

Electricity Solves Mosquito Problem at Rice's Range

By VIC RICE

DURING 20 years of operating a golf range and miniature golf course one of my greatest problems was the control of night-flying insects and pests. I tried various types of insecticides and sprays in my early days of operation with poor results. The advent of DDT held a ray of hope that our battle had been won. But these hopes faded rapidly as the insects apparently developed an immunity to DDT and seemingly passed this immunity on to their offspring.

Without an effective method of control I was right where I started as far as the pesky bugs and mosquitoes were concerned. Insects can be a serious problem as every golf range operator knows. Lack of insect control can have an adverse effect on business and the smart operator takes steps to insure proper protection. It was in the mid-season of 1952 before I finally found the solution to my pest problem and I'd like to pass the information along to other range and minia-

ture course operators less fortunate than I.

I've found an electrical device known as the Insectocutor made by the Futuramic Equipment Co., in Philadelphia to be the most effective method of killing off night flying bugs and insects. It is a comparatively small unit (24 in. wide by 28 in. high) which can be mounted in an out-of-the-way place and at the same time provide a practically insect-free tee line at the range.

I have two of these units mounted fairly high on the light poles back of the tees. As a result the insect population at my range has been reduced to the point where there is no longer a problem. Business has increased and customers are happy.

The Insectocutor consists of an electric grid, a special transformer and two 15-watt black lights. These lights have a special attraction for all insects over and above other sources of lighting. Due to



Insectocutor installed on light pole just below large parking sign at Vic Rice's Golf Range in Trenton, N. J., makes for more pleasant play by killing off bothersome insects.



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Night scene of Matt Matteson's Golf Range near Pleasantville, N. J., shows electrical unit high up on light pole which helped solve ruinous mosquito problem.

this attraction insects fly toward the black light and are killed instantly upon contact with the electrified grill surrounding the lights. The units are completely weatherproof and may be used out doors in all kinds of weather without fear of damage.

Compliments from out-of-state players who have stopped in for a little practice session and especially from my regular customers who used to gripe about the mosquitoes convince me that the comparatively small investment I've made has more than paid for itself. Actually, once the units are installed, the only cost of operation is the cost of the electricity consumed and this is small. The amount of current delivered to the grid is an amount too small to harm or affect humans or animals, but it gets the flying insects.

Matt Matteson, popular professional and proprietor of his own range on the Black Horse Pike near Pleasantville, N. J., outside Atlantic City had a serious mosquito problem which was ruining his night play. It was at my suggestion that Matt installed two of the Insectocutors. He tells me that he has had a 100 per cent improvement. The set up is clean, neat and no danger to anyone.

The use of these electrocutors is not confined to golf ranges. They are suitable for any outdoor area where there is an insect problem. The Philadelphia CC has a unit installed near a terrace where members enjoy outdoor refreshment without the bother of pesky insects.

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