

## MORE TROUBLES

During our first prolonged hot-spell during the last week of June, many Superintendents in the Chicago area were experiencing a damage to their greens that they have never encountered. The greens were generally thinning out and looking a lot like some type of disease or wilt. After spraying them with fungicides and doing some hand watering there seemed to be little improvement.

A little black gnat-like insect was observed by many and it was identified as the Frit Fly. This little insect has been around for a number of years here in the Mid-West but it never seemed to do much damage. The fly is more prevalent in the drier areas of the United States especially in the desert. A severe attack of Frit Flies was experienced in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas earlier this year after doing some damage to many of the Courses. The United States Golf Association Field Agronomists identified the insect and immediate action was taken to bring the new menace under control.

Here are some of the controls given by several of the Superintendents:

1. Malathion — 4/5 - 1 oz. per 1000 sq. ft.
2. DDT (50% Wettable Powder) — 1/2 lb. per 1000 sq. ft.
3. Diazinon — 2 oz. (Actual) per 1000 sq. ft. with 20 gals. of water.
4. Sevin — 2 lbs. in 150-200 gals. of water for 5000 sq. ft.

If you recall there was some mention of this insect in the July 1963 issue of the Reporter in an article written by Art Snyder, Superintendent of the Paradise Valley County Club, Scottsdale, Arizona. On page 40 you will find the history of how they first discovered this insect as the trouble maker in 1959.

The insect gnaws on the leaves and weakens it considerably opening up avenues for diseases to enter and take their toll. They can be very disastrous. Be on the look-out.

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