The National Greenkeeper

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Without water; as a result after the green was sprinkled it would show scald spots.

No Webworms In Wichita
By CHESTER MENDENHALL, Greenkeeper
Wichita Country Club, Wichita, Kansas

In reply to Colonel John Morley's questionnaire:

No. 1. We were not bothered with turf webworms this season.

No. 2. We use a mercury and calomel compound as a preventative for brown patch. This treatment has been very successful.

We fertilized our greens every fourteen days during the summer months, using a very light application of fertilizer. The fertilizer is mixed with dry sand and applied to the green with a Thompson fertilizer spreader. The fertilizing is done late in the evening just before sundown and watered in by the night water man.

No. 3. We do not use organic fertilizer during the summer months.

No. 4. I think that over-watering and over-feeding will hasten fungus diseases. But there are

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No. 14 AT THE WESTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, CLEVELAND
other dangers in over-feeding. If you over-feed grass during the hot summer months and run into a few days of damp, cool weather you are sure in for trouble. You will get a rapid, sappy growth, and every time you mow your greens they will get lighter in color and more sappy. Then when that hot sun comes out they will melt down like a fat man that has been over-fed and kept in the shade.

So I would say feed often, feed light, but beware of over-feeding.

---

**Turf Problems At Crestmont**

By JOHN ANDERSON, Greenkeeper

*Crestmont Golf Club, West Orange, N. J.*

The season just passing will probably go down in history as being one of the hardest for the green-keeper, especially in the East. From early June until late August, weather conditions have been such that some of the golf courses with the oldest and best established turf have found it very hard to keep greens, tees, and even fairways in playing condition. The reason mostly is poor drainage.

Three major tournaments were staged at Crestmont this season. The Women's Open, June 11, 12, and 13; we had so much rain before and during this tournament that we were pumping the water out of traps and bailing it out of depressions in the fairways for five hours before the start of the last day's play. These conditions showed us where our drainage system was deficient. Three of the approaches to the greens were so bad one week after this tournament that they had to be re-sodded.

A hot sun beat down on us in that water-soaked condition and wiped the Poa Annua and the Kentucky Blue Grass right out of these approaches. There was nothing to do but drain and re-sod them. They were playable for the Metropolitan Open, July 13, 14 and 15, but we continued to get lots of rain and very hot sun. It taxed us to the limit to keep the greens right. Repeated attacks of brown patch, mostly large, were intercepted just in time, using a mixture one part Bichloride and three parts Calomel: three ounces to 1000 square feet in twenty pounds of mushroom soil and sand. No fertilizer whatever was applied.

Early in the spring about May 1, four samples of soil were taken from each green and tested for acidity. Also for phosphoric acid content and showed a test of 6.4. Each one being high in phosphoric acid and each green tested the same. Keeping this test in mind, with very little acidity we applied fifteen pounds of ammonium sulphate to each green ten days before the late New Jersey Open, which started August 15. This was applied on Friday, in solution. That night it rained all night and all Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon and Sunday was very hot. On Monday morning all the poa annua in every green was gone.

Fortunately only three greens had enough poa annua to leave noticeably large bare spots, but they looked bad enough to me, even if there was some clover left. I immediately spiked the bare spots, seeded with red top and Colonial bent and top-dressed with mushroom soil. The New Jersey Open came and went and some favorable comments were passed on the condition of the greens, but I could not help feeling that there were plenty of missed putts on those three greens.

I have learned this season that it is not a question of how much water to apply when watering greens but to find out the minimum that is required and let that be the guide. Too much water, together with repeated applications of fungicides applied to greens which do not have sufficient surface or under drainage to run off excess water, has been the reason why many golfers have been playing temporary greens this season.

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Calo-Clor For Brown Patch
By THOS. M. TODD, Greenkeeper
Rolling Green Country Club,
Arlington Heights, Ill.

In answer to the questionnaire sent out by our president, I will give a brief outline of our troubles this summer and how we handled our greens fertilizing during the season.

We were not troubled with webworm seriously enough to require treatment. There were some to be found but were so few that very little or no damage was caused by them.

We have nine greens seeded with South German bent and redtop which were attacked quite severely with large brown patch. Eighteen Washington bent greens were infected with small brown patch at times, but it was never very severe and we have never yet found any large patch on them.

