



Two Women Attend Rutgers Short Course

Total of 57 turf men and two "turf women" attend Rutgers Univ. 17th annual Short Course in Turf Management under the leadership of Ralph Engel, research associate in Farm Crops. The five day program consisted of lectures and discussions supplemented by laboratory demonstrations where possible on such subjects as soils and soil management, use of fertilizers and lime, drainage, turf plants, insect pests, diseases, seeds and methods of turf management.

ashamed of them next June, when a lot of greenkeepers will really have to sweat it out. Stay after your course, know what goes on where your greens are concerned. Keep a record that you can refer to, and use a little common sense as well as your good judgment. Don't be bashful about some condition that is worrying you. Try to figure out what is happening, and if you can't, go visiting. Talk to some fellow greenkeeper who might be able to help you. It is a good idea to have the association of your fellow greenkeepers anyway. The old days of every fellow for himself never did anyone as much good as they might have thought. The shoe can get on the other foot you know. Don't tell your little troubles to your greenchairman or members. Do your worrying alone. Repeated stories most always vary—molehills becoming mountains.

Aeration Source of Trouble

Our aeration gives us a little trouble occasionally during the middle of the summer. Although we try to dress our greens with the best sweet loamy topsoil (woods dirt) we can get, we still have to be on the lookout for tight soil.

Our water program after our June top-dressing is rather extensive until we get the greens into the best possible shape. We usually are able to taper off on this watering during the latter part of June, thereby making it necessary for our greens to put on a deeper rooting system.

If you continue heavy watering you will get the root system so shallow that when the first drought hits, you will lose your greens, or permanently injure them.

In aerating the greens we run our spike disc cultivator over the putting surface from many directions—trying to get maximum penetration. If the aeration is needed in a high place in the green we use a 9 tooth 9 in hand spiker trying to get 4 or more inches of penetration. This varies with the condition of your greens surface.

After the spiking, regardless of which method I elect to use, we give the most affected areas a light dressing with sand, of about No. 2 screen. This is watered in well by hand that night, almost puddled. The next day when we come to mow this green we run over the entire green twice with the mower reels disconnected—thereby forcing the sand down off the grass and into the green. That also saves your mowers.

During this time of year, we also know what to expect later in the season as to our cushion. By the middle of July, the Bermuda grass is growing plenty and it isn't much trouble to give a green a good dressing with peat moss, mulch, or moates. I prefer to apply Georgia peat moss. We skip the mowing on a green for a day or two, then apply peat moss to the green. Applications will vary from 200 lbs. to 500 lbs. per green as we figure it is needed. This is either raked in lightly, or dragged in with a mat. The green is mowed immediately after this application and an oscillating sprinkler is started to work. It is best to do this job the first part of the week, so that your play will not be inconvenienced by this application which will be bumpy until the grass catches up sufficiently.

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