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Color and texture frequently are given value far greater than can be justified under a plan of judging grasses by their performance under play. If two grasses should perform in identical fashion, preference naturally would be given to the one which developed the more pleasing color and texture is highly personal in character and can not be reduced to scientific terms capable of statistical analysis.

Resistance to weed invasion is a measure of the adaption and vigor of a grass which is affected by other attributes such as resistance to close mowing, diseases, drought, and insects. Weeds invade when turf density is lacking or when growth is checked or retarded. Weeds are the symptom or the effect. Too often we design elaborate systems of control for weeds in turf (treating the symptoms) before we seek the cause and devise a means of preventing weed invasion by producing turf that is capable of natural resistance through competition. Only in the past few years has any attention been given to weed control by competition under a system of generous fertilization, using superior strains of grasses. This represents a very fertile field for further development.

Major Turf Grasses

The principal turf grasses of the world are included within a surprisingly limited number of species. These have been reviewed adequately in *Grass*, the 1948 USDA Yearbook of Agriculture; and *Turf Management*, a book sponsored by the United States Golf Association, H. B. Musser, author. For the purposes of this discussion I shall name only the major ones.

In the warm-season group we find the Bermuda grass (*Cynodon spp.*), Zoysia grasses (*Zoysia spp.*), centipede grass (*Eremochloa ophiuroides*), St. Augustine grass (*Stetaphrum secundatum*), Bahia grass (*Paspalum notatum*), buffalo grass (*Buchloe dactyloides*).

Among the cool-season turf grasses are bluegrasses (*Poa spp.*), bent grasses (*Agrostis spp.*), fescues (*Festuca spp.*), and rye grasses (*Lolium spp.*).

Superior Strains of Turf Grasses

It is the considered opinion of most turf workers that the cause of better turf will be advanced most rapidly when superior strains of turf grasses are produced and made available to the consuming public. Crab grass, the curse of turf in many countries, and other weeds represent simply an expression of the failure of the grasses we use to compete successfully with weed pests. The impact of disease, insects, wear and tear, poor soils, and indifferent management has been too much for the common pasture grasses which have been harvested and sold as turf grasses. The super-turf that is needed to overcome these hurdles has not been produced as yet, but important advances have been recorded. Here are some of the significantly superior types of turf grasses used in the United States:

BENTS

Arlington (C-1)
Cohansey (C-7)
Congressional (C-19)
Dahlgren (C-115)
Polycross seed

CHEWINGS FESCUE

Penn State Chewings fescue

BLUEGRASS

Merion

BERMUDA GRASS

U-3
Tifton 57
Tifton 127
Gene Tift

CREEPING RED FESCUE

Polycross seed (synthetic blend)

ZOYSIA

Meyer (Z-52)

The list of superior varieties is meager indeed. Much work lies ahead of us in the field of genetics and plant breeding so as to develop the superior qualities which are needed in all of our turf grasses. Until we have the right grasses, much of our work with fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides represents a "marking time" in doing the best we can with what we have.

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NEW TEE CONSOLE with a TRADITIONAL LOOK

The new Traditional Console from Standard Golf Company combines function and style for your tee area with traditional look. Simulated wood grain tee information signs in natural brown or weathered gray finishes give your course a more natural look without the maintenance problems associated with wood. Or if you prefer, a silk-screened metal sign can be used to highlight your course logo. This rugged console includes a Professional Ball Washer, Litter Caddie, and Spike Kleener, in your choice of color, and your choice of two distinct Information Signs. The Tee Data Information Sign has up to four color coded yardages to match the course's tee markers.

The Traditional Console is built with 2", 16 gauge, square steel tubing, and finished with a polyester-thermosetting powder coating for a long lasting finish. All Standard Ball Washers, Spike Ball Washer, Spike Kleeners and Litter Caddies are interchangeable between styles of consoles. This Console is solidly built, yet can be easily moved for mowing and to prevent heavy traffic patterns. If permanently mounted, it can be easily mowed around as it has a 2" clearance. ■