



## RECORD'S RECORD

By Lee Record  
USGA Green Section  
Mid-Continent Agronomist

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Paul M. Alexander as mid-continent agronomist of the USGA Green Section. Dr. Alexander joined the USGA staff on July 1st and will be working from the Chicago office. During the past eleven years, Dr. Alexander has been helping southern golf course superintendents from Clemson University.

Winter damaged greens continue to respond slowly. Green topdressed heavy and frequently show greater recovery than those not touched. Thorough aeration, thatching and renovation in general will be the rule this fall to bring greens back to full recovery. One superintendent in Wisconsin reported all he had to do to get a farm bottle cool was to place it in the cup . . . soils hadn't warmed a bit; turf hadn't filled in worth a damn and if things didn't change real soon he was going fishing.

Topdressing was worth its weight in gold this spring. Superintendents who had the foresight of having a two to three year supply of material stored in a dry place had few worries. Now is the time to put in for a topdressing building. Topdressing of greens will continue to grow in the mid-continent region.

Broadleaf weeds soared to new levels this spring. Herbicide applications were washed out more often than one would like to count. Clover, knotweed, etc. can easily be controlled with one of the MCCP formulations or Dicamba 2,4-D is still the best control for broadleaf weeds. Timing of the material in questions is of importance here. Dicamba can be used in late spring, early summer if required, with great success and less injury to permanent turfgrasses and **Poa annua** than other materials.

Fairway renovation should begin about the third week of August. Heavy aeration, six or more times over on each fairway to work up a suitable seedbed is the most desirable way to establish new seedlings. Thatching shows promise but is not as thorough as

aeration. Timing of this cultural practice is important, a couple of weeks head start over **Poa annua** germination may be the success story of this year's over-seeding program.

Disease has not been a serious problem. Dollar spot and Helminthosporium are leading the league in this category.

Recently, a news commentator reports as of July 1st, "we have had 77 rain free days since the first of the year." I'm waiting to see a dinghy on the back of a golf bag . . . or even weekend golfers.

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