

PREVENTATIVE AND CURATIVE SPRAYING FOR CONTROL OF DOLLAR SPOT ON GOLF GREENS

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There are usually two ways to control diseases—of man, animals or plants. One method is to cure the disease and the other is to prevent it before it occurs. In controlling diseases of fine turf, an ounce of spray chemical will often prevent disease that a pound of the fungicide would not cure. In fact, an individual blade of grass can never be cured of a disease. A "curative" application kills the fungus and stops the disease and if the grass is not permanently damaged, new growth replaces that which has been killed by the disease.

Recently there has been discussion on whether a curative spray or a protective spray is the best control practice for Dollar Spot on golf greens. Some golf course superintendents prefer to wait until they see Dollar Spot and then spray to cure while others spray at regular intervals throughout the season. In the areas where the summer season is usually cool and humid, regular spraying every ten to fourteen days is a common practice. Since Dollar Spot is favored by cool wet weather, the curative spray is a risky practice under cool climatic conditions. In other areas where the summers are hot and relatively dry, the curative spray program is commonly followed.

It is not possible to say which is the best practice to follow in most parts of the United States. If there is any doubt about the kind of weather expected, protective spraying should be followed. Even if there is not a lot of Dollar Spot, those few spots which always occur will be prevented. A few Dollar Spots may not be fatal to a well kept green, but if the few which do occur get in the path of a golfer's putt, the greenkeeper will be blamed. Protective spraying is like insurance against disease damage. The fungicide is there to protect against the disease if it starts. Since the fungus which causes the Dollar Spot disease is always present in practically all soils and lacks only the right weather to move into the succulent turf, the insurance is worthwhile.

Test plots on fine turf in Michigan have shown for several years that regular spray applications of most common commercial turf fungicides will result in good control of Dollar Spot even in years when the unsprayed plots had five spots per square foot of turf. Plots were sprayed every twelve days and the chemical was used at the minimum rate recommended by the maker of the material. Some materials, such as CADMINATE, gave near perfect control, and nine out of twelve materials used in 1951 gave good practical control. Protective spraying pays off in disease free golf greens. Fine turf is worth the insurance that protective spraying gives against Dollar Spot damage.

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Our Association hopes to have available in the near future 100 copies of 1954 Cornell Recommendations For Trees, Shrubs, and Turf which will be on sale to the members for a small charge.

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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1954 DUES?

CHLORDANE AND CRABGRASS

Two years of experiments in Michigan have shown that a mixture of chlordane and deodorized, highly refined kerosene-type oil is effective on crabgrass at any stage of growth. A dosage of 6 ounces of a 74 per cent concentrate of chlordane in 1 gallon of suitable oil per 1,000 square feet will destroy crabgrass within 3-5 days time. Blue grass is not affected by the treatment, bent-grasses may show slight yellowing, but are not killed, and fescues may be severely burned.

The chlordane treatment will be effective on white grubs and has residual toxicity sufficient to retard new crabgrass seedling emergence. There is some indication that the mixture may also inhibit growth of *Poa annua*, but more than one treatment may be required to eradication of this species. Further work on annual blue grass is in progress and no suggestions for a control program for it can be made at the present. Chickweed is killed by the chlordane-oil treatment, but other perennial broad-leaved species are only defoliated and make a quick recovery.

Wettable powder and water emulsions of chlordane are not effective on crabgrass plants more than 7 days old. Such materials applied prior to seedling emergence, however, will prevent emergence or kill the very young seedlings.

Dr. Buford H. Grigsby in *The Golf Course Reporter*.

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DUTCH ELM DISEASE STRIKES ILLINOIS SOUTH TWO-THIRDS

Dutch elm disease now exists in at least 15 counties of the southern two-thirds of the state, the Illinois natural history survey says.

Infections are in 27 different localities extending from Metropolis at the southern end of the state, to Onarga, about 30 miles south of Kankakee.

The disease is confused with phloem necrosis, a blight that has attacked and killed thousands of American elms in the same area in the last 15 years. The Dutch disease is spread by a beetle and attacks all kinds of elms except perhaps the Chinese variety.

Survey personnel have found the Dutch disease in 495 trees this year. The actual number of trees infected and the areas involved may be much greater. The survey recommends fighting Dutch elm disease by promptly removing infected trees and spraying living trees with a DDT formula.

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Lawrence Marcinski of Rolling Green C.C. sure enjoyed his trip and stay at Hot Springs after the snowy journey from the Purdue meeting. After he got there, Lawrence didn't move his car.

Feyne Tinsley is the Greenkeeping assistant to Dave Cairnes at Elmhurst C.C. Feyne came to Elmhurst from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station where he built a course and took care of it. He has spent seven years in the Navy ending as a first class petty officer, served in the second world war and was recalled for the Korea war. He is married, has two children, a boy seven and a girl six, and is 30 years old.