

**Question**

Sir:

Replying to your inquiry in October GOLFDOM, we have used arsenate of lead in accordance with instructions given by you in earlier issues of the above magazine on Bermuda greens with very satisfactory results.

The Bermuda was very late this year in coming up but we had a late spring and they were well covered by Italian rye and we do not know whether the application of arsenate of lead had anything to do with their lateness.

Our fairways are infested with the June beetle grubs and we would appreciate your advice as to the use of arsenate of lead on the fairway. Can it be safely applied without mixing with top-dressing as we have done on the greens?

W. G. J.  
(North Carolina).

**Answer**

Sir:

I note that you have had satisfactory results using arsenate of lead on Bermuda greens. When grass seed and stolons in general are planted in soil recently treated with arsenate of lead the chemical has a tendency to delay germination to a certain extent and also to slow up the growth of the newly sprouted grass for a few weeks, but after this initial period of retardation the grass picks up with a bang and rapidly outstrips grass growing in non-arsenated soil. No doubt this was the general condition which you experienced.

As regards the treatment of fairways for the control of June beetle would refer you to one of my articles in GOLFDOM in which this operation was discussed in detail. For directions for the application of this chemical without the use of top-dressing previous issues of GOLFDOM.

B. R. L.

**Question**

Sir:

We are troubled with a weed commonly called brass-button due to the small bright brass colored flowers which it bears. It was received in seaside bent seed, is a perennial and spreads rapidly. It has the characteristic of throwing up a growth from almost any small amount of root left in the ground.

Have been able to kill it with arsenate of soda but the leeway between killing the weed and not killing the bent is so small

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that I have hesitated to use the soda on a large scale. Am trying arsenate of lead on one green but haven't had time to tell as to its effect.

Have you had any experience with this weed? It is going to prove a bad one here on the coast. Can you give me the name or names of a couple of good books dealing with weeds, especially in reference to golf course work?

R. E. M.  
(California).

### Answer

Sir:

Would advise that I have had no experience with the "brass-button weed" as such. Would suggest that you send a sample of this weed to the California Experiment Station asking them to give you the technical or scientific name of the weed in question. We would then be in a better position to give you more specific assistance for controlling it.

As a general rule, however, we have found that weeds of a matted type of growth, commonly found in fine turf, such as chickweed, fennel, etc., are readily controlled by the persistent use of arsenate of lead in the top-dressing. I therefore suggest that you continue the applications

of the chemical to the green in question. As soon as you come to a definite conclusion, one way or the other, regarding the effect of the arsenate on this weed, let me know and the results will be published in GOLFDOM.

So far as I know the best book on the weeds of the United States was written by Ada Georgia of Cornell University and published by the MacMillan Co. Would also advise that the principal weeds of fine turf in this country have been illustrated and discussed in the various numbers of the Bulletin of the Greens Section during the past several years.

B. R. L.

### Question

Sir:

In October GOLFDOM, on page 12 I noticed that you state you have not had any information on the effect of arsenate of lead on Bermuda grass.

Bermuda grass is unquestionably the best grass for golf courses in the south. We have tried several different kinds, but invariably go back to Bermuda. There are two grades of Bermuda grass, one coarse and one fine. The best way is to get the Bermuda grass seed to insure getting the fine quality. Sometimes in winter a little

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