Make Your Fall Compost Quicker, Cheaper, Better

with a TORO Compost Machine

The only machine on the market that grinds and screens in one operation. Over 500 of them are serving with a big saving—and their average annual upkeep expense is less than $4 per machine.

Write for complete catalog of the TORO line of standard labor saving equipment for golf course maintenance.

TORO MANUFACTURING CO.
3042-3160 Snelling Ave.
Minneapolis, Minn.

ABC of Turf Culture
by O. J. NOER

The most practical and complete treatise on the growing of turf grasses ever published. Written in simple language which the layman can understand. A textbook on turf culture and soil chemistry.

The author combines a university education on this intricate subject with an intensely practical experience in golf course maintenance work throughout the United States.

A Reference Book for Every Day Use

CHAPTER HEADINGS

Factors Affecting Turf Growth
Effect of Size and Arrangement of Soil Particles on Turf Growth
The Part Water Plays in the Growth of Turf
The Functions of Organic Matter in the Soil
Soil Composition and How Plant Food Becomes Available
The Nature of Soil Acidity and Effect of Fertilizer Materials on Soil Reaction
Lime in Sand, Soil or Water Often Overcomes Acidic Properties of Sulphate of Ammonia
Essential Plant Food Elements and How Plants Feed
Elements and Characteristics of Various Groups of Fertilizer Materials
Composition and Properties of Individual Fertilizer Materials
Principles Underlying the Practical Use of Fertilizers on Greens and Fairways

Embossed Art Leather Binding—Pocket Size
Price—$3.00 Postpaid

The National Greenkeeper, Inc.
405 Caxton Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio
October, 1928

Single Copies Twenty-Five Cents.
Yearly Subscription to Members Two Dollars.
Yearly Subscription to Non-Members Three Dollars.

The National Greenkeeper
Official Organ of The National Association of Greenkeepers of America
Published monthly at 405 Caxton Building, Cleveland, Ohio.
Robert E. Power, President and Editor; Frank H. Pelton, Sec'y.; C. F. Lowe, Treas.; M. J. Fox, Asst.-Sec'y.
Entered as second-class matter, Aug. 25, 1928, at the post office, Cleveland, Ohio, under act of March 3, 1879.
All Rights Reserved—None of the contents of this Magazine, either wholly or in part, may be reprinted without permission.

VOLUME II.
No. 10

Contents

Brae Burn—A Tough Course
By Robert E. Power .......................... 5

Bobby Says 'Twas Perfect
By Robert E. Power ......................... 17

Applying Chemicals to Greens
By Victor George ............................. 10

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE .................. 22

The Greenkeepers' Place
By John R. Inglis ............................. 11

GREENKEEPER'S ALMANAC
By John MacGregor ........................... 23

How About It?
By Alex McWhinnie ........................... 13

MARKET PLACE AND BUYERS' GUIDE .... 26

Mid-West Greenkeepers
By Edward B. Dearie, Jr. .................... 23

Around the Office Desk ....................... 24

Officers—National Ass'n of Greenkeepers of America

John Morley, President
Youngstown Country Club
2248 Selma Avenue
Youngstown, Ohio

John McNamara, First Vice Pres.
Pittsburgh Field Club
Pittsburgh, Pa.

John MacGregor, Second Vice Pres.
Chicago Golf Club
Box 717, Wheaton, Ill.

Lewis M. Evans, Treasurer
Cedarbrook Country Club
Mt. Airy, Philadelphia, Penn.

John Quail, Secretary
Highland Country Club
426 Highland Avenue
West View, Pittsburgh, Penn.

Fred Burkhardt, Third Vice Pres.
Westwood Country Club
Box "A"—Rocky River Sta.
Cleveland, Ohio

H. Hawkins, Fourth Vice Pres.
Lakeview Golf Club
Port Credit, Ontario

Joseph Valentine, Fifth Vice Pres.
Merion Cricket Club
Philadelphia, Penn.

Charles Erickson, Sixth Vice Pres.
Minnehaha Club
Minneapolis, Minn.

Chester Mendenhall, Seventh Vice Pres.
Simpark Golf Club
Wichita, Kansas

James MuiRden, Eighth Vice Pres.
Ridgewood Golf Club
Cincinnati, Ohio

Capt. David L. Rees, Ninth Vice Pres.
Progress Country Club
Purchase, New York

J. O. Campbell, Tenth Vice Pres.
Wethersfield Country Club
Wethersfield, Conn.

Joe P. Mayo, Eleventh Vice Pres.
Pebble Beach Country Club
Pebble Beach, Calif.

