

GOOD-BYE ASTRO TURF

by Walter W. Lowell
Superintendent — Golf Professional
Canton Golf Club, Canton, Conn.

The golfers at Canton Golf Club can now enjoy the familiar feel of real turf again under foot on our second tee. For two seasons we had an Astro Turf surface on our par 3, second hole.

There are pros and cons on Astro Turf and I'll try to fairly describe them both.

The maintenance is easier on Astro Turf to the extent that there is no mowing except around the edges. Around the Turf we spread a three foot wide collar of washed pea stone which was kicked into the adjacent grass which provided a problem for the mowers cutting near the tee. We hosed the Astro Turf off to keep it clean.

We had to buy special Astro Turf tees, which are very pointed, that could penetrate the surface. Each golfer was given an Astro Turf tee for use on the second hole. Many golfers just dropped the ball on the surface and hit the best they could. Others teed up in front or on the side of the tee in the nearby grass. Teeing up the ball seemed to be the most objectionable feature of the Astro Turf.

Secondly, if the golfer's swing wasn't very accurate, a poor shot would result. If the club head came down too sharply, the golfer would have a jolt thru his club and body.

After two seasons we had to lift the turf and re-level the inside base sand. When we removed the Astro Turf the underside had thousands of tee points sticking thru the material that needed to be removed.

I was happy, to a point, with the Astro Turf, but the majority of my customers and members were not. We are in a business to make playing conditions as pleasant as possible and not to aggravate the golfers.

This past Spring a golfer asked for an Astro Turf tee and when I said he didn't need one anymore as the Astro Turf is gone and regular grass is there, he said, "Great, now we can enjoy golf again."



FOR THE PROFESSIONAL TURF MANAGER

- WALTER FUCHS
- 1106 N. Scott Street
- Wheaton, Illinois 60187
- Telephone 668-5537



TURF PRODUCTS, LTD.

The Oldest and Largest Tree Service in the World
— COMPLETE TREE CARE —

Pruning
Spraying
Feeding

Tree Planting
Tree Removals
Inspections

DAVEY TREE EXPERT CO.

O. S. SIMPKINS — PAUL MALLORY
District Mgrs.

1901 W. Algonquin Rd., Mt. Prospect, Ill. 60056
437-4080

TURF PRODUCTS, LTD.

- 1106 N. Scott Street
- Wheaton, Illinois 60187
- Telephone 668-5537



TURF PRODUCTS, LTD.



for PROFESSIONAL TURF MAINTENANCE

- Fumigants
- Insecticides
- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Plant Foods
- Soil Conditioners
- Soil Structure Builders

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.

1919 Swift Drive
Oak Brook, Ill. Phone 312-325-4330

FOR TEES, FAIRWAYS AND COLLARS
USE **WARREN'S® A-20 BLUEGRASS
SOD or PLUGS**

UPRIGHT GROWTH — TAKES SHORT MOWING —
DISEASE RESISTANT — GREENS UP EARLIER —
STAYS GREEN LATER

FOR GREENS

**CREEPING BENT SOD & STOLONS
PENNPART — TORONTO**

WARREN'S TURF NURSERIES

8400 West 111th Street Phone (312) 974-3000
PALOS PARK, ILLINOIS 60464