

Surface Sanding by Bob Livesey, Plaza Golf Course, Visalia

After the meeting at Marin Country Club I ran across an article by Dr. William Daniel of Purdue University which related to sands. I thought it would be appropriate at this time. The article is in the August 1977 issue of Western Landscape News.

Dr. Daniel states that adding a sand layer to an existing soil has been developed as an improvement and management program in Scotland and California. This involved additions of sand applied to the surface of an existing turf area gradually over a period of time. The sand reduces compaction of the surface of the existing soil, greatly improves infiltration, augments removal of excess water and increases usability of the turf area.

I started this type of program on fairways this past spring more to fill and smooth out areas that had settled from construction. Using river sand, we dressed the fairways from tee to green. To this date we have found the above statements to be true on the 10 fairways that were dressed. Our root depth has increased, the burmuda is more drought tolerant which has allowed a cut back on these particular areas in irrigation by 25%. With the heavy soil that I have, I feel that the sand program is going to eliminate a great number of problems we have.

It is interesting to note that since Bill Davis and Dr. Madison started working with the sand program, more of the University research areas in turf from the eastern part of the United States have found it to be an excellent program.

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WILLIAM S. MAYO, 78, of Reno, Nevada passed away August 23, 1977. Bill was a Charter member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California. He was the superintendent at the Presidio Golf Club in San Francisco where the first meeting was held to organize the Northern California Greenkeeper's Association on June 6, 1932. He has been superintendent at many courses but has spent the last 40 years around the Reno area. At the time of his retirement and Class A-Life classification he was in charge of the Brockway Golf Course. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, Mabel, at 1400 Palisade Dr, Reno, NV 89502

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Thanks to George Finnin for sending in the above information.