

than a college man can demand after graduation.

It is impossible for golf courses to compete with these inflationary measures. Until the American economy and dollar bill return to normal, which we nor our children may never see, there can be no relief from this situation.

Regardless of problems such as this, today's golfers still demand perfection, and even after that, improvements. But they give no thought as to how a dollar can be stretched to entice a worker who will do a job to the best of his ability for less than a minimum factory wage.

## New Problems In Watering

By BOB WILLIAMS  
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The most important problem confronting me in turf management today is the factor of fairway irrigation in the production of better fairway turf. I say this even though we have one of the best water systems by comparison to other clubs.

Our system is capable of producing 450 gals. per minute at 135 lbs. pressure at the pump. We can operate 11 sprinklers at one time with a center line installation and each sprinkler covering approximately a 200 ft. diameter. We can cover about six fairways in one night with one man operation.

Our fairway turf is comprised of creeping bent, poa annua and poa trivialis. This combination of grasses must be kept rather short if a good turf is to be ex-

pected. We have kept this turf mowed at approximately  $\frac{5}{8}$  in. except in the heat of the summer time when we raise up to  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

So much for the briefing and now for the problem. When hot windy weather arrives in June, July and August we watch the moisture content of our tees and greens like hawks and sometimes find it necessary to water greens and tees at least every other day and sometimes every day. When this same condition applies to the fairway turf there is little we can do about it as it requires at least three nights to water the fairways only once. How then can we expect to keep not only poa but how about the bent? We can not. Consequently we lose turf and blame it all on the poa not being able to take the heat.

We do not lose the poa on our greens or tees because we have a moisture control but on the fairways I am stymied when I know moisture is needed to keep the turf from wilting and yet we cannot possibly cover more than about six fairways in one night.

When turf needs moisture after or before a day of high temperature and drying wind it must have it now and not two or three days later. I believe that if we are going to continue to try to grow bent fairways that have to be cut close we also have to make provisions to irrigate them in the same manner that we do for greens and tees. This means that we must increase the capacity of our irrigation systems so that we can water all of the fairways in one night. With such facilities we would lose very little poa and bent except a small proportion

## STUDYING EXPERIMENTAL PLOTS AT RUTGERS UNIV.



Group attending Rutgers Field Day at New Brunswick, N. J. Turf specialists on hand for the meet included O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; Dr. Jesse DeFrance, Rhode Island Exp. Station; Dr. Fred V. Grau, Dir., USGA Green Section and Dr. Gilbert Ahlgren and Ralph Engel of Rutgers University.