



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



NORM KRAMER

THE JULY MEETING SILVER LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

MONDAY, JULY 8, 1957

NORM KRAMER AND JOHN COGHILL,
OUR HOSTS

GOLF IN AFTERNOON
SOCIAL HOUR

DINNER — 6:30 P.M.

BUSINESS MEETING — 7:30 P. M.
EDUCATIONAL MEETING

Fred Grau will be our guest speaker. Knowing Fred as we do, there is no doubt that his remarks will be of the greatest interest to us and he will be ready to assist us in all our problems. You will not want to miss this meeting.

ANNUAL PICNIC POTTAWATOMIE STATE PARK, JULY 15.

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 Editor, Joe Dinelli.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm sitting here writing this — temperature 95 and humidity about the same — brother, it's really hot!

I hope that all of you are enjoying a good season — free from all trouble (is such a thing possible in our work?).

We had a fairly good turnout last month at Deer Park. Had an enjoyable meeting with the Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association.

The next meeting will be held at Silver Lake on July 8 — John Coghill and Norm Kramer will be co-hosts. This will be a good opportunity for all of us to inspect the new clubhouse that we have heard so much about. They've promised to have the welcome mat out and show us a really good time. Fred Grau will be the speaker at this meeting.

Mark your calendar now to save July 15 for our annual picnic. It will be held at Pottawatomie Park in St. Charles. There will be boating, swimming, golf, tennis, etc. Pack a picnic basket on July 15 and head for St. Charles — and the picnic.

Be seeing you July 8 — and July 15!

AMOS E. LAPP

COMING EVENTS

The July meeting, Silver Lake Country Club, July 8.

The Annual Picnic, Pottawatomie Park, St. Charles, Ill., July 15.

The August meeting, Edgewood Valley Country Club, Aug. 5.

The September meeting, joint meeting with Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association, North Shore Country Club, September 9.

The October meeting and Fall Golf Tournament, Medinah Country Club.

The November meeting will include a tour of International Fertilizer Company plant and dinner and meeting at Chicago Heights Country Club in the evening.

The December meeting, Glendale Country Club.

Some of the boys have already had a little trouble. The terrific rains of June 21 and 22 left standing water on many low areas on golf courses and the also terrific heat of June 23 just cooked the grass in these areas with resultant loss of turf.

We recently received a letter from our old friend, Bob Marbury. Bob is retired in Florida now and this last month took a trip to California and the West Coast. He reports that he visited Bill Rueck at Petalumas Country Club, California and that Bill is doing fine and sends his best regards to his friends here. Bob is coming back this way in July and expects to attend our meeting at Silver Lake. We know that Bob is looking forward to getting together with the Hearts players again.

John MacGregor reports that Mrs. MacGregor is getting along as well as can be expected and that it will be a considerable time before she can be up and around again. Our sincere wishes for a speedy recovery for Mrs. MacGregor. She is a grand lady.

THE JULY MEETING

We meet at Silver Lake Country Club on Monday, July 8 and our old friends John Coghill and Norm Kramer will be our hosts. There will be the usual golf tournament in the afternoon, social hour, dinner and the meeting in the evening. Fred Grau will be our guest speaker. Fred always has something of value to offer us and you will not want to miss this meeting.

THE JUNE MEETING

It was a beautiful day (no rain for a change) at Deer Park Golf Club when we assembled to have our meeting there on June 3. Our host, Joe Canale, had the course in fine shape and left nothing undone to make our visit there most pleasant. This was our meeting with the Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association and 21 of them were on hand to play Joe's course and have a most delightful get together with us. A total of 57 all told were present and 36 played golf. After a social hour in the evening, we sat down to a bountiful chicken dinner which was most satisfying in every way. We were disappointed that O. J. Noer was unable to be present as our speaker of the evening. However, a panel consisting of Central Illinois Present Jim Brandt, moderator and Ray Gerber, Frank Dinelli, Dick Naughton and Ed Walsh conducted a lively Question Box session. It was a very nice meeting and we will be looking forward to our next meeting with our friends from downstate.

The refreshments on the course were by courtesy of Armour Fertilizer Works and Ed Muzik. One of the door prizes was donated by Industrial Coatings Company.

GOLF PRIZES

Low Gross, Andy Devine, 1 Low Net, Dave Mastroleo, 2 Ben Krone, 3 H. T. Gammill, 4 Dick Naughton, 5 Bill Saielli, Seniors, Wes Updegraff.

DOOR PRIZES

1 Norman Kemmerick, 2 Bill Stupple, 3 Herman Woehrl, 4 Howard Cutler.

Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents will meet at Lake of the Woods Country Club at Hahomet, Illinois on July 15.

