

Taming The Dandelion After Long Battle

By JOHN MACGREGOR
Greenkeeper, Chicago Golf Club

YEARS ago an energetic truck gardener wished to have a complete assortment of vegetables. He thought it was not complete without the dandelion, and to give his countrymen their much loved greens, he imported several pounds of seed from Italy, and "Oh, Gawd, how we love him for his foresight." From his importation we have what you see around us in the spring, a golden sheet, as far as the eye can see; when the gold has waned, a beautiful sheet of white as of snow takes its place, and many a golfer has looked in vain under this sheet for his ball.

When this snow or seed has matured, the air becomes filled with it. Wherever they eventually stop, they germinate and fill any small space which has not already been occupied. Being a deep rooted plant, I have in the early spring pulled them out with roots three and a half feet long, so that extermination seems an impossible feat.

I have tried every device and method which I thought might combat them. First

I tried cutting them under the ground, and I found they had increased instead of decreased in number; where one was, six or seven showed up from the same plant, so the pest was multiplied a thousand fold. Then I tried gasoline. I took an ordinary oilcan and soldered a spike with a sharp point to the spout. The spike extending an inch and a half beyond the end of the spout, this was pushed into the heart of the dandelion and a small amount of the gasoline deposited in the wound, which was very effective, but an expensive cure. Then there was the danger of poisoning the soil.

During this period we wrote to the Department of Agriculture at Washington for information on the eradication of dandelions. When the information came, I immediately set to work on this new system. We bought a power sprayer of 200 gallons capacity, also a potato sprayer attachment, which was attached behind the outfit.

The formula was one and a half pounds iron sulphate (copperas) to one gallon of water, the solution to be applied with 150 pounds' pressure. I followed the instructions, choosing one of the worst infested areas I could find. The day following the application I looked over the result of the

Produces
Better



Greens and
Fairways

Easily
Applied

Effective and
Economical

Free of
Weed Seeds

Constant use of Milorganite simplifies turf maintenance.

Continuous and uniform growth of established turf on greens and fairways insures dense, luxuriant turf.

Milorganite produces sustained growth by providing a uniform and continuous supply of nitrogen over long periods.

New seedings require plant food to insure quick stand of uniform turf.

Poor turf once obtained is difficult and expensive to improve.

Milorganite applied prior to seeding promotes early growth and develops a uniform turf.

Let our Soil Experts help solve your Fertilizer Problems

For further information address:

THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION

508 Market Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Plant LEESLEY Creeping Bent *now.*

and celebrate the
4th of July by
playing on perfect
putting greens.
Let us explain how
this can be done.

*You can believe every word
of praise you have ever heard
about greens planted with
LEESLEY bent.*

Write for prices and information about our new
deferred payment plan.

**ROBERT F. LEESLEY
GRASS COMPANY**

22nd and Harlem Avenue
Telephones: Riverside 5348-5454
RIVERSIDE, ILL.

experiment and was disappointed. All that could be noticed was the leaves of the dandelions were spotted with rust. Then I noticed that where the wheels of the sprayer had traveled the leaves were entirely black. I decided we had the correct formula, but the method of application would not give the desired results, so decided, after being satisfied the foliage was destroyed where the wheels had bruised the leaves, I must devise some means of bruising the leaves so the iron could penetrate, and hit on the idea of using a chain drag which had been used during construction of the course. I am glad to say this has proven to be the death knell of the dandelion, although success was not to come just yet.

At this time we still had horses and they were the only means by which this sprayer could be navigated. Anyone who has had anything to do with horses knows that hauling a 200-gallon sprayer, loaded, is real work, and that they must be given a breathing spell quite frequently to enable you to have them the following day, especially in hot weather. The result was, before I had covered half of the rough, the first dandelions I sprayed were just as strong as they were before I started, having completely recovered and growing as healthily as before. During this period I was trying to devise ways and means whereby this solution could be handled and applied with dispatch.

When we got the first few shipments of iron sulphate it was coarse and hard to dissolve. Upon investigation I found we could purchase granulated or sugar iron sulphate. This I found could be dissolved in less than half the time. Then I pro-



THE R. H. GOLF TRACTOR
Four Speeds, Power, Economy
R. S. HORNER, GENEVA, OHIO
Manufacturer
If your dealer cannot supply you, write direct

cured six 50-gallon barrels and knocked the heads out and used them for dissolving, putting 100 pounds of iron sulphate in each, dissolving with sufficient water. Three of the barrels are enough for a load in a 200-gallon tank. The other three barrels are dissolving while the load is being emptied on the course; when the men return, these three are pumped into the tank. Every time three barrels are emptied, the material is put in for the next load. I use a portable double-action suction pump for pumping the solution into the tank, using a 2-inch suction and a 2-inch outlet hose.

After two years' experimenting we purchased a Fordson tractor. This was the first time results really began to show, as I found the rough could be sprayed in a week, and that five successive sprayings two weeks apart would kill 98 per cent of the dandelions. The only ones left were some of the very largest, which were very easily destroyed with a weed stinger and gasoline.

The success of this treatment is evidenced by the fact that the treated areas are free from dandelions.

Good Fairways Need Correct Initial Construction

By C. M. MELVILLE

FOR the benefit of those who may wish some general instructions concerning the establishment of fairways, it should be stated that high culture is as necessary in the construction of golf courses as it is in any professional line.

It is the fine pulverizing of the top two inches of the soil that counts most. Whether to plough deep or shallow must be controlled entirely by the type and condition of the soil—as far as fertility is concerned. Drainage and tillage are indispensable.

The next important item to be taken into consideration is the proper mechanical condition of the soil. Possibly this is the most important of all in the attainment of future success. It is not necessary in this article to indicate in detail the peculiarities of soil of different types, but to point out that grass needs, for its most perfect development, nitrogenous fertilizers from natural sources, organic products like humus, stable or sheep manure.

There is a valuable quality peculiar to stable manure of the right kind in its full



Experts agree on Sulphate of Ammonia for green or fairway—

READ what qualified experts say about the use of Sulphate of Ammonia on golf courses. Their words speak for themselves.

"... we would advise you to stick to Sulphate of Ammonia, it is a splendid fertilizer... and it certainly discourages a lot of weeds."—Vol. IV, p. 278, Bulletin of the Greens Section of the U. S. G. A.

"... In spite of this, however, we have the most beautiful greens in the history of the club. This is due entirely, I believe, to the use of Ammonium Sulphate (Sulphate of Ammonia)."—Thomas P. Hinman, Druid Hills G. C., Atlanta, Ga.

"In our practice we strongly recommend and use Ammonium Sulphate, not only as a fertilizer for use on golf courses, but also as a means of making soil on putting greens sour enough to discourage the growth of weeds, particularly white clover."—Devereux Emmet, Golf and Landscape Architect.

ARCADIAN Sulphate of Ammonia

Arcadian Sulphate of Ammonia is the logical nitrogen fertilizer for golf greens and fairways. Mail the coupon for free bulletin. Every club professional and greens committee should have a copy.



The *Barrett* Company

Agricultural Department
40 Rector St. New York, N. Y.

THE BARRETT CO., Agricult. Dept.
40 Rector St., New York, N. Y.

Please send your free bulletin, "Arcadian Sulphate of Ammonia on the Golf Course."

Name

Club

Town and State.....XB-2

(Kindly Print Name and Address)

Please mention GOLFDOM when writing advertisers