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HON. EDITOR: F. W. HAWTREE



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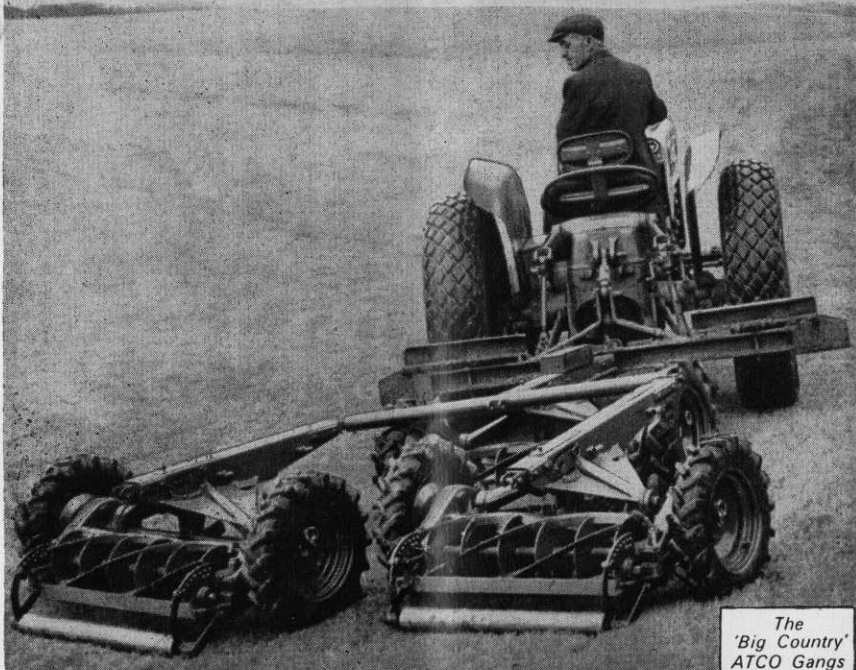
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TEE SHOTS



by the Editor

According to a report just published by the County Planning Officer, Wiltshire needs four more golf courses during the next 10 years.

No completely new course has been opened for 50 years and there are no publicly owned courses.

The Swindon area is considered to be in greatest need of more golf facilities, followed by parts of the south-west of the county and West Wilts.

★ ★ ★ ★

Warwick's new £20,000 golf driving range, in the centre of Warwick Racecourse, should be open to the public by the end of the summer. The 10-acre site will have 30 floodlit driving bays and a clubhouse. It is planned to add an 18-hole golf course later.

* * * *

When two students went rabbit shooting in a car they picked the wrong place . . . the historic golf links at St Andrews.

Had they been prosecuted under an old poaching Act, they would have suffered "quite terrible consequences" a court was told in July.

They could have been "transported beyond the seas".

They were shooting rabbits at 2 a.m. one morning in June from a car on the fairways of the Jubilee course next to the famous Old Course.

Their solicitor said they were unaware that their expedition was against the law.

"The Act is of great antiquity and the penalties, though no longer applicable, are quite terrifying."

Under the Act of 1828, poachers in groups of three or more who used a gun at night were liable to be "transported beyond the seas" for no longer than 14 years.



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SUMMER FERTILISER

by R. D. C. EVANS, B.Sc.,
Advisory Officer S.T.R.I.

For ornamental lawns and most coarse turf sports areas, one fertilizer dressing in the Spring is usually enough to ensure adequate growth and a pleasing appearance through the course of the year, provided that all other factors affecting grass growth are favourable. However, this is certainly not true of the average golf green where increasingly intensive play makes a high growth rate necessary to counteract wear. Here regular summer fertilization is essential.

Composition of Dressings

Of the three major plant nutrients, two of them — phosphate and potash — should have been supplied during the spring in sufficient quantity to ensure adequate supplies throughout the growing season. The main constituent of summer fertilizer should, therefore, be nitrogen, aimed primarily at promoting evenly sustained growth throughout the busier playing period. The material most widely used for this purpose is sulphate of ammonia which under average conditions will produce the desired growth level, if applied at intervals of five to six weeks at rates of 3 lb. per 100 sq. yd. suitably bulked with carrier. Sulphate of ammonia, of course, supplies nitrogen in an inorganic quick-acting form and it, therefore, results in a quick flush of growth which may subsequently tail off fairly rapidly, necessitating a repeat application after the interval mentioned above. To give more even and sustained growth, dried blood and/or fine hoof and horn meal can be incorporated, e.g.

