

requires mowing. Tractors and mowing equipment must run over the wet soil and compaction is inevitable. Aerification of fairways will alleviate compaction. There is need for extensive and intensive research to determine when and how often and under what conditions aerification will best improve soil tilth and encourage better growth.

Kentucky bluegrass will long be relied upon throughout the middle west for general turf purposes. Good management will do as much for bluegrass, as it does in maintaining golf greens. Botanists tell us that there are some 400 species of poa. Kentucky bluegrass, based on long years of experience, shows as the queen of them all.

New and Special Purpose Grasses

Based on our plot experiments at the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, and experiments of a similar nature which are being conducted in practically all the cool season grass areas of the United States, we have convincing evidence that turf research is on the threshold of discovering, or originating new and superior grasses, that may produce better turf for general or specialized use.

One advance appears to be Merion blue grass. The plots at Ames, part of which were established in 1949, and a larger plot area in 1952, demonstrate that Merion is superior to Kentucky bluegrass, as a lawn grass. There is every reason to believe that Merion will prove to be a superior turfgrass on fairways.

Merion in our plots required a year longer to develop into a good tight sod than is required by ordinary bluegrass. It tends to be dwarfish in growth and probably would require less frequent mowing than Kentucky bluegrass.

At no time has disease been a problem in any of the bluegrass plots at Ames. *Helminthosporium* can be found in most seasons, but apparently there has been no damage of consequence. *Curvularia* has never been serious. Rust on unclipped Merion was severe in 1954. Merion plots mowed at 1 in. have not been attacked by rust. Unclipped Kentucky blue and *Arboretum* adjacent to Merion were not attacked by rust.

Common creeping red fescue, *Illahe* and Pa. 74 in combination with the bluegrasses in sunny unirrigated plots have not been impressive. Our conclusion to date is that on Iowa's rich black loam soils, the red fescues are not likely to be valuable in a blue grass mixture except

in shaded or partially shaded areas.

Seeded alone in 1952 plots Pa. 74 suffered considerable winter kill during the dry open winter of 1953-54. When mixed with bluegrass, little or no winter damage to the fescues was apparent, but there is no evidence that the bluegrass and Merion plots were improved by seeding with the fescues.

Alta fescue alone and in bluegrass mixtures has been very impressive. During the hot dry summer and fall of 1953 the Alta plots remained green until November, a remarkable characteristic as contrasted with the bluegrass plots which browned off in August.

It is interesting and pertinent that the 1949 mixed plots of Alta and Kentucky bluegrass have remained green and succulent until November nearly every fall. These plots were seeded to equal parts by volume of bluegrass and Alta. The Alta has never been dominant but has been present and very noticeable because of its broad leaves. During 1954 it became apparent that Kentucky bluegrass was gradually becoming dominant in these plots. In fact in plots which were seeded to Alta


Forest Lake Country Club
 BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN
CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE GOLF COURSE
 By Members and Guests

The course is maintained in the best possible playing condition through regular maintenance by the Greens Superintendent and his staff. Housekeepers, all of us as players can help tremendously to maintain the course in good condition by observing these rules:

- REPAIR BALL MARKS ON GREEN**
Insert tee ballhead pushed up turf and use finger action to smooth out mark. Press down firmly after repair is made.
- REPLACE DIVOTS ON TEES, FAIRWAYS AND BOUNDS**
Remove as much displaced turf as possible and insert neatly into divot hole. Press down firmly after repair.
- SMOOTH CLUB MARKS AND FOOTPRINTS IN SAND TRAPS**
Use hand rake or golf club until area is smooth.
- KEEP COURSE CLEAN**
Place cans, paper cups, cigarette packages, etc. in waste containers.
- WALK CAREFULLY ON THE GREEN**
Do not scuff greens with spikes while walking or turning. Only use hand shoes are allowed on the course. Use bare caddy shoes go in cup, not on edge of hole, while preparing to putt.
- PICK UP WOODEN TEES AND LOOSE SPIKES**
Spikes cause serious damage to the mowed.
- WALK AROUND BUNKERS AND TRAPS**
Make the course in pleasant playing condition for others. NEVER walk out of the back of a sand trap—always leave by rear entrance.
- PRACTICE ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS**
Practicing on the course is not allowed. Use the practice tee and fairway practice areas only. Practice putting green and practice putting green. Do not walk onto practice putting green after finishing the 18th hole.
- TEE OFF BETWEEN MARKERS**
Ball must be placed between markers on tee not more than 2 club lengths behind markers. Be careful not to damage turf on practice tees.
- BE CAREFUL WITH CADDY CARTS**
Do not put carts across green or through traps.

Members are requested to explain these rules to their guests and to see that caddies help observe them. This care will make your game (as well as others) more pleasurable.

GREENS COMMITTEE
FOREST LAKE COUNTRY CLUB

BE NICE TO THE COURSE

This is the educational sheet, measuring 8½ in. by 11 in., that the Green committee of the Forest Lake CC (Detroit dist.) gives to its members and guests in telling them how to cooperate with the superintendent and his staff in keeping the course in good condition.