We were less troubled with the small brown patch this year than we were the preceding two years that I have been here. One and one-half ounces to two ounces of Calo-Clor mixed with water and put on with sprinkling carts at the rate of one barrel to approximately one thousand feet was sufficient to check the disease in every case except on the large brown patch which required two successive treatments during the hot spell we had in June.

I have found that Calo-Clor does not have a harmful effect even when used on a hot day and without sprinkling afterwards if no more than one and one-half ounces are used to a fifty gallon barrel of water. It gives better control than a heavier dose washed in.

The only organic fertilizer I have used this summer was some pulverized poultry manure. I used it mixed with a complete mineral fertilizer and put it on dry with a fertilizer spreader. The mixture was put on the last week in May or rather about ten days before the last of May. A few greens were given some more of the same mixture during the first week of August, while the rest of the greens received the mineral fertilizer alone. Between the last part of May and the first part of August, two rather light applications of sulphate of ammonia were put on with the sprinkling carts. In the early spring a fairly heavy application of the complete mineral fertilizer was put on.

We water greens every other night but as our water supply is somewhat limited we cannot water very heavily.

The grass on our greens has never appeared healthier or of a better color than it has this year, nor has it ever before resisted the attacks of brown patch so well. I believe that over-feeding does hasten fungus diseases by making the grass too soft to resist disease. So all of my fertilizer applications after the first spring feeding are rather light.

I think that if the grass has a constant supply of food to draw from it is better than to have periods of starvation alternating with periods of over-abundance of food. As for watering, perhaps it may hasten the attack of fungus diseases if the green is not well drained, both underneath and on the surface, so that the grass becomes weak from air starvation.

I have not been able to observe the action of diseases on greens that have been dried out for lack of water as I have not been on a course where such a condition existed. However, our fairways, which are not watered, suffered badly this summer from "fairy ring." The rough, both bluegrass and fescue,

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was also affected. Due to the entire course being brown and dry the disease did not show up much until after the recent rains. Since the rains the damage is very apparent. Heavy rains in June followed by extremely hot weather is in my opinion responsible for the disease and scald on the fairways.

Hammond Uses Milorganite
By FLOYD HAMMOND, Greenkeeper
Ella W. Sharp Park, Jackson, Michigan

In reply to your questionnaire, I will say that we had some trouble from the webworm on three or four greens. We applied arsensate of lead at the rate of six pounds to each one thousand square feet of turf and had very good results from this treatment, although on one green we had to make a second application.

The rest of the greens had a treatment of arsensate of lead in the month of May. This was applied for chickweed and I think this was the reason that the worms did not affect them.

In regards to brown patch, we had an attack of large brown patch about the 28th of June. We used a spray of corrosive sublimate—three ounces to one thousand square feet. This stopped the fungus for a time but we had two more attacks at intervals of about three weeks. We applied the same treatment each time and did not suffer any serious results from it, but we had a case of sun scald. The grass seemed to die out in quite large areas around the outside of the greens. We had to patch some of them.

Later I noticed that the roots of the bent seemed to be nearly all dead. The grass did not seem to respond to applications of fertilizer and browned up very badly wherever the cups were placed. The greens were very fast on account of this and did not hold pitch shots well. We disced them with a spiked disc, going over them three or four times and topdressed with sharp sand mixed with our regular topdressing about one-third sand. As a result our greens are back to normal now.

We use Milorganite and sulphate of ammonia for our greens, applying very light doses during July and August. Just enough to keep them from going off color as this is a public course and naturally our play is very heavy during these months. We have to apply some fertilizer to keep the grass from getting worn out.

We use about five pounds of Milorganite and two pounds of sulphate at three-week intervals during this period.

Over-watering or over-feeding may have a bad effect on greens in some cases, but I think the weather conditions have a great deal to do with it. We have used the same methods for four years and have had very little trouble with fungus diseases.

In 1930 we had no trouble at all. Our greens were in perfect condition all year. In 1928-29 we had but very little trouble either, so it would seem that the weather or some other factor influences the fungus quite materially.

Season Caused Gray Hairs
By BERT BARROWS, Greenkeeper
Kenosha Country Club, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Without a doubt this season has caused greenkeepers of this country plenty of grey hairs. I know my best friend, Mr. F. T. Neff, Green committee chairman, and myself received our share.