Robert Henderson, Twelfth Vice Pres.
Country Club of Buffalo
Williamsville, N. Y.

Hugh C. Moore, Thirteenth Vice Pres.
St. Simon's Island Golf Club
St. Simon's Island, Georgia

Ford Goodrich, Fourteenth Vice Pres.
Flint Country Club
Flint, Michigan

R. S. Bell, Fifteenth Vice Pres.
Mount Bruno Country Club
Montreal, Canada

George Wellin, Sixteenth Vice Pres.
Tumblebrook Country Club
New Britain, Conn.

Official communication, membership dues, etc., should be mailed direct to the Secretary.
Editorial articles, photos, subscriptions, employment and golf show requests mail to 405
Caxton Bldg., Cleveland, O.
Brae Burn 31 Years Old

Brae Burn, now thirty-one years old last May, is located at West Newton, Massachusetts, a suburb about twelve miles northwest of Boston Common. The club has a remarkable course which offers both of the two golf courses for the members to use. It has a very large membership and is one of the few clubs in the country which operates without loss and has a man of unusual judgment and long experience.
Brae Burn—a Tough Course

By Robert E. Power, Editor
The National Greenkeeper

BRAE Burn is tough. It's what the illiterate golf scribes would call a "goat" golf course. That's one reason why in our opinion only the younger men survived the play after Wednesday in the National Amateur Championship which began on Monday, September 10 and finished Saturday, September 15 with another victory for the redoubtable Bobby Jones.

The slopes on many of the holes, especially the outgoing nine are so steep that traversing them is a species of miniature mountain climbing. Even Bobby Jones, twenty-six years old, sturdy and seasoned athlete, to my personal knowledge paused for breath on many occasions especially in the qualifying rounds when the galleries were small and the play moved rapidly.

All of which is coming to the point of our story—that Brae Burn is a greenkeeper's workhouse. Any time you think that John Shanahan's job is a cinch just because he has been there twenty-seven years you have another guess coming. Tees perched on promontories, hog-backed fairways, several double level greens and others with undulations that are actually bumps makes the maintenance problem one of the most difficult I have ever seen.

It takes an agile spiked-shoe golfer to climb to No. 2 tee or scale the steep approach to No. 9 green carrying no weight but his clothing. How do you suppose the man who mows No. 2 tee and No. 9 green makes out? I asked John if he used airplanes or balloons to get his mowers to some of these inaccessible places. He just laughed as though that was all in the day's work. After hiking around his course for two days, I felt like crawling into a bunk and sleeping for about eighteen hours. If, as they say, Bobby Jones makes twenty-five thousand dollars a year writing articles for newspapers and magazines because he is the champion, he certainly earned at least six months' salary in his week at Brae Burn.

Shanahan Rates High

I had the pleasure and benefit of carefully inspecting the Brae Burn course in company with John Morley of Youngstown and John MacGregor of Chicago on Monday and Tuesday, the qualifying days. These veteran officers of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America visited Boston as a compliment to John Shanahan and his associates in the New England Greenkeepers Association, of which Shanahan is president. The latter has long been rated nationally as one of the greatest greenkeepers in the United States.
After carefully inspecting his course from "stem to stern" as the sailors say, we can safely say that he is not overrated. We could find nothing undone, and considering that early September is absolutely the worst time in the year to get a course in championship condition Shanahan worked wonders. Why the United States Golf Association picked September 10th for the National Amateur on a northern course must have been due either to ignorance or a desire to put the greenkeeper out of business. We feel quite sure it wasn't the latter.

Just pause a moment you greenkeepers and chairmen all over the world to read the National Greenkeeper and think of the sleepless nights and weeks of worry John Shanahan went through, working silently, patiently and praying that weather conditions would give him a break to overcome the tremendous handicap of his position. Fortunately he had rains through July and August that kept his fairways green and growing. Brown patch came of course as it did everywhere else east of the Mississippi, but he knew how to fight it and did successfully.

When we hunted up the tall gaunt Irishman on Monday morning we expected to find a wreck. Instead his handclasp was hearty and he was smiling—a game greenkeeper and no mistake, and worthy his high standing. No wonder Bobby Jones who has real brains paid him a well-deserved tribute just as he did John MacGregor in Chicago—they were both battling a hell of a problem and they both won out. I hope the National Association of Green-keepers at their next meeting make Bobby an honorary member.

