

Vol. 7, No. 2  
August 1953



# The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Our 27th Year



Dr. WILLIAM H. DANIEL  
Midwest Regional Turf Foundation

THE AUGUST MEETING  
SPORTSMANS COUNTRY CLUB  
NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 1953  
ROLAND (Rocky) BOLTE, OUR HOST  
GOLF TOURNAMENT IN AFTERNOON  
BUFFET DINNER, 6:30 P. M.

MEETING 7:30 P. M.

QUESTION BOX

BE SURE TO ATTEND THE MIDWEST  
REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION FIELD  
DAY AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY ON AUG.  
3. DR. DANIEL PROMISES US A MOST  
INTERESTING AND EDUCATIONAL DAY

PRO-SUPT. TOURNAMENT, MISSION HILLS COUNTRY CLUB, AUGUST 31.

THE BULL SHEET, official monthly publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

Editor, William H. Stupple, 543 Michigan Ave., Highland Park, Ill. Associate Editors: Al Johnson, Bert Rost. Art Director, Paul Burdett.

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### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Midwest Regional Turf Foundation is having its Annual Field Day at Purdue University on August 3, and I wish to urge you all to attend if at all possible. Dr. Bill Daniel has been working hard to make this day an important one to us all. Dr. Daniel is a hard and sincere worker and is doing all he possibly can to promote better and better turf. It is our duty to get behind him and to help him in any way we possibly can. We can do this by promoting the Midwest Turf Foundation at our clubs. Explain what it is all about so that club officials will get a clear idea of what we are trying to do and if your club is not already a member of the Foundation, by all means talk it over with your Chairman and chances are if you recommend joining, it will be done. Certainly the dues are very reasonable and I don't think the cost is going to stand in the way of more clubs joining. The fact is that the clubs never have had a clear picture of the Foundation and what it means to the men who are working with turf.

So lets all turn out and give Dr. Daniel a big boost by the largest attendance yet. See you at Purdue.  
Ray Davis, President

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### THE MEETING AT WHITE PINES

Fourty-four golfers turned out for the golf tournament at White Pines Country Club on July 13. The players reported the course in great shape and a good time was had by all. The refreshments furnished by Roseman Tractor Equipment Company were greatly appreciated and enjoyed.

At 6:30 P.M., we sat down to a delicious roast beef dinner and after dinner President Davis called the meeting to order. After transacting routine business of the Association, John Darrah was called on to give us a talk on his experiences in travelling about the country for W. A. Cleary Corp. John has really seen a lot this spring and summer and had a number of Kodachrome slides which he showed us. The boys were very much interested in what John had to tell us and we hope to hear from him again in the near future.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 and a social hour followed.

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### COMING EVENTS

M.R.T.F. Field Day, Purdue University, August 3.  
The Aug. meeting, Sportsmans Country Club, Aug. 10  
Pro.-Supt. Tournament, Mission Hills Country Club, August 31.  
Midwest-Wisconsin Joint Meeting, North Shore C. C. Glenview, Illinois Sept. 14.  
The October Meeting and Fall Tournament, Tam O Shanter, C. C., October 5.

### SOIL CONDITIONING OF GREENS & TEES

A. H. Smith

More than a year ago the phrase "Soil Conditioner" began to make headlines in the agricultural and gardening world. The use of a chemical, polyacrilonitrile, had made it possible to change the physical properties of clayey and silty soils. It made them equal to good loam or soil treated with peat moss in tilth and drainage.

In this period since original announcement various formulations other than "polyack" have been marketed, even by leaders in the field, with claims of less cost and improvement over "polyack". With sufficient time elapsed test comparisons show that polyacrilonitrile is most proficient in 1. Improvement of soil aggregation. 2. Permeability of water. 3. Retention of moisture and oxygen. 4. Germination of small seeds (grass seed) due to more uniform soil moisture.

It has been of particular concern to golf course superintendents whether treated soil would lose its conditioned quality due to winter freezing and thawing or by traffic from play. Laboratory tests show only slight disturbance of soil aggregation.

