

Steel door-mat drag behind power sprayer made Crombie's work effective.

## How Edgewood Eradicated Plantain and Dandelions

By E. A. CROMBIE, Greenkeeper  
Edgewood Country Club, Wilksburg, Pa.

**F**ARMS in the immediate vicinity of the Edgewood Country Club have been abandoned and no effort is made to cultivate the land. As a result, the dandelion and plantain situation on our grounds got so bad that drastic action had to be taken to eliminate it. In early spring, during blossom time, the rough next to the fairways was yellow with dandelion blossoms. Each of these coming to seed meant an extra crop not only in the immediate vicinity, but they were carried by the wind an indefinite distance.

We tried to eliminate these weeds by the use of caddies. The quantity removed by them was enormous, but it was an extremely expensive proposition. Later, however, we found that the fairways on which we had spent so much time and money were in practically the same condition as prior to the time the weeds were removed. This forced us to find some other solution.

Later, I read an article in one of the Department of Agriculture bulletins in which they stated that they had been very successful in some experimental work on dandelion eradication. After 7 applications of iron sulphate solution they had eliminated practically 98 per cent of the dandelion. Also, that it did not affect the grass in anyway, but there was a possibility that it may retard, to a small extent, some of the bent grasses on the greens.

Our condition was such that it was imperative that we do something, and at once, so it was decided to try this Sul-

phate of Iron solution. We did not want to run too much risk, so we experimented with the dandelion and plantain in the rough, paralleling the fairways, and after 5 applications of this solution, two weeks apart, we feel that our experiment has been very successful. We have had an extremely dry season, which has reacted against this to a certain extent, and we



Mixing the iron sulphate calls for exact adherence to the directions. Have dependable men on this job.

believe that had we had an average summer rainfall the results would have been very much better.

Our method was as follows:

1. We used the Government formula— $1\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of iron sulphate in granulated form dissolved in 1 gal. of water, filtering it through 4 thicknesses of cheese cloth.
2. We purchased a Friend power sprayer of 200 gal. capacity,

with a motor attachment affixed.

3. We rigged this up with a drag attachment composed of steel door-mats. The object of this attachment was to bruise the fibre in the dandelion leaf before the solution was applied.

4. Spray nozzles, set about 18 in. apart, were arranged on a frame, set back of the mats, and operated at approximately 150 lb. pressure.

It is the intention next spring to go over not only rough, but fairways as well, and continue this process until the dandelion and the plantain situation is entirely eliminated.

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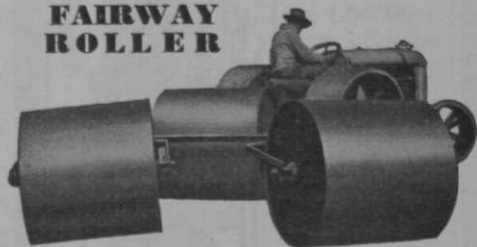
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