

A Fertilizing Program for Good Greens Maintenance

By John L. Arrowood

Proper feeding plays a very important part in maintaining good greens. A grass plant cannot wander around in search of food like a bird or animal. It must depend on the food available in a limited zone of soil. Unless we replace this food as fast as the plant consumes it, starvation will soon start, this being a very common cause of poor greens.

There are many advantages in properly feeding a green for not only will the turf resist disease better, but if damage should occur, the well fed turf will heal faster. Proper feeding will cause the roots to penetrate deeper into the soil, enable the grass to secure more moisture to help it thru the hot and dry months of July and August. Another advantage of well fed turf is its ability to crowd out weeds. Certainly not a small help.

A greenkeeper should work out a fertilizing program that will give the greens maximum growth without the grass being too soft and lush. I feel that if the grass is not growing, it is time to look for trouble.

My green fertilizing program this year is a little heavier than in the past, and is as follows:

March 15—30 pounds per one thousand square feet of a half and half mixture of Vigoro and Milorganite.

April 15—Same as for March.

May 15—25 pounds per one thousand square feet of a half and half mixture of Vigoro and Milorganite.

June 15—15 pounds per one thousand square feet of Milorganite.

July and August—1½ pounds per one thousand square feet of sulphate of Ammonia, applied every two weeks with a McLain Spray Barrel.

September—35 pounds per one thousand square feet of Milorganite.

For some greens this would be too much fertilizer, and for others perhaps not enough. I feel it is a good program for me, as my greens have steady growth and they show signs of nitrogen hunger before each application.

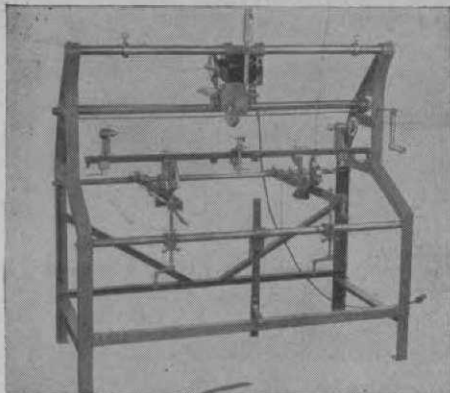
—Iowa Greenkeepers Bulletin

Annual Turf Conferences

Aug. 30—Turf Day, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N. J.

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June, 1949



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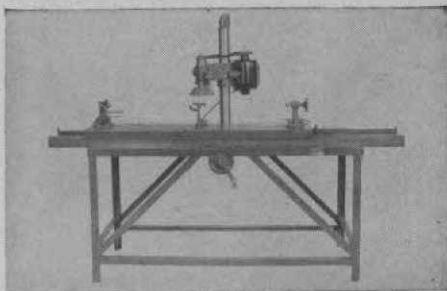
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