As to your questions on webworm and turf problems, I am answering them as follows:

Our greens were affected more or less with the webworm. We applied five pounds of arsensate of lead to one thousand square feet, using the barrel, following with a light topdressing using no organic fertilizer, but good soil and one part sharp sand. In case the green was damaged we use a small part of Milorganite for quick recovery.

We had no sun scald this summer as the greens were watered all night sometimes up to ten A.M., just removing sprinklers long enough to mow, cutting every day.

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In regard to a green being overfed, no doubt that will hasten brown patch during the hot, muggy nights such as we had this season. Small brown patch has been the most troublesome this year, appearing after each warm rain and sultry nights. We tried every so-called brown patch remedy but found Calomel to be the best and quickest for complete recovery. Where clubs are able to use it every two weeks, using three ounces to fifty gallons of water per thousand square feet, it will keep brown patch in check.

During the summer months (the hottest) we treated our greens with a very little topdressing using no organic fertilizer, applying a light dressing of good soil and one part sharp sand. If greens were run down at night add small amount of compost. Referring to your last question of various diseases on greens that have been dried out and lack water—we have a practice putting green that has been neglected, so to speak, being topdressed twice a year, watered twice a week and cut three times a week. There is very little brown patch, but it was the hardest hit with the sod webworm.

Scald Hits Cincinnati

By TAYLOR BOYD, Greenkeeper
Kenwood Country Club, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio

I will try to answer the five questions to the best of my knowledge.

1. My turf was very lightly infected—not seriously and I used one to two pounds of arsenate of lead per one thousand square feet every ten days and did not wet down but very, very lightly. Apparently, I completely stopped the webworms. Total damage was not noticeable.

2. Out of thirty-six greens I had large patch on thirty greens. I used only one-half to one and one-half pounds of sulphate of ammonia per thousand square feet as a fertilizer with the mercury and at times not that.

3. I do omit entirely using organic fertilizers during the summer months.

4. I do not think over-feeding and over-watering are the causes of fungus—nor do they hasten it—but I have found that either or both cause a weak, water growth that might cause grass to be more easily damaged by any of the many turf troubles.
I think more damage has been done in the Cincinnati district this year by too much water followed by scald due to such very hot weather. Brown patch has done its share, of course, but so has water, rain and hot sun.

5. Yes, I have where a high nitrogen fertilizer was used—but not just a disease. I have some trouble on high parts of greens because I gave my fall feeding a few days too early and then came rain into the hot weather we have had the past eight days.

**Wyandot Had Its Troubles**

*By LAWRENCE HUBER, Greenkeeper*  
*Wyandot Golf Club, Worthington, Ohio*

I will try and answer your questions received in today's mail to be published in our magazine.

1. —Our turf, both greens and fairways, were hit hard with the webworm. The greens were hit the hardest. My first remedy to rid the greens of them consisted of 1/9 ounce of strychnine alkaloid to 5 pounds sugar mixed in a bucket of sand and broadcast over the green.

I got fine results from this treatment but found that it wasn't strong enough to get all of the worms so finally decided that it was too dangerous to players handling wet balls on the greens if it were made stronger so quit the strychnine and went to arsenate of lead. Personally I don't think I got very good results from the arsenate treatment and as you all know it certainly does not do the soil any good especially in hot weather.

Our greens were weak enough from brown patch, and the worms and applying the arsenate treatment sickened them all the more. At the present time they are fine due to better weather conditions and the abundance of compost I applied trying to bring them back during the webworm siege.

2. I had both the large and small brown patch and have had practically all season. I had more large patch than small. I use one-third corrosive sublimate and two-thirds calomel mixture as a preventative once a week for brown patch, but it didn't prevent the large patch at all this summer. I used 3 ounces of this mixture to a bucket of sand, put on in the evening and did not water in until the following morning. I do think it helped to check some small brown patch.

3. I use light applications of compost all season.

In each bucket of sand that I have the mercury in, once a week for brown patch, I use four or five pounds of fertilizer such as 8-5-3 or 10-6-4 or 4-12-4. I alternate using the different fertilizers each time.