Of course the real proof of any product is its practical application under the job conditions. In this proof by use, results are on a high level of satisfaction. Where treatments were made a year ago, no lessening in improvement value, in this time is noted on golf greens or tees. The easy entrance of rain and water is still on a highly efficient basis. Deeper root systems are the rule and growth better due to uniform moisture level.

Superintendents tests are nearly always conducted on the greens which exhibit most signs of compaction. The poorest greens, the ones that habitually "go out" in summer.

Chemical soil conditioner will maintain the soil particle size, or aggregate that is present at time of application. This is accomplished in two ways with liquid soil conditioner. First, loosen the soil by aerifying. Second the soil particles are swelled by absorption of a solution of one gallon of conditioner in forty gallons of water sprayed on five hundred square feet of green or tee. The liquid solution in this volume swells the soil particles which thereafter will remain at that size increasing their water holding capacity by 40-50%.

This treatment has been followed with these results noted. Cups are easier to insert — remove more readily. Heavy rains and water are absorbed into the soil. No puddling and no run off. These may be noted twenty four hours after treatment. Other benefits as heavy root systems that go deep into the soil, improve appearance of the green and money saved in labor and water will follow.

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### GOLF WINNERS AT WHITE PINES

In the absence of Dom Grotti, Golf Chairman, Frank Dinelli assisted by Howard Baerwald took over.

The winners were as follows:

Seniors. 1. Oscar Borgmeier; 2. Frank Mastroleo  
Low Gross. 1. Don Swenson; 2. Dick Buchen; 3. Jim Finaglio; 4. Mel Warnecke; 5. Joe Canale; 6. Bob Williams.  
Blind Bogey. 1. Pete Simmons; 2. Joe Dinelli; 3. Charley Vann; 4. J. J. Schwander.

## SPREADING IT THIN

The Illinois Natural History Survey reports that an infestation of Japanese beetles was discovered near Shelton, Ill. While this is presumed to be an isolated infestation and control measures are being applied, it might be well to watch for the shiny green and bronze beetles in case there are other undected infestations.

When his daughter, Lois, won the Illinois State Women's Championship, Herman Drafke, Supt. at Acacia Country Club, beamed, "I might not be the best father in the world, but I sure am the proudest". We extend our congratulations to Lois. We are proud, too.

Refreshments on the course at White Pines were by courtesy of Warren Roseman of Roseman Tractor Equipment Co. of Evanston, Illinois.

We played White Pines in the midst of the July drought and Al Hintz' unwatered fairways were baked hard, but his greens were in superb shape. The players reported that they were as true as billiard tables. We want to thank Al for his wonderful hospitality and commend the club manager for the delicious dinner served us that evening.

There is some question among the boys as to whether the spikes on golf shoes are getting longer year by year or whether the members are getting older and drag their feet more on the greens. Personally, we can't see the necessity of such long spikes. Maybe we ought to start a crusade against them.

Frank Dinelli makes the news again when he became grandpa for the seventh time. Roberta Louise Haines, weight 7 pounds 12 ounces was born to daughter Mary on July 3. According to the grapevine, Frank will continue to make news, as there are two more grandchildren on the way. Frank celebrated his 50th birthday on July 28, and finally becomes eligible to join that exclusive Seniors outfit.

We were very happy to have as our guest at White Pines, Alvin Dienhart, Supt. of Elks Country Club of Lafayette, Indiana. Al rode up with Joe Kelly also of Lafayette.

Ray Gerber, Secy-Treas. of the Seniors Club, reports that he now has money in the treasury and is worrying about what to do with it. No doubt the members will find some way to spend it, Ray.

The heavy rains of the latter part of July are causing some concern among Superintendents of the Chicago area. They are praying that we don't get any real hot, humid weather for a while such as we had last year and which caused all the grief.

When Lawrence Huber was up this way in May, he brought along some Bermuda which he called the Kentucky strain. Some of it was planted here and it certainly is going to town. Our question is will it last over winter.

At last report, Ray Didier was recovering nicely from his illness, is still taking it quite easy and has time at last to read the boating magazines. If any of you have questions on boat design, be sure to see the old expert, Ray Didier, about them.

Tom Coyne is now Superintendent at Lincolnshire.

John Darrah is away again on an extended trip for Cleary Corp. He sure likes his new job and many of our Superintendents think he has something to sell.