Brae Burn Made Me Dizzy

NOW about the Brae Burn golf course. In the beginning I said it was tough—tough on players, spectators and the greenkeeper. I wondered at first why the sedate New Englanders remained in stationary groups and didn't rush about much. I thought it was their dig-
This hole gave the amateur golfers plenty of trouble because of the creek bordering the fairway and the difficult contouring of the putting green.

Built originally in 1897 Brae Burn is aged and shows it. The putting greens are mats of mottled velvet and carpet bents which in June must have been marvelous. Unfortunately, between brown patch and crab grass they showed the effects of the worst season turf experts have seen in a quarter of a century. But the sturdy nature of these old bent grasses carried them through and they offered an undeniably accurate putting surface. Many players kicked to me about the tricky greens but the tricks were put in by the architect not the greenkeeper. I never saw so many consistently cross-eyed undulations in my life. The slopes ran every which way but the ball went exactly where you hit it.

Number 7 green was a bear. Only 412 yards long with the drive from one of those plateau tees and no bunkers about the green, it looked easy when I first saw it. But Monday night I noticed the scores were high and 5’s and 6’s were not uncommon. So I investigated and after watching several pairs play the hole the answer was easy. A funny blister runs catty corner across the green. If the player’s high mashie shot hit this bump his ball bounced into the steep bank closely bordering the green and was embedded in a hummocky mess of shaggy sheep’s fescue. There was only about one place you could pitch and hold that green. After disastrous pitching some played short and tried to run up over the steep slope. The results were so funny that it made you think of those mirror places where one minute you look short and fat and the next tall and thin.

**Sweetser Shut His Eyes**

JESS SWEETSER on Tuesday shut his eyes, shanked and half topped a four iron and wound up in the right hand bank hole high. Standing at a 60 degree angle he blindly clubbed at the ball and holed out for a birdie three. “Yes, that’s better than a six and I certainly needed that birdie,” was his retort. His partner hit two fine shots and took a 5. Tommy Aycock, the Florida amateur champion, accustomed to the flat southern greens and fairways was bowlegged and crosseyed when I saw him after the qualifying round. He told me that he offered to bet anybody and everybody five dollars that he could place a ball in a certain place on Number 7 green and they could not get down in two putts. Nobody took him up.

Not all the greens were tricky but those that were comparatively easy to putt on were bunkered for keeps. This was particularly true of the second nine where the premium on the shot
to the green was enormous. With three par 5 holes this second nine was a drag out and many a good golfer just regularly broke his back trying to keep up with the long hitters. After scrambling about the hump-backed first nine and doing a cross-country hike on the second nine every contestant at Brae Burn knew he had been on a he-man's golf course. He had to play every shot in his bag and without luck like Sweetser had on Number 7, he had to play them right.

Compared with Oakmont I think the tee shots were easier—not such tight bunkering through the green nor such great length required as a whole. But up to and around the greens Brae Burn takes second place to no course the championship has been played on in recent years.

Brae Burn Fairways Unusual

The turf on Brae Burn fairways was quite unusual. First, the soil is distinctly a sandy loam—more sand than loam—dark in color but fluffy. We found a mixture of seeded bents, native bent, blue grass, poa annua and
some fescue but not much. The bents predominated and they were very fine which gave the appearance of thin turf, yet the sod was closely knitted and firm.

Some heavy rains had brought out the worms in certain places and there were a few cuppy lies particularly on Number 18 where the ball often lodged between the worm casts. In most cases the fairway lies were fair but close enough to require very accurate hitting. I saw very few balls teed up so to speak, as is the case on many fescue fairways in the heavy soils of the Middle West.

The rough differed so much from the average course that it caused lots of comment. It was all sheeps fescue tough and bumpy but not long. Many a shot which looked fairly simple to the player as he came up to his ball turned out to be a nightmare. It was almost useless to try for distance but the old urge that we all have caused brassies and big irons to come out with disastrous results.

Personally, I think the Brae Burn rough bordering the fairways was the best for a big championship I have ever seen. Nothing like Sciota and Olympia Fields where they just let weeds and hay grow knee high. I saw no rough at Brae Burn over four to six inches but it was always a half stroke penalty at least.

