

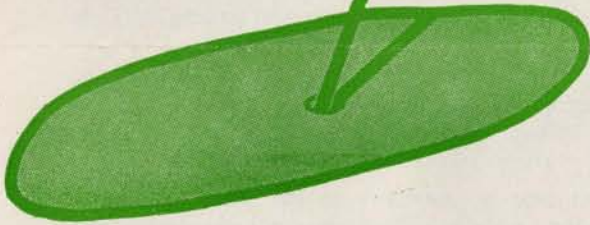
OCTOBER, 1960  
VOL. 14, NO. 4



# The Bull Sheet

*Official Bulletin*

*Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents*



**JOHN EBEL**, Superintendent  
Biltmore Country Club  
Our Host

**THE OCTOBER MEETING  
BILTMORE COUNTRY CLUB  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 1960**

**DINNER — 6:30 P.M.  
BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWING**

*Our Annual  
Golf Tournament  
Tuesday, October 4th, 1960*



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

BERT H. ROST, *Editor*,  
Midwest Rd. Nr. 31st Street  
Hinsdale, Illinois

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There being no local meeting this month of September and being very busy, I do not have much to write about. However I have a little story about golf and golf courses which my daughter Mary wrote when she was in college. Thought you might like it.

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#### GREENS' PESTS — by Mary Cassier

A golf course manager has many problems confronting him in his work. One of his most important jobs is to exterminate various insects from the greens which in his estimation are "poison on the green".

For this, many types of chemicals are brought into use and scientists are constantly experimenting with various methods which prove very beneficial in insect eradication.

Some of the most troublesome pests known to golf course caretakers are cut-worms, Japanese beetles, common earth-worms, web-worms, etc. Arsenate of lead is applied to the greens to put an end to these menaces.

Another big headache for greenskeepers is "Brown Patch" which appears overnight in humid weather and if not treated in time, kills entire greens very quickly. Brown patch can be detected in time and therefore greensmen must ever be alert in order to avoid loss.

People generally do not realize the value of a green. Building a good green involves much time and expense and it is only through constant care that the greens can be properly maintained. The green is actually composed of black dirt, sod, peat, and a good strain of Bent grass. It must have special drainage and much attention is paid to the fertilization of the grass. All this, together with chemicals makes an expensive project.

Proper watering and air and sunshine are very important as is the proper length to which grass should be cut. Fertilizer is applied in proper amounts and the greens aerified at regular intervals to insure healthy grass. This is all done to establish a good root system for Bent grass which is necessary in order to give good service with many golfers using it.

However, we have discovered from experience that many pests which antagonize greenskeepers are of the human variety. I should like to enumerate and elaborate moderately on a few of them.

The first one that comes to my mind is the human pest known as the "sorehead". He misses a putt and blames it on the green and beats the green with his putter - probably jumping up and down at least a couple of times and leaving dents from both the club and the spiked shoes.

Next we mention the "javelin thrower". He takes the flag from the cup and throws it mightily across the green out of his way. Of course, his ball is only about a foot from the cup but he needs room so why worry about another mark on the green. This type often shares his clubs with other members of his foursome, tossing his putter at random on the green. This is a good way to lose a putter in case it is forgotten lying on the ground.

The third "poison on the green" is known as the "gopher". His ball lands on the soft green from an iron pitch making a hole similar to a gopher hole. He completely ignores this as he walks off the green on his way to the next tee. The correct etiquette in this instance would be to repair the damage which his ball caused.

Let us not omit the "insect" known as the "brain". He is the fellow who knows *all* the rules, including many of his own. However, he does not hesitate to tramp through the sand traps, pulling his cart past the "No Carts Beyond This Point" sign and passing squarely across the greens as he leaves for the next tee.

The "billiard player" is one of the most common. Before putting, he kneels on the green, lining up the ball with the cup. After he is gone, we find his prints in the turf - knees, arms, and probably nose.

The next pest is restricted to the female species - known as the "spike". She feels she looks better and is more attractive in high heels so why not wear them. Her score is not important but her appearance is. She is easy to locate anywhere on the course as she leaves her trail of heel marks.

Then there is the "book-keeper" who takes time to figure the scores before leaving the green. This variety also includes the "gambler" who must pay off or be paid off on every hole. The fact that another foursome is waiting to approach the green does not disturb him in the least. This usually brings a clash of conversation between the parties involved which all adds to the fun.

We can not forget the "leaner". He is so tired when he gets on the green that he cannot stand alone and must rely on his putter to support him. He is of the same species as the "relaxer" who after putting merely sprawls out for a moment while his foursome finishes.

