grow it from bent stolons or seed would take the better part of a year.

If the green is to be used mainly during the heat of the summer it may be well to consider planting the green with sprigs of an improved Bermudagrass which spreads rapidly and needs little or no fungicidal treatments, is not easily damaged and in general will produce a more foolproof putting green for the home lawn. All Bermudagrasses lose their green color in winter and, in the more northerly areas, some may winterkill entirely.

Regardless of the kind of grass used, a putting green should be mowed every day or every other day. Occasional aerifying and vertical mowing will help to keep the green in good condition. These services are becoming available on a custom basis from landscape gardeners and lawn service firms so that a homeowner need not be obliged to purchase, store and maintain this specialized equipment.

Q—I have been told that I can use hydrated lime on my bent greens to help control brownpatch. Is this safe? How much should I use? (Va.)

A—Hydrated lime is a respected and proven practice to aid in checking brownpatch during hot muggy weather. It acts in at least two ways, to rapidly change the pH (reaction) of the surface and to dry the grass, both of which check the growth of fungus.

To add more water as a spray at a time when an excess of moisture already favors the organisms is not the best way to check brownpatch.

A treatment that helps to dry the grass will help check the spread of the disease. Two pounds of hydrated lime to 1,000 sq. ft. dusted on and allowed to remain is considered a safe application. Avoid using any soluble nitrogen fertilizer within a couple days of using hydrated lime because this active form of lime will release ammonia gas which can cause grass burns.

Q—Can one save the plugs from the aerifying of greens and economically put them into the soil bed of a new green? (Ida.)

A—Yes. This practice is growing in popularity and it makes it practical to have "every green a nursery". One enterprising superintendent we know planted a new nursery and all his new greens with the cores from aerifying his bent greens of a superior strain.

It is well to use the thatch spoons in



order to obtain the maximum quantity of material. By this method you will be able to plant fresh material at the time of your choosing. Be sure to roll the cores down firmly and keep them moist at all times until well rooted.

Q—We have been advised to use Dieldrin on our bent greens. Do you know of any reason that this material might be harmful? (Vt.)

A—We know of no evidence that would make it necessary to issue any warning against the use of Dieldrin on bent greens. Sometimes, injury may occur when an oil carrier is used but then the damage would arise from the carrier and not the insecticide.

Q—We have piles of sawdust all through the woods near our course and we can get it for the hauling. Will it be all right to use this as a source of organic matter in our greens? (N.C.)

A—Sawdust is a good material for incorporating into your greens as a source of organic matter, for conditioning the heavy soil and to help hold a shot. Neither the kind of sawdust nor the age of the material seems to be very significant so long as you use enough nitrogen to feed the organisms that attack and break down the sawdust.

Yellowing of the grass in connection with use of sawdust usually means lack of nitrogen, not acidity necessarily. Limestone added will help to decompose the sawdust. A rate of 25 lbs. of dolomitic limestone to 1000 sq. ft. usually will be adequate whenever sawdust is used.

Q—We have some strains of Bermuda that throw seedheads, even under putting green conditions. They are unsightly and they interfere with putting. What can you suggest? (Ala.)

A—The old method used to be to handrake and mow closely and then cover with topdressing. In this mechanized age we eliminate seedheads and the bumpy putting with vertical mowing equipment, used frequently to keep them under control.

Frequent, heavy feeding with nitrogencarrying fertilizer helps to keep the grass growing vigorously in a vegetative state with fewer seedheads. It may be that you should check the phosphorus levels in the soil and, if phosphorus is high, reduce phosphorus feeding for a considerable

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