

# Planting

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## ON COURSE AND CLUBHOUSE LANDSCAPING

[Greenkeepers' Convention Paper]

# Pointers

A GOLF course should be adorned by nature's own planting or otherwise with trees, evergreens, shrubs and flowers. A restful yet animated spirit of rural loveliness should be the theme. A pleasant spot where the finest of sports may be indulged amidst the wonders of arboreal and floral creations.

The buildings erected on such a golf course should be in keeping with the environment and atmosphere whether they be small or larger. Planted around and near the various buildings there ought to be forms of trees, bushes and flowers. These to aid in making the scheme one of unity and harmony. Furthermore to suggest a feeling of welcome and abandonment. Harsh and uninteresting entrances, doorways and wall spaces may be softened with suitable planting. Thus suitable garden subjects ought to be planted at corners and barren spots with the object of accentuating an entrance or doorway and parts of the foundation. Shade trees may be planted to give protection from the sun. A clubhouse needs such on hot sunny days, whilst the cool winds of early spring, late autumn and especially in winter require stubborn resistance from groups or a row of taller conifers.

Spread over this continent there is a splendid array of native planting subjects and what an extensive accumulation of exotic species and varieties may be procured. Usually for golf courses native trees and so forth should be featured. One may mention American Elms, Maples, Oaks, Beech, Birch, Tulip trees and Magnolia. In conifers the White and Red Pines, White and Blue Spruce, Hemlock, Cedars, Junipers and the fairylike Silver Fir (*Abies concolor*). In the hot summer and arid sections, largely other species would have to be thought of.

Many of the foregoing conifers respond splendidly when planted adjoining buildings as well as many of the foreign types of conifers, shrubs and low evergreens. The finest should be arranged around the

clubhouse and at the main gateway of the course. The same form of conifer planting could be the vogue around the foundation of the building by way of one or more erect specimens for a corner supported by oval forms. A similar thing may be done in bare sections of a wall base. Low spreading conifers may be featured to advantage as ground cover plants like the low growing Savins Juniper in varieties of *J. tamariscifolia* and *J. prostrata*. With such planting the so-called broadleaf evergreens as *Euonymus vegetus* and *E. radicans* are most desirable. In milder parts the *Pachysandra* is a great acquisition.

Some of these dwarf types are most suitable for planting against a wall foundation which needs partial covering or as an edging between taller subjects and the walks or grass. For buildings lacking in architectural design, shrubbery for foundation or base planting is admirable and particularly attractive are those of rounded and conical shapes. Not forgetting the delicate blossoms and delightful odours like the Mock Orange in Philadelphia lemoine, Bouquet d'or, Virginel and Girandole, etc. Although without perfume the very early flowering goldenbells or Forsythias are most popular in the early spring, the golden Currant or *Ribes aureum* too has its place in the early season because of its pleasing perfume. For a little later flowering in brilliant reds and pinks the *Cydonia japonica* or Japanese Quince is most enchanting. For planting in most any place the Japanese Barberry is without parallel. It is dwarf, possesses most attractive foliage, small bell-like flowers followed by green berries which turn red during Autumn. The foliage, too, turns a coppery red at that period. The new red leaf variety of this *Berberis*, viz. *B. thunbergia purpurea* is very fine, especially against such as gray walls or evergreens. In districts near the lake *Kerria japonica* with its yellow blossoms, is most effective.

For golf course treatment adjoining the clubhouse open lawns with partial enclosures no doubt would be in order whilst shade trees ought to be considered for shade and conifers for wind protectors. Shrubbery groups may enclose the lawn, in some instances defined hedges or ornamental fences. On the inside of the enclosures perennials may be planted for border effect. Perennials could be set out at the hedge of shrubbery whilst hardy spring flowering bulbs have special value for this purpose. Out in the open borders and beds would likely be out of place for the former; a background is wise, whilst an enclosure is needed for flower beds. This latter means a formal effect where statuary and garden furniture of suitable design may be featured. Paths leading from one division to another of the garden could be of grass and in some instances flat stones. Cement is used a great deal but can often be substituted except perhaps for the main paths. Stepping stones and crazy paths are very popular, so are tile where the buildings are of brick. Pergolas and archways could be part of the scheme in connecting sections or divisions or at entrances. These structures need climbers to cover them in part. Climbing roses, Wisterias, Clematis and Honeysuckle are tip top for this purpose. Rustic archways for a woodland theme may be successfully brought about.

Every setting is different and varied schemes may be much in order. It is a

matter of enriching the site and buildings with floral and arboreal beauty. To do this unity must prevail which means that pleasing effects, harmony and balance must be paramount. In other words good common sense with artistic taste must be the keynote. Overcrowding and shutting out objects of beauty and interest must be avoided. Vistas may be created to extend and feature wonderful views. The course should be an integral part of the existing landscape, yet different. It should be beautiful and of decided character.

### Nursery Is Adjunct.

Planting around the clubhouse and golf course generally means that planting material is needed from time to time, thus a nursery would be in order. This may be brought about without a great deal of trouble. An acre or so of land would be required if a large number of specimens are likely to be required, but only a few square rods if just a few shrubs and trees are likely to be all the requirements.

In the first place many trees, conifers, shrubs and perennials may be raised from seed, others by way of twigs and shoots. All native stock may be procured from seed sown in the fall or spring. The best thing to do is to think of the system followed by nature and act accordingly. For example, most seeds and fruits fall to the ground, become covered with leaves and so on; later germination and growth come about. Leafy and sandy soil will do as a

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slight covering. The seed bed soil should be at least comparatively fine and fertile. Some use enclosed beds, others rows and sow seed not too thick and not too deep. Seed, berries or nuts should be covered over about twice their circumference deep. The top soil itself should be loose. Sand and fine earth are admirable for this, but the seeds are better if lightly packed. Conifers or evergreens are better if slightly shaded and cheese cloth tacked over the sashes is splendid. Although laths wired together about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  to 2 inches apart are used a great deal.

The majority of perennials grow well from seed either sown in spring or about July or early August. Dividing of perennials may be easily done. The early flowering kinds are best done fairly soon after blossoming is over whilst with the late flowering forms, spring is the best time usually.

Varieties of shrubs far removed from the original species do not always come true from seed and so an artificial method of perpetuation must be followed. This is why the vegetative, asexual or cutting systems are made use of.

In the fall or early winter the use of matured wood for propagation work is popular and gives wonderful results. Most shrubs may be handled in this fashion. The recent year's growth, or even older, will respond quite well. Shoots or twigs cut into lengths of about 6 to 8 inches are the usual thing but these are cut just below the bud at the base or larger end of the shoot and at the reverse end or top, the cut is made just above the bud. Following this the cut twigs or shoots, usually

called cuttings by propagators, may be set out of doors in trenches and placed well down from half to three-fourths their length and the soil well firmed around them. In very cold spots in clay sections if the work be done quite late in the winter these cuttings may be tied in bundles, covered with soil or sand or leaves and placed in a cool cellar or shed or in a sheltered place outside. Cuttings must not be allowed to become dry. In spring the bundles must be untied and the cuttings planted singly out-of-doors in rows as already described. During summer frequent cultivation is wise to aid rooting conditions in the soil and to control weeds.

## GREENKEEPING PROBLEMS

in

# LEACH'S MAIL BAG

### June Bug Control.

Dear Mr. Leach:

We have been sufferers on our course from the June bug for a number of years, having had a rather severe infestation last year resulting in a grubbing up of the fairways to a considerable extent. The soil here in Kentucky is a rather heavy clay variety and may be difficult to penetrate.

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