A less plentiful variety of pests is the "putterless golfer" who forgets his putter and hence, uses a different club on the green. This type we sincerely try to exterminate because although they are not too plentiful, they are very destructive.

In conclusion, let us consider the "bad loser". He usually starts out as the life of the party becoming more glum and sullen as his score increases and exceeds the others in his foursome. By the time he is half through, he no doubt develops some ailment and picks up his ball and leaves the golf course. This we appreciate because usually if he continues to play, he seems to get his revenge from destruction.

These are several of the human pests which I can name. No doubt there are more. However, we find also that there are very agreeable and welcome humans who compensate for this unwelcome variety.

My father, who has been a golf course superintendent for many years, has learned to ignore many of these disturbances and takes the bitter with the better as an antidote for the "poison".

In conclusion to "my message" let me add that the October meeting will be held at the Biltmore Country Club in Barrington. This being our annual tournament, I'm sure our host, Supt. John Ebel will have a good program lined up for us. Bring your clubs and win a prize for yourself.

Sincerely, Emil Cassier, President

On September 27th the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents honored O. J. Noer at Olympia Fields Country Club. Mr. Warren Bidwell, superintendent was our host. Approximately one hundred twenty-five (125) attended. Golf was played on the south course. The site of the 1961 P.G.A. tournament. The course was in fine condition and our congratulations to Warren for the splendid job he has done in the short time he has been with Olympia Fields.

Each superintendent was permitted to invite three of his Club Officials as his guest. Several of them attended and played golf with their superintendent and stayed for the Testimonial Dinner. Our many thanks to the Club Manager, Alex Zagone for a wonderful dinner and the best of cooperation.

The after dinner speakers were Bob Williams, superintendent at Bob-o-Link Golf Club, Herb Graffis of Golfdom and Charlie Wilson of Milwaukee who has taken over O. J. Noer's responsibility at the Sewerage Commission.

O. J. spoke on the many improvements that have been made in turfgrass management during his many years visiting golf courses. He also showed pictures to back up his statements.

A tape recorder with a Stereo Portable speaker was presented to O. J. for all the good things he has done for our profession and the game of golf. Ray Gerber, chairman, made the presentation on behalf of the members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.



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**THE ROLE OF LIME IN TURF MANAGEMENT**

*Soil pH Shows When Lime Is Needed:*

Soil reaction, expressed as pH, is the best yardstick for judging the probable need for lime. Soils which are more than moderately acid, that is below pH 5.7, definitely need lime and its use is justified without regard to any other factor.

Lime may be beneficial when the soil is slightly acid, in the range of pH 5.7 to 6.2, particularly when Kentucky Blue Grass predominates. But the large scale use of lime can await the outcome of trial applications on test strips, particularly when the soil is not more than slightly acid. Strips across a fairway or lawn measuring 10 x 100 feet are a convenient size and contain 1,000 square feet. Rates of 25, 50 and 100 pounds are equivalent to 1/2, 1, and 2 tons per acre. For similar tests on greens the first two rates can be used on areas of 1,000 square feet.

*Acidity Reduces Vigor Of Turf So It Is Less Able To Cope With Drought Or Withstand The Shock Of Chemical Treatments:*

Acidity reduces vigor of the grass plant, and adversely affects its ability to withstand adversity. The grass on moderate to strongly acid soil is the first to turn brown and suffer from drought. An application of lime keeps the turf green for a longer time, and the grass on the limed area is the first to recover following a good rain.

Turf on acid soil is more sensitive to chemical injury. Acidity intensifies the damage caused by chemicals used to control diseases, insect pests, and weeds. Severe damage by bordeaux mixture was activated by the continuous use of ammonium sulphate. Lead arsenate and sodium arsenite also produce more shock to the grass when used on acid than on non-acid soil. Sulphate induced acidity may affect corrosive sublimate and other chemicals in a similar manner.

*Lime Counteracts Turf Diseases:*

The prevalence of diseases such as dollar spot, snow mold, and brown patch may be due in part to insufficient lime. This was demonstrated very strikingly on a turf nursery of Washington Strain of Creeping Bent at Merion in Philadelphia more than fifteen years ago. Lime was applied to a portion of the turf nursery as an experiment. Three weeks later the unlimed part was

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severely damaged by Dollar spot. The limed turf was not touched and looked like it had received a preventative treatment of fungicide. Snow mold did little damage to a limed green on a course in the province of Quebec, but all the others fared badly. The unlimed greens were strongly acid, about pH 4.5.

