

SATAN AND JOHN DOE

Old Satan sat with face so grim
And muttered, "What'll I do with him?
He's sure to find this place a bore
With the life on earth he's had before!"
And then while shaking his horny head,
He opened his ledger and this he read:

"John Doe — Keeper of Greens,
A man behind the golfing scenes
Had 60 years of toil and strife
Pleasing golfer, managers, pro and wife!

His job included keeping the greens,
Planting new turf, repairing machines.
Fighting diseases, insects, defeat,
Battling rain, humidity, heat.

Fixing the water pipes that break thru the ground,
Changing all markers and mowing weeds down.
He worked all day — studied all night.

Trained all new men
In the ways that were right.

Knew the diseases; chemicals, too.
Fertilized, aerified, 'till his face would turn blue.
Not only a scholar and teacher was he,
But an ambassador of good will and publicity.

Records he kept; watched budget allocation -
On him depended the course reputation.
And 'tho heading a project whose value was high,
Credit and praise went to some other guy.

Gripping and moaning he got every day.
But seldom a raise in the old take-home pay!"
Now here he lies, his days they are thru -
"Tell me," said Satan,
What hell can I put him to?"

After sitting and thinking for quite a while,
His face broke out in a great big smile;
The best known hardship he could deen
Was to send him where all was calm and green!

Credit - Greensword

Dear Ray:

You performed a valuable service for your readers by running the items about sulfur. I was pleased, naturally, to see my name associated with the subject. Credit goes also to Goss, Gould and others - I was glad to see their names mentioned. Beaton is another who has added to the Sulfur literature.

Potash, sulfur, lime, slow-release Nitroform all are basic factors in developing healthy sturdy turf. Were we to use these materials sensibly, we would need fewer fungicides less often.

At the USGA meeting at Congressional C.C. recently, Dr. Duich told of some 55 plots of various grasses at Penn State. Half of each plot had been treated with fungicides. Guess which half got clobbered with diseases? You are right! The fungicide-treated plots got hit hardest!

No one has measured the effects of chemicals on the soil flora. Penicillin was cultured from a soil organism. It is a safe bet that no fungicides had been used there. Have our constant use of fungicides killed the beneficial organisms that keep diseases in check?

For years I have advocated sensible use of a combination of Powder Blue Nitroform and hydrated (spray) lime. Recent work at the University of Maryland support the concept. With K₂SO₄ added, we have a recipe for healthy grass. These are BASICS and many have become so sophisticated that they have lost sight of the goal.

Thank you, Ray, for a refreshing "refresher" in your BULL SHEET.

Fred V. Grau, President

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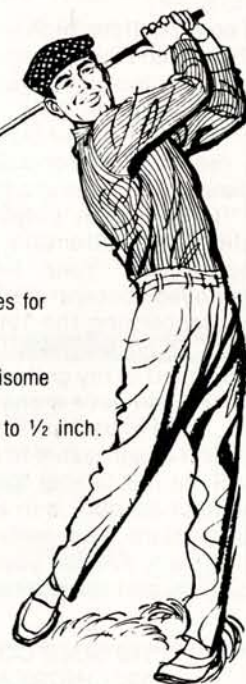
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