

annua is heavy. **Poa trivialis** and Manhattan will germinate when soils are still cold better than anything else we have tried. In my experience, seeding with bentgrass in early spring is wasting time and good money. The bentgrass limply comes up and shrivels away in the thatch. **Poa trivialis** has a strong root system and survives considerably better than the bentgrass. Wherever we used this mixture last year it really looks great and is now established in the **Poa annua** areas. If anyone has doubts of my success, be free to come up and see me. A picture is worth a thousand words. I know that O. J. Noer in his remaining years was very strong in suggesting **Poa trivialis** be mixed with bentgrass. The discing in the spring is also a good practice, because it breaks up the thatch and encourages rhizome development in established bentgrass.

As the summer progresses and the **Poa annua** begins to die out in problem areas, we will then aerate up to twenty times (just like plowing) and drill seed a 50-50 mixture of **Poa trivialis** and bentgrass. These cultivated areas will then be roped neatly off and the remainder of the fairway left in summer play. The seeded areas might be from 5000 square feet to almost an acre, but whatever size they might be, they will no longer be babied, hand watered, prayed for, worried about. We will jump right in and chop them up.

Immediately after Labor Day, **phase three** will begin. Every fairway at this time will be aerified twice (three or four times on the perimeter) and seeded wherever the areas are thin or unhealthy looking.

This program, as I have mentioned, will be carried out for four years and by that time, our hope is that most of the weak **Poa annua** area will be eradicated. Through this cultural practice, I believe our permanent grass will be 75 to 80 percent desirable bentgrass. Drop in and see our fairway program. It may inspire you if you are having problems with **Poa annua**, or perhaps you might add something to our program. I'll buy the lunch!

Paul Voykin, President



The editor took a couple hours off. The big ones did not all get away.



Editor

Ye editor paid a visit to Amos Lapp, superintendent at St. Andrews Golf Club. He has been superintendent at this club for many years and has a total of nearly fifty years under his belt as a golf course superintendent.

The condition of the course was excellent. Amos stated that it is not unusual to have from five to seven hundred golf players in a day, along with one hundred seventy-five riding golf cars on the thirty-six holes. To cope with this kind of traffic requires a different type of maintenance program than one would find on a private golf course.

Amos says the fairways are mowed with an eleven unit and one, nine unit machine with lights on each unit, starting work at four A.M. on busy golf event days. This is some contrast to the horse drawn mower days!

Amos has rebuilt several old tees and also built several new ones, increasing their size as much as one hundred percent.

It will be interesting to observe in the near future years the strain of grass that performs the best under heavy play. Amos used three different strains: C15 Bent, A20 Blue Grass, and pencross Bent.

Amos also informed me he has planted over one thousand new trees of different varieties in recent years. In a few years, the place will look like a forest!

Most superintendents know that keeping golf cars in good running condition is no small job. This responsibility comes under the grounds department and they have to handle one hundred seventy-five cars. That's a large number! They are completely overhauled during the winter months, plus all the other equipment used for the maintenance of the golf course must be repaired if necessary. After this, a vacation is in order!

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