

I have always come away from these conferences I felt, a better person. Whether I valued the educational meetings to the fullest or not, I felt the personal contact with your fellow superintendent from border to border and coast to coast was priceless. I have sat in rooms of informal meetings between superintendents, and discussed better methods of growing grass and maintenance than came out of the educational sessions. And this is good.

On my way back I made several stops and visited with friends and golfing associates. I saw many fine golf courses and was impressed with the fine grooming on some of them. Once I left sunny Florida I was anxious to get home. My haste was so great that I didn't inspect the roadside turf in Alabama as well as they thought I should have, and for a few anxious moments it looked as though I might be cutting the court house lawns in 1969.

All in all it was a wonderful, hectic, and informative 2 weeks and I'm ready for the challenge of 1969. I hope each and everyone of you also are relaxed and ready to battle the elements for the coming year. I know it has been a season of many conferences, clinics, symposiums, shows, etc., but if possible, commit yourself to a few hours at the Flower Show if you are asked to. It will definitely be back to work after that.

Ed Wollenberg, President

THE THIRD ANNUAL GOLF TURF SYMPOSIUM

As Reviewed by John West
Superintendent — Bonnie Brook C. C.

The third annual Golf Turf Symposium, sponsored by the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents and the Milwaukee Sewage Commission, was held to discuss the problem of **Poa annua**.

Dr. Engel of Rutgers University described **Poa annua** as a blue grass with large white ligules and roots growing from nodes rather than rhizomes.

Where can **Poa annua** be found? Dr. Engel feels that it grows in any cool, moist climate where the vegetation is closely cropped and high levels of nitrogen and phosphate are present.

Increased infestations of **Poa annua** are caused by excessive watering or drought, compaction, increased phenoxy herbicide use, high nitrogen and phosphate, close mowing, and renovation at the wrong time.

Control of **Poa annua** can be achieved through management by having a dense turf cover, judicious use of fertilizer, avoiding disease, spreading traffic, and watering only when necessary. Chemical control at Rutgers has been achieved by the use of Sodium arsenate at $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 pound per acre endothall in two or three applications of $\frac{1}{2}$ pound per acre, and calcium arsenate at five to fifteen pounds per thousand applied in the spray prior to seed germination. He warned that all chemical controls should be used with caution to prevent loss of desirable turf.

Dr. Sortoretto of the Cleary Corporation had the problem of telling us how to live with **Poa annua**.

His four steps to care were to hold the spread of **Poa annua** to under 100 percent; to have a good feeding program which included magnesium, iron, and potas applied weekly to greens and monthly to fairways; a preventive disease program; and a wilt control agent to close stomatal opening and reduce transpiration.

Mr. Anderson, Superintendent of Brae Buhn Country Club, explained his use of lead arsenate since 1936 and his **Poa annua** control with 600 pounds per acre applied over a five year period.

Mr. Riley, Superintendent Manufacturers Club, explained his use of granular calcium arsenate at the rate of ten pounds per thousand the first year and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 pounds per thousand each succeeding year with good **Poa annua** control.

Mr. Small, Mallinkrodt Chemical Works, explained the use of Pre-San on turf to control **Poa annua** in new sod and in older turf with spring and fall applications of material.

Mr. Moore, Superintendent Woodway Country Club, told of his use of sodium arsenate to kill all fairway turf and then the reseeding program for desirable sod. He showed slides of cultured practices used by superintendents to maintain good turf.

Mr. Kerr, Chipman Chemical Company, put a note of caution in the use of arsenates. He suggested only good quality granular calcium arsenate be used. Low rates of about four pounds of granular per thousand be applied spring and fall until toxicity is reached to prevent damage.

Mr. Small explained the Pre-San to be effective must be watered in and used after aeration or thatching. Pre San's inhibiting effect can be overcome by the use of 5 to 7 pounds of activated charcoal per thousand or $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of peat in contact with the material.

Mr. Frank, Elcano Products, showed where Bolan at 2 pounds active per acre reduced **Poa annua** when applied in late August with only slight discoloration to turf. Late August applications were more effective than when the material was applied later.

Dr. Daniel, Purdue University, showed where **Poa annua** fails the better grasses have to take over, so before starting any program of control you should have a good public relations campaign for the membership, get enough money in your budget to do the job, start a turf improvement program, and then select the chemical to be used for **Poa annua** control.

Dr. Engel stated that there is no sure control of **Poa annua** and pre-emergence chemicals sometimes show poor results, because of the perennial nature of some plants. He showed some slides of the Hyperoids which destroys **Poa annua** selectively and some work being done on its control.

Mr. Holmes, Mid-continent Director USGA Green Section, summarized the meeting and closed the meeting in good order.

HOW YOU CAN IMPROVE PUBLIC RELATIONS AT YOUR CLUB

Come to the MAGCS Meeting March 13, at Cherry Hills Country Club. Mr. Charles Vance of the Buchen Public Relations Firm, which has done work for the GCSAA, will be our featured speaker.