage facilities were taxed on all clubs.

The Greenkeepers' Club of New England held its last indoor meeting of the season on April 3 at the Hotel Statler, Boston. Dr. Howard B. Sprague of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment station was the speaker, and explained interestingly the various experiments conducted recently and the results obtained from them.

The annual Field Day for greenkeepers at the Rhode Island State College will be held this year on May 22. Exhibits will be limited to the small equipment. A trip to the experimental plots and a speaking program following lunch will complete the program.

Arthur W. MacLean, formerly assistant greenkeeper at the Kernwood Country Club, Salem, Mass. has recently been appointed greenkeeper at the Brattleboro Country Club, Brattleboro, Vt.

(Continued on page 14)