Some of the boys stayed overnight at Starved Rock State Park on the night of June 3.

We want to commend Joe Dinelli for the fine job he did on his drainage system at Evanston Country Club. The course had been poorly drained for years and this wet spring it was an altogether different golf course after his work of last winter.

The problem of vandalism on golf courses located in heavily populated areas is on the increase and most serious. There have been a number of reports on vandals who take flag poles, tee markers, etc., from golf grounds. One club in the Chicago district had three greens ripped up with sand trap rakes. One of these greens was one-quarter destroyed, or damaged. Because of some vandalism. It is a serious problem with which we are faced and the superintendent should give it some thought.

Gerald Dearie, Jr. from Edgewater reports that his club is shooting at a total of fifty electric carts for the 1958 golf season.

Bill Saielli from Indian Hill says the bass in his lake are giants — but of course the signs around the pond read "No Fishing".

POA ANNUA CONTROL

By Norman Goetze

Department of Agronomy, Purdue University

Following the development of successful controls of crabgrass in turf, *Poa Annua* has become one of the most troublesome plant pests. It is particularly annoying whenever turf management is most intense, such as greens, tees and aprons. A practical control program will by necessity be based on a thorough understanding of the peculiar habits of the grass and how these habits influence its performance under various turf conditions.

Poa Annua is a species of the large genus of bluegrasses. Its name, *Annua*, would suggest that it is an annual plant. Some experiences have shown it to be a perennial plant, but most often it completes its life cycle in one year. It is further classified as a winter annual, which means that under undisturbed natural conditions the seeds would germinate in the Fall, the vegetative cycle would predominate in Winter and early Spring, and seeds would mature during longer days of late Spring and Summer. Unfortunately, golf course conditions are vastly different from normal and *Poa Annua* has been known to germinate at any time except during the middle of Summer. Most seedhead emergence and resulting death of vegetation occurs during late Spring and Summer. Changes in management can not effectively alter the re-opening cycle because such responses are influenced by day length.

In pure stands *Poa Annua* forms a dense cover, tolerates close mowing, and has a fast recovery rate. Its mid-summer failure in this area presents its use as a solid stand. When occurring in mixtures with bentgrasses and other bluegrasses, it is objectionable because its texture, color, density, and rate of growth are different than the desirable turf.

Cultural and mechanical controls have been relatively ineffective because of the rapid germination of more *Poa Annua* seeds in areas where the existing materials were removed. Some experienced turf men have been re-seeding bents or bluegrasses in late Summer before new *Poa Annua* germinates. They have been able to gradually reduce the severity of the infestation by these annual re-seedings.

W. H. Daniel has been a pioneer in the use of chemicals for selective *Poa Annua* control. His extensive testing of lead and calcium arsenate under a variety of turf conditions has clearly outlined the principles of the use of these materials. Bill has found that the arsenates are relatively immobile in the soil and will accumulate in areas near the point of application. When the young *Poa Annua* seedling roots reach the arsenate salts they pick up toxic quantities and develop characteristic yellowing before death. The delay in field results is thought to be caused by the limited root activity of the *Poa Annua* seedlings.

High soil phosphate levels tend to reduce the effectiveness of the arsenates and higher applications of the arsenates are required. If the soil phosphate level is unknown, Bill is suggesting 20 pounds of arsenate per 1000 sq. ft. If the effect is not too good during the first season, repeat applications of 5 to 10 pounds should raise the total concentration to an effective level. Higher concentrations contain excessive amounts of phosphates. Calcium accumulated at a weaker concentration. Consequently equal rates are most

effective prior to the period of most rapid germination, although no harmful period is known.

In the Fall of 1955 an intensive evaluation of 26 herbicides for *Poa Annua* control was initiated. The materials were applied at various seasons to determine their relative selectivity for *Poa Annua*. Gradually the number of promising materials was reduced because of adverse effects upon the bentgrass and bluegrasses or because of lack of *Poa Annua* control. We are currently testing five materials which offer real promise if we can learn to effectively use them.

Poa Annua control in putting green turf is a most difficult task because the closely mowed vegetation is ultra sensitive to certain oil emulsions. Four of the materials, Radox, Endothal, Trichlorobenzoic acid, and a substituted phosphoric amide are formulated as oil emulsions and may prove dangerous to greens. The possibility of using granules or pellets of these materials is currently under study. The fifth material, neburon, has looked quite good in earlier tests, but has not been consistent under all conditions. We are studying its action critically in the laboratory to learn more of the causes of its inconsistent action.

Endothal is the only material of the five under test that is currently on the market for turf use. It has the commercial name, clovericide, and is labelled for use on bluegrass turf. It can not yet be recommended for use on bentgrass greens. Repeated weekly applications are rather effective on clover and severely weaken the *Poa Annua*.

