

STARVE BY MOWING

Leaf Surface Reduction Hinders Grass "Digestion"

By LOUIS V. GOWDEN

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WITHOUT fertilizer and without proper physical conditions of soil, grass cannot grow properly to produce good turf and at the same time a strong, healthy plant. So much has been said about fertilizers that I think most growers of turf have a pretty definite idea of what it takes to make a good soil for good turf. But while so much has been said about feeding the grasses, very little has been said about the ability of the grass to use the available plant food.

We hear a great deal about a good root system and that is, of course, necessary, but do we stop to think that the root system is used for two purposes: first, to gather food material and second, to support the plant. What, then, becomes of the food material after it has been gathered by the root? From the roots it is taken directly to the leaves. Why? Because the leaves of the plant digest the

food material the same as the animal's stomach digests its food. If there are no leaves or if the surface has been reduced so much that there is not sufficient place for digestion, it doesn't matter how perfect the soil is, the plant can't possibly prepare the food sufficient for the proper growth of the plant. Naturally the plant becomes weak and is subject to disease as well as inferior as a turf.

In the animal kingdom we always see strong, vigorous animals with a highly developed and healthy digestive system. In the plant kingdom we always see the vigorous, strong plant with a well developed top or leaf system. It is just as necessary for a plant to have a good digestive system as it is for an animal, so why then cut off three-fourths of the plant's digestive system and expect it to be as vigorous and strong as the one that is left to grow normally?

I know we have got this mowing to do to keep a good turf but let us remember that the leaf surface is the stomach of the plant and when we reduce the leaf surface we surely hinder the growth of the plant. It is necessary then to let our grass grow as long as possible and at the same time keep a good putting green surface.

The RIGHT Fertilizer

for *balanced* turf needs!

The right fertilizer to produce best all around turf results must of necessity be an extraordinary combination of materials.

—and—DRICONURE, alone, of all the fertilizers available for your consideration, meets this need most satisfactorily. If soil isn't physically right Driconure has the humus content to build it up. If soil is impoverished Driconure will overcome this unfavorable condition. If increased bacterial activity is necessary Driconure will create a most active bacterial culture for its component parts are natural food for bacterial development.

Try it! Compare! Note the color and softly resilient condition of turf after it has been consistently treated with Driconure. One good, thorough test and you will agree that it is the right fertilizer—because it feeds the natural way—the *right* way. Samples and prices gladly sent on request.

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