2 lb. sulphate of ammonia, 1 lb. dried blood, 1 lb. fine hoof and horn meal mixed with 28 lb. screened compost (as carrier)—per 100 sq. yds. In the average season a suitable

fertilizer programme might involve the application of three summer dressings. The first would be six weeks after the main spring dressing, i.e. about the end of May, the second in mid July and the third and final one at the end of August. Treatment later than August is considered undesirable, as it may lead to trouble with *Fusarium* patch disease. Encouraging soft lush growth during the early autumn when there is a danger of colder weather particularly, lays the sward open to fungal attack.

In order to reduce the risk of *Fusarium* it is sometimes wise to reduce the organics and include calcined sulphate of iron in the final summer dressing as the fungicidal properties of this material give some measure of protection, besides encouraging a pleasing dark green sward colour. The iron should be used at 1 lb. per 100 sq. yd., this being perhaps increased to 1½ lb. where the area is particularly prone to invasion by *Fusarium*.

On the majority of courses a mixture of sulphate of ammonia and sulphate of iron as described above is sufficient during the late summer period. In some cases, however, particularly on nutrient deficient soils or on seaside courses where sandy soil allows the rapid leaching of plant foods, the inclusion of phosphate and potash as a supplement to the spring application may be advisable to ensure supplies of these materials during the autumn, winter and early spring.

Difficulties

The major problem encountered in applying summer fertilizer occurs during drought on courses where water supplies are inadequate. The risk of sulphate of ammonia scorching is severe in these circumstances — relying on rain to wash

in recently applied fertilizer is always a gamble, particularly at this time of year. In these circumstances summer fertilizer may be omitted altogether and playing conditions often suffer as a result. Alternatively some greenkeepers favour materials which do not scorch, e.g. organics or possibly urea-formaldehyde preparations. Such fertilizers are, however, expensive and, if the sward is suffering severely from lack of moisture they will not encourage growth to any marked extent until rain arrives. Efficient water supplies are, therefore, really a necessity for effective and regular summer fertilizer treatment.

Some clubs also experience difficulty in timing fertilizer treatment so as to minimise interference with play. Competition dates must be avoided and dressings perhaps timed so as to provide sufficient growth and a good colour for more important championships. When weather conditions also have to be taken into account the timing of dressings can be extremely difficult, especially on busy courses. The inconvenience caused to golfers by fertilizer on the putting surface should always be reduced to a minimum. Slit tine spiking

prior to dressing aids speedy absorption as does thorough watering after application. Fertilizers should also be finely ground and applied evenly with closely screened carrier if rapid disappearance into the surface is to be obtained.

The timing of applications can also be complicated by interaction with other operations. For example, weed control measures can be rendered more effective if fertilizer is applied a few days before the herbicide. The fertilizer will then assist the recovery of the grass and encourage the sward to grow into the bare areas left by dying weeds.

Conclusion

Finally it should be realised that correct summer fertilizer treatment not only ensures growth during the summer but also has a longer term effect in helping the maintenance of reasonable conditions during the winter period. Swards which are starved during the main growing season cannot be expected to produce any useful growth or provide satisfactory playing conditions for the winter or early spring. Summer fertilizer treatment is, therefore, a vital operation which no one can afford to neglect.

From the book "The Story of the R. and A." by J. B. Salmond.

While the great Bobby Jones was holing out on the eighteenth green, a club member, who had been ball-marking during the match, found himself next to two smartly dressed American ladies not particularly interested in golf.

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Grass seed mixtures and seed sowing.

Turfing.

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Fertilisers and top dressing.

Pest, disease and worm control.

Dimensions of pitches.

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Turf Culture Practical Course

Friday 2-4 p.m. Jan.-March 11 weeks course

College Sports Ground, Christopher Park, Standish Lower Ground, near Wigan.

Syllabus:—Drainage and Turf renovation.

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Moss, worm, pest and disease control.

Application of fertilisers and top dressing.

Turfing and seeding.

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Courses approved by Agricultural Training Board with grants to employer under Group III part D, 70/- per day.

Course fee Practical £8; Theory £2 10/- per course. Tuition for persons under 18 years is free.

Enrolment from 2nd-8th September should take place at the College before the commencement of the course.

