



## HOLMES CORNER

By James L. Holmes

I have been calling in the Chicago area for the past week and have observed serious cases of Fusarium patch and Anthracnose. This can be an extremely serious disease and occasionally is difficult to control. Fungicides known to be effective against this malady are Actidione ferrated or Actidione-RZ, a mixture of Thiram - Parzate (Fore) - iron sulfate and phenyl mercuric acetate - 10%. Rates are: Thiram — 3 ounces per 1000 square feet; Parzate — 4 to 6 ounces per 1000 square feet; 10% PMA — 1/4 ounce per 1000 square feet; iron sulfate — 1 ounce per 1000 square feet. About five years ago, Bill Lyons at Firestone had a severe attack of this disease and was simply unable to achieve effective control. Samples were sent to Dr. Couch, who was then at Penn State, and the inciting organism was identified as Fusarium roseum. In the final analysis, the material which did the most good for Bill was magnesium sulfate or Epsom salts. It was applied at a rate of 2 pounds per 1000 square feet and watered in. Gradually the disease condition cleared up. Invariably, this disease condition is most severe on greens, or fairways for that matter, adjacent to trees or where tree root competition and shade are factors.

During April and May, grass went off-color. Various shades of purple, red, tan and light green could be noticed. This was brought about from the fact that nightly frost was quite common. When frost and cold conditions are present, chlorophyll is not readily manufactured or is destroyed. There are other pigments in the plant blade such as anthocyanins, carotenoids and xanthophylls. These pigments rather than being green are various shades of yellow, red and purple. Consequently, when chlorophyll is lacking, different wave lengths of light are reflected from the leaf blades and these various shades are seen. Simply, there is nothing which can be done with this situation other than being patient until some warm weather arrives.

I must make a correction in the last "Holmes Corner" whereby the rate given for application of calcium arsenate through the spray tank was listed at 2 pounds per gallon of water. Rather, this should

read 2 pounds per 10 gallons of water. I'm afraid if we tried it at the 2 pounds per gallon rate, we would wind up with varying consistencies of concrete in the spray machine.

Fairway turf this spring is quite good at all golf courses. I was especially impressed with the fairway turf which Dave Burke is gradually developing at Green Acres. Approximately 8 years ago, fairway turf at Green Acres, for all intents and purposes, was **Poa annua**. Today it is a mixture of bentgrass and **Poa trivialis**. However, certain spots continue to support considerable **Poa annua** and Dave plans to continue to open soil and overseed in September. In any event, great progress has been made at Green Acres and some of his fairways, such as Number 18, are as fine as there are in Chicago.

In the last BULL SHEET, I promised to include some pictures regarding mulching work by Jerry Chessman at Park Ridge. I must renig on this. Even though the pictures have been taken, it is impossible to tell any difference from the pictures. However, from observation, it is apparent that turf under the polyethylene developed rapidly and, according to Jerry, is superior to other mulches, which were straw and fiber matting.

I ran into a real cute method of installing bridges while visiting at Pete Dye's new golf course in Columbus, Ohio. Pete simply made bridge abutments and purchased a railroad flat car and a box car. The ends were cut out of the box car and it, along with the flat car, were placed on the abutments. They made rustic and beautiful bridges. Further, the box car acts as a shelter.



The grass has really been growing fast in the Chicago area and superintendents will go to many extremes to get it cut. Above, "Billy" does an excellent job at a north side country club.

**DID YOU KNOW:** 52% of the American citizens never travel more than 200 miles from their birthplace!