THE MOLE

## "FOOD FOR THOUGHT . . .

*Are you an active member, the kind who would be missed,  
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?  
Do you ever go to visit a member who is sick?  
Or leave the work for just a few and talk about the  
clique?  
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the crowd,  
Or do you stay at home and crab long and loud?  
Or do you take an active part to help your association  
along,  
Or are you just satisfied to be the kind to just belong?  
So attend the meetings regularly, and help with hand  
and heart.  
Don't be just a member, but take an active part.  
So think it over, Brother. Are we right or are we wrong?  
Are you an active member . . . or do you just belong?"*

O—O

## WAR-BORN JET FOGGER OFFERED AS PEST KILLING AID

A German-made portable fog machine, capable of covering two acres with pest-killing fog in 20 minutes, its makers say, is now being offered in the United States.

A similar device was developed by the Germans to serve as an engine pre-heater during the battle of Stalingrad. It utilizes the pulse-jet principle which was first used in the German buzz bomb.

Here's how it works: A gasoline fueled pulse-jet heater generates an exhaust stream through a tube. A pesticide is injected into the tube. When pesticide-charged exhaust hits the atmosphere, the resulting condensation forms a fog composed of millions of poisonous-droplets.

The machine weighs about 30 pounds and its tanks hold enough fuel and insecticide to operate the machine for half an hour.

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## SNOW MOLD AND DOLLAR SPOT CONTROL

There seems to be some evidence in this district, at least, that heavy applications of fungicide in the late fall and early winter for the control of Snow Mold is also helping to control Dollar Spot. On one course where Tersan has been used for a number of years for Snow Mold control on greens and tees, there has not been any Dollar Spot on either for the last five years. No preventative treatments are made outside of the fall and winter spraying. Large Brownpatch is in evidence from time to time and the greens and tees are sprayed at those times. Rates used for control are 3½ pounds of Tersan 75 to a 5,000 square foot green. There has recently been a heavy attack of Dollar Spot on fairways, but none on greens, tees and green collars on this course.

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Fungicide screening trials on snow mold control were conducted in Wash., in 1952 in cooperation with the National Cooperative Turf Fungicide Trials. These trials were initiated at this station in 1951, when 15 fungicides included in the screening test, were evaluated for snow mold control. The unusually heavy infestation of the disease, which occurred in 1951 subjected these fungicides to a severe test and those which gave little or no control were not included in the 1952 trials. One fungicide (Phenyl Mercury Acetate Solubilized No. 10) has been added.

As in the previous year, the trials were conducted on golf greens at 2 locations: one at the Indian Canyon Municipal Golf Course in Spokane, and the other at the Wash. State College Golf Course in Pullman. In both locations, the turf consists of Seaside bent and was fertilized for the final time in August 1952.

In Spokane, the chemicals were applied in mid-November to greens which were frozen. Five by 10 ft. plots in duplicate on each of 2 greens were used, but snow mold developed on only one green. Each of the 8 fungicides was applied at two dosages. In Pullman, 11 fungicides were applied in late November to frozen greens, using 8 by 80 ft. plots, with one plot of each fungicide on each of three greens. In both locations, application of the fungicide was made either in dry form using sand as a carrier (10 qts. - 1000 sq. ft.) or as a spray using water as a diluent (5 gals. - 1000 sq. ft.). In general, heavier dosages of materials were used in 1952, because the lighter dosages used in 1951 failed to give complete control.

In spite of very little snow cover, abundant snow mold developed on the untreated plots in both Pullman and Spokane in the winter of 1952-53 so that a good test of the fungicide was obtained. In Pullman, and on some of the greens in Spokane, the disease was associated primarily with *Fusarium nivale*; whereas, on the green on which the plots were located in Spokane, *Typhula itoana* was the dominant organism. Disease readings were taken early in March, 1953, and were recorded as per cent of the turf showing symptoms of snow mold. The results are summarized in the accompanying table.