But the face of the bunkers I cannot enthuse about. Here was sheeps fescue, but badly pitted with wash holes and almost without exception a ball in the face of the bunker was much worse off than in the sand. One good player took three shots to get out on Number 17. He took a six and I know had his tee shot been worse and in the sand he would have scored a four. Aside from that criticism there was nothing to find fault with the condition of the Brae Burn course.

We cannot close without mentioning the extreme courtesy and thoughtfulness of the Brae Burn committeeemen in handling the details of the tournament. Everything moved like clockwork and there was no noise or confusion anywhere. It was super-efficient headwork on the part of the Boston men coupled with an in-born spirit of hospitality that was felt by all.

---

**Know What Goes Into the Fertilizer You Use—**

One of America's foremost chemists pronounces the advantages of BESTIVALL equal to those of Peruvian Guano, which is generally recognized as the peer of all natural guanos.

What is BESTIVALL and how is it made? It is a pure By-Product of a live poultry packing plant. Shipments of live poultry are received from the West and South in poultry cars built for this purpose. These cars are cleaned out and this material together with what fowl are bound to die in transit, is mixed with the blood and offal from the killing room and put in large steel drums, there it is treated under high pressure steam for a number of hours, being then thoroughly dried and ground.

It comes to you finely pulverized, in its natural chemical proportions, nothing whatsoever being added to make weight or bulk, but a pure organic material, high in the availability of its chemical contents.

Not only is it valuable for the plant food it contains, but the nature of the rich manure content adds to and stimulates bacterial action in the soil making additional plant food available.

There will be no weed crop from the use of BESTIVALL. The drying process absolutely prevents seeds from germinating.

An application NOW will aid greatly to thicken up to grasses on both the fairways and putting greens, producing a deep, rich, velvety, green color, making them available for early spring play.

---

The Bestivall Manufacturing Company
1900 So. Delaware Ave.
Philadelphia

Say you saw the ad in The National Greenkeeper
Applying Chemicals To Greens

By Victor George, Greenkeeper, Country Club of Lafayette, Ind.

Applying different fertilizers and chemicals to my greens, in a quick, effective, safe and inexpensive way, has been my problem, and, no doubt, the problem of many greenkeepers. So, I believe it will not be out of order to review some of the methods I have used and am now using at the Country Club of Lafayette, Indiana.

Be it known that Lafayette is the headquarters of our old friend, B. P. One attack follows another, with such an alarming speed that it is necessary to treat the greens weekly and at times oftener. This, of course, means fertilizing to a greater extent than would otherwise be necessary, because there is nothing that will bring a green back quicker and better than a light dose of Ammonium Phosphate or Sulphate.

Back in 1925, we used Semesan (Chlorophenal Mercury). We used this in a 50 gallon barrel and applied with sprinkling cans at the rate of one pound to fifty gallons of water, to 1000 square feet. Effective though this method was, it took too much time. So, in 1926, the club invested in a rather elaborate power spray. We used this spray for some time, but found at best we had to spend from one hour to one and one-half hours per green; also there was great danger of burning, unless handled very carefully. We sold this spray at a good price and started using the dusting method.

In 1927, we commenced using Corrosive Sublimate, applying 1 pound per 6000 square foot, mixed in 1 yard of top dressing. Aside from the difficulty of thoroughly mixing 1 pound of mercury to 1 yard of soil, we saved considerable time, but still it seemed too slow. I tried putting the flags on temporary greens while treating, and almost got shot.

In the summer of 1927, I commenced broadcasting 1 pound of Calomel to one bucket of soil and in this way I was able to treat a green in about 15 minutes, having a man follow with the hose, and water thoroughly. As we have a very good water system, the whole operation was completed in about 20 minutes.

While seeding a rough with Sheep’s Fescue, using a cyclone seeder, I happened to think that this seeder could be used for treating greens. We tried the seeder and it sure does the work. We now apply the chemicals in about 5 minutes and by using 4 men, leaving one on each green, to sprinkle, I am able to treat 9 greens in 3 hours, and no danger of burning, unless the men with the hose get careless, which I am glad to say has not happened so far.

My assistant has a pair of splendid legs and gets over the course in no time at all, leaving me free to superintend the watering, which is, of course, the most important part in using this method.

As the cyclone seeder as sold on the market is not substantial enough for this work, I had a tin hopper with a funnel-shaped bottom made, which feeds the soil freely to the whirlwheel. Also, the gear and handle is too light, which requires replacing by a heavier one. This can be done with very little expense, and thus for a five dollar bill, you can get the best fertilizer distributor attainable.