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Grade A Amenity seeds from British Seed Houses are for groundsmen who want only the highest quality turf.

Whether your requirement is for golf courses, sports grounds, parks, urban areas, road verges and reclamation sites – British Seed Houses can supply the right mixture for your needs.

At their extensive grass trials ground at Lincoln, British Seed Houses evaluate hundreds of different cultivars. Only the best are selected for use in Grade A mixtures.

With 24 different mixtures available, advice on the appropriate Grade A mixture to use for specific site requirements can be obtained from our experienced and technically qualified staff.

GRADE A AMENITY MIXTURES

Send for a catalogue for more details of Grade A Amenity Seeds from British Seed Houses Ltd., Bewsey Industrial Estate, Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 5LE. Or telephone (0925) 54411.



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Drainage

→ toward the main line, located in the lowest part of the swale. This system is frequently used because of the ease of its installation.

The natural layout, as its name suggests, follows a pattern dictated by the low areas of the golf course, draining the water away from the low points to a main line.

Line spacings for the drainage system are determined by the "pulling distance" or the area from which the tile can effectively pull water. The pulling distance is determined by the drain tile depth and the soil type. In heavy clay soils, it may be necessary to place the laterals as close together as 30 to 40 feet for proper drainage. In light, sandy soils, the laterals may be as much as 200 feet apart. In general, the wider the spacing, the deeper the drains are placed.

Air Vents Useful

Our experience has taught us to place an air vent riser at the high points of the tile lines. A few years ago, we ran into a problem of water standing in the cup of a well-tiled green, yet no water was coming out of the drain tile. We discovered that heavy soils had clogged the drain, causing a suction, much as you get when you put your tongue on the end of a straw in a glass of soda pop. As long as you keep your tongue on the straw and don't break the suction, you can lift the straw without the soda running out. So, sure enough, as soon as we opened up

the tile at the high point of the green, the water went gushing out of the tile. Since then, we have generally made it a practice to introduce an air vent at the high points of drainage lines.

The air vents accomplish three things. First, they prevent the suction from occurring. Second, they provide convenient places to introduce water into the system if flushing is needed to clear a blocked tile. And finally, the vents introduce air into the tile line, which helps to aerate the soil.

Common Sense and Drainage

Thinking about what it takes to achieve an outstanding and playable golf course, I am reminded of the story about the farmer who, every year, had the most outstanding crops in his area. His neighbours finally asked him to meet with them and share his secret. "Well," he replied, "the way I look at it, there's really not much to farming. It's about 90% drainage and about 10% common sense. If you don't have much common sense, put in more drainage!"

That story applies handily to golf courses. The secret of a great golf course is good turfgrass. One of the secrets for growing good turfgrass is good drainage. So if you want a great golf course, you'd better pay attention to your drainage!

● This article first appeared in the USGA 'Green Section Record' and is reproduced with due acknowledgement and thanks.

Law will now be enforced

THERE has been little local authority involvement enforcing the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985, Part III (FEPA) and the Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986 (COPR), since their introduction to control the advertising, sale, supply, storage and use of pesticides – to do so it was necessary to amend the Act to specifically enable the legislation to be enforced.

Furthermore, the six Government Departments involved were concerned that there should be a consistent approach to enforcement and there should also be a system by which local authority officers who enforce FEPA are trained and supported in their duties. Eventually, it was agreed to use the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE's) liaison arrangements with local authorities on health and safety legislation.

FEPA was amended by the Pesticides (Fees and Enforcement) Act 1989, and arrangements for a sys-

tem of liaison and training were completed with a view to commencing enforcement on 1 April 1992.

Local Authorities will enforce all aspects of COPR, that is, from advertisement to use, on those premises where they now enforce the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. This includes all golf courses.

HSE Inspectors will continue to enforce all aspects of the pesticide legislation with the exception of advertising. This includes the effect of use on people and the environment in the area of agriculture, forestry, and horticulture, manufacturers premises, timber treatment works, construction sites, local authority premises, private dwellings when pesticides are used as part of a work activity.

A special section has been set up within the Local Authority Unit of HSE to ensure consistent standards of enforcement and to deal with pesticide matters.