4. I think over-feeding with high nitrogenous fertilizers during hot weather hastens large brown patch, but don't think it does the small. As to over-watering, I have found that on the lower levels of the greens that are always damp the longest, we have the least small brown patch. On the other hand the large brown patch seems to be worse in these damp places.

5. I notice that greens that are dried out on the high contours take the small brown patch much quicker when they are dry than they do when wet. This is true where the greens are out in the open and have plenty of air and sunlight. I don't think that any of us aerate our greens enough and I think the spiker should be used more often.

Being a man-killer of a job in hot weather prompted me to build a power spiker and since using it once a week on my greens they have improved 100%. I think spiking has more effect in the top two or three inches of the soil than using these scratching rakes that are on the market. I am anxious to read others' troubles in the coming bulletin and that this is satisfactory to you.

**Semesan Checks Brown Patch**

*By RAY R. SPRINGER, Greenkeeper*  
*Mahu-Nab-Tee-See Country Club, Rockford, Ill.*

Following are my answers to Colonel Morley's questionnaire.

1. My greens were not infested with webworm so did not have to apply treatment.

2. I had only one attack of small brown patch this season which was on three greens. I applied Semesan immediately which checked it. Then applied, after one week, ammonium sulphate at the rate of two and one-half pounds per 1000 square feet and top-dressed with compost.

On those greens that were not attacked I did not apply any mercury compound, but gave them a top-dressing of compost every 4 to 6 weeks, depending on weather conditions. Compost consisted of black loam, barnyard manure and sand. I treated with sulphate 2 to 3 weeks after the composting,
varying the amount from two and one-half to four
pounds per 1000 square feet, depending on weather
conditions.

3. Will refer you to answer No. 2 which I think
covers this question. However, I will say that I
lighten my topdressing and sulphate treatment
during the summer months.

4. I think over-feeding and over-watering hastens fungus diseases. During periods of fungus diseases I lighten all of my treatments and watering.

5. I have not observed the various diseases on greens that have been dried out for lack of water, but that have received plenty of air.

Am happy to say that I have had no trouble with my greens this season with the exception of the one attack of small brown patch on three greens as I mentioned above, which happened on July 18th, but which recovered very quickly after treatment.

This is an 18-hole course and has had heavy play for a private club, but my greens have stood up in fine shape. We have had a very dry and hard season this year as every greenkeeper knows, so I am very thankful for conditions on my course.

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Brown Patch At Ann Arbor

By WM. SLACK, Greenkeeper
University of Michigan Golf Course, Ann Arbor, Michigan

In reply to your questionnaire, I hereby submit the following answers:

1. Did not have webworm.

2. Had both small and large brown patch. On May 12th had small brown patch very bad on three greens. Used corrosive sublimate with excellent results, then gave light topdressing without fertilizer and had no trouble with said three greens since. For large brown patch I used Semesan and Nu-Green.

3. I use no organic fertilizer after June. Perhaps over-feeding or over-watering hastens brown patch but as I do neither and get disease just the same it is hard to say with any certainty whether it does or not.

5. No, not on this course.

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Note—Greenkeepers are Requested to Send in Letters for Publication Next Month.

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Birds Kill Webworms

By JOS. WILLIAMSON, Greenkeeper
Scioto Country Club, Columbus, Ohio

The sod webworm made its appearance on several Scioto greens this summer, but the birds were able to combat this pest and did not find it necessary to use chemicals of any kind to eliminate them, the birds kept them well under control.

2. Our greens were affected at intervals with small brown patch and especially No. 2, a new green, had a severe attack of the large patch. I depended solely upon Calo-Clor as a preventative with good results and used a 10-6-4 fertilizer in small quantity, well watered in.

3. I do not use organic fertilizers during the summer.

4. Over-feeding and over-watering are the fatal mistakes of many greenkeepers and cause most of the troubles, especially does it hasten fungus growth.

5. No, but I have seen a deal of scald and sunburn this summer and thinning out of the grasses on greens owing to the many rains during July and August. The root system being close to the surface the grasses were unable to stand the many hot, scorching days of the past few weeks.

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Brown Patch At Hartford

By J. O. CAMPBELL, Golf Course Superintendent
Wethersfield Country Club, Hartford, Conn.

We have had no webworms so far and I have heard of none in the Hartford district.