*When Turf Does Not Respond To Ammonium Sulphate Need For Lime Is Indicated:*

The failure of bent turf on putting greens to respond following an application of ammonium sulphate is strong evidence of need for lime, provided temperature and all conditions other than nitrogen supply are favorable for growth. Sulphate applied on an acid soil increases the intensity of soluble acids and makes the medium unfavorable for growth. Such greens should be limed and a nitrate fertilizer which reduces acidity, or an organic fertilizer such as milorganite, should be the principal source of nitrogen until soil reaction reaches the range of slight to very slight acidity.

*Ground Limestone:*


There are two type of limestone. One is called "Calcite" or simply limestone because it is mostly calcium carbonate. The other is known as dolomite and is a variable mixture of calcium and magnesium carbonates.

Ground limestone is usually sold on a basis of its chemical composition and degree of fineness. The chemical guarantee may be expressed as the actual percentages of calcium and magnesium, either as the oxides or as the carbonates or both. When the separate percentages of calcium and magnesium carbonates are given, the closer the sum of the two approaches 100 the better the quality of the lime. The combined carbonates should never be below 90. Pulverized limestones vary in size of particle and in hardness. It is desirable to know something about the degree of fineness because solubility is a function of particle. The finer the state of division the more rapid is the rate of solution. Most mid-western manufacturers aim to make a product with a large percentage of fine particles for immediate action, but with enough of the coarser grades to insure lasting qualities. A fineness guarantee is desirable when comparing the probable effects of different limestones.

*When To Lime Fairways And Lawns:*

Late Fall, Winter, and Early Spring are the most convenient times to apply lime. Late Fall is especially good because Fall and Spring rains carry the lime into the soil. Ground limestone can be applied at any time. But it is unwise to use hydrated lime in excess of 1,000 pounds per acre during the summer. More than that may scorch the grass. Mention has been made of the fact that hydrated lime should never be applied im-

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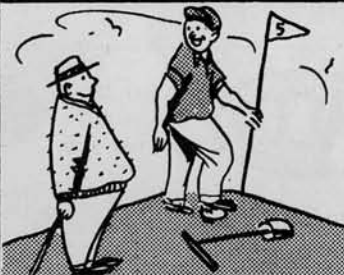
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Reprinted from "The Role of Lime in Turf Management" by Turf Ser-Bureau, Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

*Soil Texture And Kind Of Grass Affect Rate Of Application On Fairways And Lawns:*

The rate for applying lime is affected by the kind of soil and grass. Less lime is needed on a sandy soil than on a loam or clay to produce the same change in pH. Kentucky Blue Grass requires more lime than Fescue or Bent Grass. These factors, beside pH, are taken into account in the following table for the use of lime on fairways:

**RATES FOR APPLYING GROUND LIMESTONE TO FAIRWAYS AND LAWNS**

7	Neutral	0	0	0	0
6.3 to 7.0	Very Slight	0	0	0	0
5.8 to 6.2	Slight	1000	1500	0	0
5.3 to 5.7	Medium	2000	3000	1000	1500
4.8 to 5.2	Strong	3000	4000	2000	3000
4.0 to 4.7	Very Strong	4000	6000	3000	4000

**RATES FOR APPLYING FINELY GROUND LIMESTONE TO GREENS**

Soil Reaction	Limestone Rates Pounds per 1000 sq. ft.
6.6 to 7.0 pH	0
6.1 to 6.5	0-10 pounds
5.6 to 6.0	10-20 pounds
5.1 to 5.5	20-40 pounds
4.6 to 5.0	40-60 pounds
4.0 to 4.5	60-80 pounds

*Scalded Greens Need Hydrated Lime:*

Scad is a term applied to summertime injury caused by excessive rains, or overwatering, during periods of hot humid weather. The grass collapses on large areas and the spots become covered with a green scum of algae. Scalded greens need a little hydrated lime irrespective of soil pH. The hydrate is used to kill the algate, and counteract toxic organic compounds formed by anaerobic soil organisms in the waterlogged soil, rather than to change soil reaction. The rate of application varies from 2 to 5 pounds per 1000 sq. ft. When the bad spell of weather lasts for several weeks, greens are benefited by receiving a little hydrate every week. About 10 pounds per green is usually used. It can be mixed with sand, applied dry and watered-in, or it can be applied with a power sprayer.

**CLIPPINGS —**

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Daurity are the proud parents of a 7½ lb. baby boy. We understand Grandpa "B" is still poppin' buttons.

Congratulations to the Wisconsin Association for a fine day spent by the Midwest group on the perfectly groomed Blue Mound Country Club course where Superintendent Frank Musbach presides. It will be a day long remembered. Charlie "Mill" Wilson was the speaker for the evening and did his usual fine job.

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