Apply to:—

Mr G. H. Carnall,

Department of Applied Sciences,

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to be held in conjunction with the

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Turf fungicide – contains mercury to give complete control over Fusarium, Dollar Spot and Ophiobolus.

Chlordane 25% liquid wormkiller – will effectively dispose of worms, leatherjackets, ants and chafer grubs – underground! Cheap and easy to apply, 1 gallon in 20 gallons of water is sufficient to treat 1,000 sq. yards.

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TRICOFLEX reinforced plastic hose is lighter, tougher, more flexible, and weathers better than any of its counterparts. Tested for seven hot months in the worst conditions of a building site, Tricoflex emerged triumphant over the elements. Why? Because of its unique construction. A black PVC inner tube with a mirror finish for optimum water flow; then a knitted jacket of 'Tergal' polyester fibre for strength, and finally an opaque vivid yellow outer covering of polythene for protection against scuffing, scraping, oil and grease at high temperatures.



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Competition winners to visit America

Results of Banlene Plus '70 Contest

The names of the sixteen cereal growers who have won a visit to America in Fisons' Banlene Plus '70 Contest are announced today.

Farmers and farm managers from all over the country entered the competition and the winners come from as far apart as Sussex and East Lothian. The full list of winners is:—

- P. C. Golding, Bush Green Farm, Bradfield St. Clare, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.
- R. Blyth, The Willows Farm, Marlesford, Woodbridge, Suffolk.
- P. Innes, The Hyde Farm, Little Yeldham, Halstead, Essex.
- R. F. Brown, The Gables, Spaldwick, Huntingdon.
- R. N. Herring, College Farm, Wrawby, Brigg, Lincolnshire.
- R. M. Duguid, Norton Place, Bishop Norton, Lincoln.
- J. R. Mawtle, Church Farm, Southleigh, Witney, Oxfordshire.
- J. T. Cantlay, Upper Farm, Warborough, Oxfordshire.
- E. Pullen, Britwell Salome, Watlington, Oxfordshire.
- R. Froud, 1 Chain Hill Cottages, Wantage, Berkshire.
- I. R. Macnair, Manor Farm, Southridge, Streatley-on-Thames, Berkshire.
- F. Forrest, Milk Marketing Board, Warren Farm, Sheepdrove, Lambourn, Berkshire.
- P. F. Highwood, Crow Plain Farm, Collier Street, Marden, Kent.
- R. C. Smith, Firle Estate Company, Bushy Lodge Farm, Firle, Lewes, Sussex.
- D. F. Deakin, Tamhorn Park Farm, Lichfield, Staffordshire.
- W. P. Dale, Lochhouses, Dunbar, East Lothian.

The party will leave for America on Friday, 10th July, led by Mr O. G. Williams, Agricultural Director of Fisons Limited. With them will be Mr J. G. Jenkins, the Cambridgeshire farmer, one of the other judges. During their two weeks' tour programmes have been

arranged by the Co-operative Extension Service of Ohio State University and by Pennsylvania State University and there will also be visits to the Beltsville Headquarters of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and to Richmond, Virginia.

Entrants to the Contest were asked to place in order of importance seven factors which could contribute to increased cereal yields in the next five years. In the opinion of the judges, the correct order was:—

- * Improved control of annual and perennial grass weeds, e.g. blackgrass, wild oats, couch or twitch.
- * New improved varieties.
- * New fungicides for mildew and other disease control.
- * Improved cultural techniques aimed at maintaining soil structure.
- * Increased use of lime and fertilizers.
- * Improved drainage.
- * Improved rotations.

ALLMANS ACQUIRE KESTREL POLYPAK

E. Allman & Co. Ltd., of Birdham Road, Chichester, Sussex, announce that they have acquired the business of the Kestrel Engineering Co. Ltd., and are now marketing the Polypak knapsack sprayer.

The Polypak is a low cost, hand-operated shoulder mounted machine designed for use as a multi-purpose sprayer and washing unit.

It can be fitted with various booms and attachments for a wide range of jobs around the home and in industry and horticulture.

Applications include washing down cars, vans, lorries, railway carriages, skylights, paintwork, road signs, etc. by using the telescopic boom and sponge or brush attachment.

In addition it can be used for applying insecticides, fertilizers, weedicides, whitewash, creosote, de-icing fluid, etc. by using the hand lance and nozzle attachment.

The two gallon capacity Polypak costs £15 5s.