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For selective control of Chickweeds, Knotweeds, Clover, Dandelion, or Plantain in Bentgrass Greens and Fairways as well as Bluegrass, Fescues, and their mixture.

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In reviewing the GUIDE FOR PREPARATION OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION, a booklet by H. B. Musser, J. M. Duich and J. C. Harper, all of Pennsylvania State University, the best explanation of its purpose can be given by quoting the preface:

"Many of the most serious problems encountered in maintenance of satisfactory turf on golf courses are the direct result of faulty construction. Failure to provide for adequate surface and sub-surface drainage of greens, poor root-zone mixtures that are subject to severe compaction, inadequate soil preparation on fairways, and shoddy seeding methods are among the "built-in" mistakes that create future maintenance problems. These very often require major reconstruction or renovation to correct. Not only is this expensive but it also seriously interferes with normal use of the course.

The preparation of a complete and concise set of specifications is the first step in protecting a very substantial initial investment against future unnecessary outlays of additional funds, and of insuring against permanent mediocrity of playing conditions. The building of a modern golf course is a specialized operation. A wealth of practical experience and an ever increasing fund of experimental evidence is available to everyone who has the desire and ability to use them. But unless the right materials and construction methods are properly fitted to each specific job, results can be far less than anticipated. Apparently, most of the difficulties arise from a failure to prepare a complete and firm directive which specifically outlines each phase of the construction operations. This should be so organized that the provisions are definite and capable of reasonably exact interpretation by everyone concerned.

This "Guide for the Preparation of Specifications for Golf Course Construction" presents an outline for the organization of a complete set of contract specifications. It has been developed in such a way that any provision or section which is not applicable to a specific job may be deleted without affecting the remainder of the contract. It is presented in the hope that it may be of assistance to those who have the responsibility of specification preparation, and that it may provide a better understanding, on the part of those for whom the work is being done, of what an adequate set of specifications should contain."

This publication can be obtained from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, 3158 Des Plaines Ave., Des Plaines, Illinois 60018 for 85 cents per copy.

Notes

Hubby Hubjan, pro of Onwentsia, will be our speaker at the April meeting.

Pat Ryan (Greenshire Golf Club) is back on his feet after his recent operation.

Al Hintz (White Pines) found out that you need more than a piece of plywood to fly. He is now recouping, at home, from some broken ribs.

Bob Williams will be a speaker at the Michigan State Turf Conference.

(Continued on next page)

Mrs. Al. Dorband (Mission Hills) is out of the hospital and doing well.

Norm Kramer was elected president of the Midwest Turf Foundation at Purdue and Ted Woehrle became a member of the board of directors.

Chicago District Golf Association meeting on irrigation March 23.

Mrs. Ken Lapp (Fresh Meadows) underwent surgery the first of the month and is doing well. Area Code 312

DANGER—POISON

The Relative Toxicity of Agricultural Chemicals

Many persons are concerned with the new insecticides and how poisonous they are to humans and other warm-blooded animals. Those selling and using these materials should be alert and realize the potential dangers involved. Purchasers of insecticides should also be warned of their toxicity and to follow manufacturer's directions when they mix and apply these chemicals. Even more amounts of many of the so-called "safe" insecticides and fungicides can cause sickness and even death if they are improperly used. The following table gives the amount of the actual material that will kill 50% of the rats to which it is fed on a weight basis; and the amount which, when taken internally, might be considered lethal to a 150-pound man. Those with an asterisk (*) are organic phosphate insecticides.

priospriore insecticiae		The second second
Material	Acute Oral Toxicity to Rats (LD-50 Mg/Kg Body Weight)	Estimated Lethal Dose for 150-pound Man (in ounces)
Aramite	4,000	9.600
Chlordane	460	1.104
Chlorobenzilate	702	1.685
DDD (Rhothane)	330	0.792
DDT	113	0.271
Dieldrin	100	0.240
*Dithio (Sulpha-Tepp,		
Thiotep)	8	0.019
Endrin	10	0.024
Kelthane	730	1.752
Lead Arsenate	125	0.300
Lindane	125	0.300
*Malathion	1,000	2.400
Metaldehyde	1,000	2.400
*OMPA (Schradan)	18	0.043
*Parathion	3	0.007
*Phosdrin	7	0.017
Sevin	540	1.296
*Systox	7	0.017
Tedion	14,700	35.280
*TEPP	2	0.005
*Thimet	2 3	0.007
Toxaphene	90	0.216
Ferbam (Fungicide)	17,000	40,800
Maneb (Fungicide)	7,500	18.000
Nabam (Fungicide)	395	0.948
Zineb (Fungicide)	5,200	12.480

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE TABLE, IT TAKES FAR LESS THAN ONE OUNCE OF MOST OF THESE MATERIALS TO KILL A HUMAN, AND SOME ARE SO VIOLENTLY POISONOUS THAT A FATAL DOSE

WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO MEASURE BECAUSE IT IS SO SMALL!

The amounts stated in the table would likely be fatal when taken internally. But it must be remembered that although it is rather common for these materials to be swallowed, many (such as Parathion and Thimet) are nearly as dangerous when absorbed through the skin. Beware of breathing in these materials too!

The effect of the organic phosphate is cumulative in the body. Since all of the phosphate insecticides act in the same manner on the system, they should be avoided if it is suspected that you have been poisoned by any one of them. Note that of the phosphates listed, Malathion is by far the least toxic; all of the others are extremely poisonous.

If you are using any of the phosphate insecticides, notify your family physician to that effect and tell him you want atropine pills to keep in your first-aid kit. Always use a full-face respirator and protective clothing when applying these materials. Don't forget the rubber gloves. And keep insecticides off your skin!! If you begin to feel light-headedness, tightness of the chest, nausea, or dizziness while using these materials (or immediately after), call for medical aid and meanwhile take the atropine pills as recommended by your doctor.

Be Alert when applying these materials and notify persons purchasing and using them as to the potential danger. These chemicals are very effective for killing certain insect and fungus diseases; but they do not discriminate between these and the human being who handles them carelessly!!!

(From TURF BULLETIN Mass. Turf and Lawn Grass Council)

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