For the coming season, the materials commercially available will be lead arsenate, calcium arsenate, and endothal. For putting greens and other bentgrass areas, the arsenates are preferred. For larger areas of bluegrass infested with *Poa Annua*, endothal should be tried.

We only hope that more of the newer materials will be proven and available for your use in the near future.

— FROM THE GREEN BREEZE

GOLF FACTS THAT may have escaped you, forwarded by Leo Feser of the Orono golf course, Minneapolis, Minn. Orono golf course was the first public golf course in the state to have grass greens. First planting of bent grass on a golf course green was done in Washington, D. C., back in 1920. Woodhill and Interlachen were the first local courses to try bent greens. That was in 1922. The greens were a failure, though. The greenskeeper had to be a good horseman in the old days because all his mowers were pulled by horses. Minikahda was the first local course to use a power mower and that was a tractor-drawn rig. Toro Manufacturing devised the first tractor-drawn mower. The average golfer takes at least 50 steps on a green during the course of play. Multiply that by perhaps 200 players a day and you have 10,000 footsteps taken on a single green in a day. Some of the steps are taken in anger with spikes digging in and twisting. Many players throw burning cigarets on a green, too. Others toss clubs on the sensitive grass. If all the golf holes in the country were laid out end to end, tee to green, and were placed parallel to the nearest railroad track, you could start playing in Minneapolis, go west to Seattle, south to San Diego, east to Jacksonville, north to New York and back to Minneapolis and still have holes enough to play up to Duluth.

DETERMINATION OF SPRINKLER PRECIPITATION

By C. E. Stewart

It has often been the desire of the golf course superintendent to obtain a cheap, easy, and accurate method of determining the sprinklers. The following suggested method, we believe, fulfills this desire.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

a — A number of No. 2 cans, or any other type of circular container which has a diameter of 3 1/4". No. 2 cans are commonly used at all grocery stores for containing peas, beans, tomatoes etc.

b — One glass or plastic cubic-centimeter tube, this graduated cc tube is inexpensive and may be purchased at most of the better drug stores or from a surgical supply store.

METHOD TO EMPLOY

1 — Place the sprinkler in its desired position.

2 — Use as many of the above No. 2 cans as are required to extend them in a straight line, and at intervals of five feet apart, from the sprinkler to the outer edge of the sprinkler coverage.

3 — Set the sprinkler in operation and RUN IT FOR EXACTLY 44 MINUTES.

4 — Shut-off the sprinkler and pour the contents of each can separately into the graduated cc tube, a reading in cubic-centimeters will be obtained but each cubic centimeter will equal exactly 0.01 inches (1/100 inches) of sprinkler precipitation PER HOUR.

5 — If a reading of 37 cubic-centimeters is obtained during the 44 minute run, the sprinkler will be precipitating exactly 0.37 inches per hour.

Contrary to popular belief, the water pools are not the source of most mosquitoes.

The species *Aedes Vesans*, called the No. 1 troublemaker of the area by Dr. William Horsfall, professor of entomology of the University of Illinois, lays its eggs in late Summer on dry ground that may be expected to be flooded, such as the banks of the Des Plaines River.

These eggs incubate during Spring floods and a week or 10 days after the water recedes the adult mosquito is on the wing.

These egg laying grounds will be charted this Summer and treated with DDT in following seasons, Buchanan said.

All specimens in infested areas are taken to the district's entomologist, Oscar V. Loop, formerly of the U. S. Health Service.

CONDITIONERS WON'T PERFORM MIRACLES

Don't expect miracles from soil conditioners, warns F. A. Weinard, floriculturist at the University of Ill. They can do a good job, but a little bit of soil conditioner on top of the soil cannot be expected to have much effect on the deeper layers. How good a job they do also varies with soil.

Weinard said that in greenhouse tests, some good effects have been observed with some crops, and in other cases no differences could be seen. He recommended trying out the conditioners on a small scale before using them over the entire area.

NEW SPIDER MITE CONTROL

From England comes word of the development of a new material for the control of red spider mites, injurious pests of evergreens and many deciduous shrubs and trees. The name "Chloroparacide" has been proposed for the material, a chemical compound of p-chlorobenzyl p-chlorophenyl sulphide. It is said to be highly toxic to the eggs and newly hatched young mites, though not to adults, and to possess residual toxic properties which make it especially effective in eradicating mite infestations. It is claimed that red spider control can be achieved within a two- to three-week period with this new compound, and that it is non-poisonous to warm-blooded animals including man. Further development and tests of this material will be awaited with interest.

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