

exhale sufficient oxygen it will soon die when adverse weather conditions arise. Soils must be of good texture and porous with both surface and subdrainage well taken care of. When all of this is lacking, it becomes no easy task to know what is the proper amount of water to apply when sprinkling a putting green.

The correct solution of a bad situation is re-construction. This interferes with play, also is very expensive, and is not always possible at the moment. The new aerification machines appear to be a long needed answer to this problem. They will remove soil cores from a green to the depth of several inches. This in time will permit the gradual resoiling of an area and it need not be taken out of play. It affords an opportunity to provide a change of soil composition to one that absorbs water freely, permitting it to pass to lower levels unobstructed and allows the remaining pores to become filled with air.

Last year quite a bit of grass was lost all over the country due to the conditions already mentioned; it occurs every season, but in some years is more pronounced than others. However, it was my observation that some strains of bent fared better in Virginia than others during bad spells of weather, namely: C-1, C-7, and C-28. As we had a large practice green of 7500 sq. ft. in Arlington (C-1) bent, it was decided to introduce more of this desirable grass into our putting greens. We purchased an aerifier for the purpose. The project was started in early October and four greens were planted before cold

weather came along and stopped our work.

The job was accomplished in this manner: The machine was set for a cutting depth of 5 in., the old earth cores brought to the surface were entirely removed from the green, and in their place we tightly inserted pieces of C-1 sod. They were about one inch in thickness. This left an unfilled space of several inches at the bottom of each hole, which affords plenty of room for the new grass to develop a deep root system. After planting was finished, the surface was rolled with a light roller, closely mowed and then heavily top-dressed.

In mid-April these four greens had come through the winter months in good shape. The color and density of their turf had a mid-season appearance. The inserted bits of sod knitted in well and had extended long roots down into the core holes. These four areas have received a heavy spring topdressing and now putt as true as any green on the course. There are no signs of a heavy operation having been performed. I expect them to stand out as the best greens on the course this season.

As mentioned, C-1 was chosen because the grass was on hand in quantity. However, a C-7 and C-28 both seem to do very well in the southern bent section. The first mentioned colors up very early (a light yellow green), is more upright in growth than most bents, therefore it does not grain. C-28 forms a dense tight turf and attains its best color in very hot weather, which is a very deep green. As a matter of choice, I like the last two



University of Michigan course where USGA's first National Junior championship will be played Aug 11-14 provides a top test of golf for the youngsters.