I have had brown patch and plenty of it, but have been able to check it, before it had damaged my greens to any great extent, although some greens in this district were completely destroyed. I used Semesan and some Nu-Green applied at the rate of one-half pound to 1000 feet, every three days until there were no signs of the fungus.

When the weather was hot and humid, I watched very closely and on the slightest indication of the
disease, I gave the greens an application. I have been unable to find a chemical to prevent the growth.

I composted about every 15 days, using both organic and inorganic fertilizers lightly, and spiked the greens frequently. I have always used organic fertilizers during the summer and have never found that they caused either large or small brown patch.

Watering has an effect on brown patch. Too much water during the hot weather has a tendency to produce the disease, but allowing one's greens to get too dry is just as bad. So, during the brown patch season, I give lots of attention to watering, practically all of my watering being done at night.

I have observed various diseases on greens that have been dried out, the principal one being brown patch. I believe it is caused under these circumstances by a weakened condition of the grass, either by over-fertilization (too much sulphate of ammonia, acid phosphate, etc.) or by the lack of fertilizer.

It will be interesting to read of the conditions on other courses in different parts of the country and compare my methods with other greenkeepers. Most of our trouble here is brown patch.

Poor Drainage Hurt Aurora

By SPENCER MEISTER, Greenkeeper

Aurora Country Club, Aurora, Ill.

With reference to your inquiry of September 8th, I wish to quote the following: Our golf course started to suffer with the extreme heat and humidity of the latter part of June. Immediately we got busy with fungicides.

I used corrosive sublimate and Semesan with equally good results which were effective throughout with the exception of some spots on our 7 and 14 greens, which places were poorly drained and where these greens were water-logged is where the serious damage was done.

I can best explain the damage which occurred, when I mention that No. 7 was affected to the extent only of having to wait 45 days for these affected parts to grow in, which on No. 14 it was necessary to lift and replace about 20 square feet of turf where the large brown patch in the poorly drained area would have taken too long to recuperate and grow back in.

We continued playing these greens, however, and they were better than any temporary green we could have provided as far as a putting surface was concerned.

I did not use any organic fertilizers in any top-dressing after this trouble and as a matter of fact, I let up for a couple of weeks after this hot spell on any fertilizing plan and also cut down on the water applied, thinking that the fertilizer was adding too much added heat to the soil and that the water was adding to that almost steaming condition which existed.

Whether or not this helped me and if so to what degree I am at a loss to say. While I did not have any further attacks of brown patch (I used preventative measures of mercury compound meanwhile) it left my greens with an unhealthy color. The grass did not grow so fast and became thinner and then I decided I must feed the greens and get water on them as I felt the starving of them was bad from a golfing standpoint, appearance of color, lack of ability to hold a ball and also too fast a putting surface.

About a week after using fertilizers and water I also got some favorable weather and the greens showed a marked improvement and at this writing they are in excellent condition.

I was not troubled with webworms. Had a few so-called large cutworms but noticed no damage from them.

I also noticed no damage on what bent we had on fairways which were not watered or fertilized except the natural burnt appearance and this all left after the last couple of rains which restored their color. The bent referred to on fairways is on one of the lowest places on the course and probably gets as little air as any area.
Humber Valley Fortunate  
By JOHN AUSTIN, Greenkeeper  
Humber Valley Golf Club, Humber Bay, Ont.

We are about to the end of another trying season, which all greenkeepers will be glad to see through. It has been an extra hot season with occasional heavy rains which did more harm than good for the greenkeeper.

I, myself, have been very fortunate, having suffered very little from disease to the greens. The method I have adopted is top-dressing my greens each month with an application of 30 pounds organic fertilizer and 6 pounds sulphate of ammonia per 1000 square feet with one-quarter yard compost, composed of one-third top soil, one-third sand, and one-third rotted manure or mushroom soil.

I have four greens which were badly scalded during July. The method I used on these greens was letting them dry out for five days; then I gave them a light application of sulphate of ammonia at rate of 5 pounds per 1000 square feet and watered them. I continued this for a period of three weeks at intervals of four days between each application. At the end of three weeks these greens were fully recovered from the scalds.

I do all my watering of greens in the morning between the hours of 7 and 10. This I do because we get heavy play during the day.