The results obtained in 1952 agree very closely with those obtained in 1951. In both years and both locations, the liquid phenyl mercuries (PMAS, Puraturf, Phenyl Mercury Acetate Solubilized No. 10, Tact-C-Lect) were outstanding in reducing the percentage of snow mold. Cadminate, used at much heavier dosages this year, also gave excellent control at Spokane, although some injury to the turf was evident at the heavier dosage (4 oz.). This same material ranked just behind the phenyl mercuries at Pullman. Calo-Clor also reduced snow mold percentages considerably at both locations, but ranked well behind the phenyl mercuries in giving efficient and consistent control of the disease. As in 1951, Tersan was effective in Spokane, but ineffective in Pullman. The remaining fungicides tested did not provide adequate control of the disease.

In an additional trial conducted at Pullman, to determine the minimum effective dosage of PMAS required to control snow mold, it was found that 1 oz. in 5 gals. of water per 1000 sq. ft. did not provide as good control as did 2 ozs. but that 3 ozs. provided no additional control. Where one-half gal. of water per 1000 sq. ft. was substituted for 5 gals. of water as a diluent, no difference was noted in degree of control obtained.

Compliments W. A. Cleary Corp.

## HOW TO USE TCA TO ERADICATE QUACK GRASS AND JOHNSON GRASS

TCA (sodium trichloroacetate) is a new herbicide suggested for use to eradicate patches of quack grass and Johnson grass. Its use on extensive areas may be impractical because of the high cost of the material. It is not a selective weed killer and cannot be used in crops to kill grasses without injury to the crops. Although further trials are necessary to determine most effective methods and proper time of applications, the following recommendations are based on information now available.

### How to Apply

TCA is sold in powder form. To make spray solution, use 1 gallon of water for each pound of TCA. It may be necessary to stir until the material is in solution. The solution can be applied with an ordinary sprayer of sufficient capacity to apply the required amount per area. The low volume nozzles commonly used to apply 2,4-D solutions at 5 gallons per acre are not suitable for applying TCA at the rate required. They may be replaced with nozzles of higher capacity. Uniform distribution of the spray is essential for best results.

Caution: TCA is irritating to the skin and eyes. It must be handled with care to avoid burns.

### For Quack Grass

From 80 to 100 pounds per acre of 1/2 to 5/8 pounds of TCA per square rod is recommended for quack grass. It can be applied to the foliage, or the grass may be cut, removed and the spray applied to the stubble and on the soil. TCA can be applied anytime during the growing season that the soil is moist. Avoid applying during periods of drouth. Repeated applications may be necessary to complete the kill. Respraying should be delayed until it is apparent that the quack grass is not killed by the first application. If the first treatment was made during early summer, respraying should be done in late fall or delayed until the following year.

The recommendations for use of TCA on quack grass also apply to Bermuda grass.

### For Johnson Grass

Johnson grass is more difficult to kill than quack grass. The amount of TCA required ranges from 100 to 120 pounds per acre of 5/8 to 3/4 pounds per square rod. Since there is some evidence that Johnson grass absorbs TCA through the plant, it should be applied as a foliage spray. Spraying when top growth is 12 to 24 inches in height is suggested. In the event of tall rank growth the tops should be cut, removed and new growth allowed to develop before spraying. Fall (August and Sept.) applications have proved equally as effective as spring applications. Avoid applying during periods of drouth. Respraying may be necessary to destroy seedlings or plants that were not killed by the first spraying.

### Residual Effect

TCA applied at the rate recommended for controlling quack grass and Johnson grass may render the soil unproductive for a period. Under Indiana conditions this period usually does not exceed 90 days; however, under some conditions it has persisted in the soil for one year or more. Crops planted may be destroyed during the period when TCA is still in the soil.

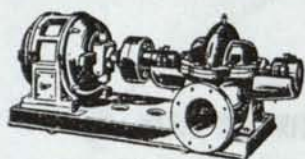
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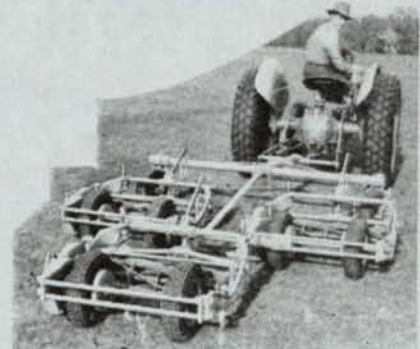
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