

QUESTION BOX

Q.—When is the best time to knock out knotweed?

A.—Early in the Spring.

Q.—What is the best chemical to kill chickweed this time of year?

A.—Sodium Arsenite.

Q.—Please discuss the spring application of Sodium Arsenite for chickweed and knotweed control. Also inhibiting of Poa Annua.

A.—Sodium Arsenite sprayed on turf at rates of 2-3 pounds per acre in the spring has been found to give control of chickweed and knotweed without serious injury to turf. Dr. Daniel and Ted Woehrle at Purdue have found that arsenic has a very definite effect on germination of Poa Annua seed.

Q.—Would it be wise to postpone spraying chickweed and knotweed in order to keep out an infestation of crabgrass.

A.—No

Q.—What insecticides do you use on sod webworm.

A.—Last summer sod webworms were unusually numerous and it was reported that applications of DDT, chlordane and arsenate of lead were for some reason not as effective as they should have been. However, in a more normal season light applications of arsenate of lead and of chlordane should give adequate control. Many superintendents are mixing a little chlordane with their fungicide sprays and are getting practically 100 % control on their greens.

Q.—I would like to hear a discussion on maintenance of green banks.

A.—This is a rather difficult question, as banks on different courses are maintained in different manners. If the grass is kept cut short, it is necessary to water, cut and fertilize rather frequently but if the grass is allowed to grow to rough length, the maintenance is much simpler.

Q.—Why do they not use a nurse grass when seeding Merion blue grass?

A.—It has been found that Merion does much better when it does not have competition from another grass such as are used for nurse grasses.

Q.—Is it safe to apply 2-4,D to eliminate knotweed in bent turf in the spring and if so what amount of 2-4,D?

A.—It has been found from experience that 2-4,D has a definite tendency to injure bent turf and is not recommended for use on bent.

Q.—How many times a year do you recommend using the aerifier?

A.—As often as needed. No recommendation can be given except to use your own judgment.

Q.—What effect does lead arsenate have on the germination of crab grass seed?

A.—In this area, at least, lead arsenate has a very definite effect on preventing the germination of crab grass seed.

O—O

Don Strand, Educational Committee Chairman, reported at our last meeting that his committee was planning a clinic on soils for November. This clinic was to be similar to the plant disease clinic held last December. Dr. Watson will head the program.

Bob Williams reported that there was a possibility that Pasadena, California might be the site of the National Turf Conference and Show in 1956. California, here we come.

SPREADING IT THIN

Adolph Bertucci of Lake Shore Country Club reports that the club plans to operate as a nine hole course. Due to an unfortunate chain of events, the club lost the lease on the land that 11 holes of the course are laid out on and the 9 will have to be compressed into the remaining area. Adolph says there is land enough left to make a very nice 9 hole course.

Granville Coburn of the Winnebago County Forest Preserve Golf Course at Rockton, Ill., a regular member of our association, was with us at the April meeting. Coburn is married, has a daughter eight, and is 38 years old. He has been at the Forest Preserve course for seven years.

Chester Randby, formerly of Knollwood, is now Superintendent of Edgewood Valley C. C. Chet has served golf courses for 32 years, the last 8 at Knollwood. He is married, has two children and expects to be a three-time grandfather in May.

Floyd Sabder formerly of the Clinton County Club as assistant Superintendent, is now with Bob Williams at Beverly for a year or more of further training.

Two threesomes played golf at River Forest on April 5. They reported the course in fine shape and the cool biting wind made for a delightful game.

Johnny Jones, Manager of River Forest, watched over all of us with great interest and care and the man who went away hungry or thirsty just wanted to.

There was much speculation about the attractive red-headed waitress who waited on us. She turned out to be Mrs. Johnny Jones, helping out.

Al Hintz reports that thieves broke into his shop at White Pines the middle of March, took all the hand tools and the chain saw. The thieves were caught two weeks later and the saw recovered just in time to cut up the trees that were blown down in the violent windstorm that came late in March.

The lake at Park Ridge is now full to overflowing and Bert Rost is planning to stock it adequately in the near future. Bert has called on fishing expert Frank Dinelli in an advisory capacity to assist him in the selection of the proper basic foundation fish. We know Bert can't go wrong with Frank's advice. Frank dug his own lake two years ago, stocked it, and just the other day reported the catch of a three-pound large mouth black bass.

The strong wind of late March blew a pontoon bridge over a pond at Glen Eagles clean over. Walter Fuchs has a problem on his hands figuring how to get it right side up again. The bridge is over 100 feet long.

The question and answer period of our last meeting was full of spirited questions and discussions on eliminating weeds in fairways. Every member of the panel worked during the discussion and members listened with great interest to both panel members and speakers from the floor. It was a most interesting and instructive session.

Wesley Updegraff, 47, married and the father of a daughter who is a Junior at Wichita, University, is now the Superintendent at Oak Park Country Club. Wes comes to Oak Park from the Wichita (Kansas) Country Club where he has been Superintendent for 12 years. He is a member of the Kansas Turf Association, and was a director of the Central Plains Turf Foundation, a job which he resigned when he came to Oak Park. He also is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents of America. Wes and Mrs. Updegraff expect to make their home near the Oak Park C. C.