I think excessive watering will hasten the fungus diseases because it conduces rapid growth and weak tissues and also affects the bacterial activity which leaves the roots in a weakened condition and subject to disease.

Bucyrus Was Hit Hard  
By LLOYD ADAMS, Greenkeeper  
Bucyrus Country Club, Bucyrus, Ohio

I will try and answer your questions as well as I can. Our greens became infested with webworm around the 15th of June. I treated with arsenate of lead, but not until late in July. We did not know what it was at first. I used 5 pounds to 1000 square feet, mixed with dirt—5 pounds to a bushel of ground, then watered in well and got good results.

In a week I could not find a worm. But have seen a few in the last two weeks, but don’t think they are doing any damage. Our turf was affected with what I thought was small brown patch. I used Calo-Clor with good results.

I think our greens at one time were as bad as any I have heard of. They are all back now, but Nos. 3, 5 and 6, which were the last ones to go bad. However, they are slowly getting better.

I sulphated, 3 pounds to 1000 square feet, yet I think the hot weather is slowing them up a little now. But my worst greens are as good now as they ever were.

We never have used any other fertilizer but ammonium sulphate and I think that has been a little of our trouble this hot season. I believe overfeeding our greens has a lot to do with fungus diseases and the only time fungus shows up is when we get a big rain and hot, humid weather.

We have had more rainfall in our section than any place near around which makes me think too much water has a lot to do with it. Our greens seem to get hit as bad on dry spots as well as a wet green.

This is the first year we ever had any trouble and have had plenty to make up. I put in a new green June 10th, this year, but it came slower than any
green we put in. It was not hit with brown patch, but as soon as I gave it a treatment of Calo-Clor it has done better.

Rock Island Fares Well
By JOHN HILL, Greenkeeper
Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club, Rock Island, Ill.
1. We had no webworms or worms of any kind. All the other courses around this part of the country had more or less cutworms.
2. I had hardly any large or small brown patch, using Calo-Clor as a preventative. I also think this takes care of the worms in your greens. I mixed my fertilizer with my topdressing, then watered it in.
3. Used very little of any kind of fertilizer during the months of June, July and August.
4. Over-feeding, I think, forces your grass more and forms a rank growth which hastens fungus diseases. I think over-watering will have the same effect.
5. No, I have been lucky in respect to diseases.

No Trouble At Gulfport
By FRANK JONES, Greenkeeper
Gulfport, Mississippi
Replying to your questionnaire, this golf course has been closed since May 1st. We have carpet and Bermuda grass fairways and Bermuda greens. Have kept fairways and greens mowed regularly and have not used any fertilizer or watered any during the summer.

The course is in very good condition. No webworm or disease of any kind has been visible. Will

Nu-Green Used At Winnipeg
By JOHN THOMSON, Greenkeeper
Kildonan Park Municipal Golf Course
Winnipeg, Manitoba
In answer to your questionnaire to hand, I am sending you this short account of the methods adopted by us this season.

This season we have had plenty of troubles, such as frost, wind and drought. About the third week in June our greens were in fine shape, when the weather turned very hot indeed for Manitoba and big brown patch struck us badly on greens Nos. 4, 7, 9 and 12.

These greens are all along the Red river and are sheltered by trees. We used Nu-Green in the specified amounts and found it very satisfactory. We used this treatment twice in 10 days and brown patch left us for the time being.

Our methods for fertilizing greens are as follows: From the first of spring until the second week in July, 25 pounds of sulphate of ammonia to 1000 square feet. Then from the middle of July until the end of September 100 pounds of tankage to a green of 6,000 square feet surface.

I have never seen any green over-fed on Kildonan Park Golf course, but I do believe that over-feeding and over-watering with excessive heat prevailing, hastens fungus diseases.

My Poa Annua Went Out
By FRED LARRENCE, Greenkeeper
Deal Golf Club, Deal, N. J.
In regard to your letter of September 8, I have had trouble and plenty of it, but it was due to my Poa Annua going out on me and hot weather and showers. I had four greens go out over night and I went to forking and using lime. I preserved three greens and with soil and Cocoos bent got a good catch. I also sanded well using as much as ten tons to the green.

Answering your detailed questionnaire, I had no webworm but some leaf spot. I use no fertilizer, but