

It might be better for you to incorporate this new sawdust into a compost heap with a little rich loam soil and calcium cyanamid in order to make old sawdust out of new in a matter of a couple of months. I believe this will enable you to get the same results that you had with the old sawdust.

**Q — How thick should sod be cut when moving it from the nursery to a tee? (Ks.)**

**A —** As thin as possible. With modern sod-cutting equipment it is possible to cut sod as thin as  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. Thin-cut sod will knit more quickly than thick sod. We have seen bent and bluegrass sod (thin-cut) send roots down into the seedbed in 24 hours. Thick sod sometimes takes a week or more before it strikes root.

In the nursery you will find that thin-cut sod leaves more rhizomes in the soil which more quickly will re-establish a new sod even without reseeding or replanting. This is particularly true with bluegrass and Bermuda.

Also, you can haul much more thin-cut sod on a load and the men like to handle it better.

**Q — Some of my members have been asking me about Emerald zoysia. Would you comment on this grass (1) for lawns in this area and (2) for my fairways? (N.J.)**

**A —** A solid turf of Emerald zoysia has the appearance of a Manilagrass (*Zoysia matrella*) sod. The texture is about the same but the color tends to be slightly darker. It can be described as "slow-spreading" as compared to Meyer zoysia, for example. It is a hybrid between *Z. japonica* (coarse) and *Z. tenuifolia* (very fine). Its winter hardness comes from the coarse parent but its northern limit has not been determined. It should cover about the same territory as Manilagrass.

The short stiff leaves tend to be prickly, especially when growth is slow, which appears to discourage any direct bodily contact with the mowed turf. This may possibly limit its use to lawns that are made for looks. In my opinion it is likely to produce a fairway turf that could become rather cushiony which players describe as tiring. This occurs with Bermuda that is not properly managed.

Further practical research on management may indicate that it can produce a desirable fairway turf but tests thus far are very limited.

**Q — Have had a lot of trouble with pythium this season. Do you think that the soil has to be extremely wet to have the disease? It seems to me that hand-water-**

**ing during the days seems to bring on the trouble. (Ia.)**

**A —** The usual experience is that the use of set sprinklers is more likely to encourage pythium than hand watering.

It is necessary to hand water to stop wilt, even when soil is soaking wet (wet wilt), also when the soil is bone dry (dry wilt). When soil is too wet the grass plants cannot get enough water because there is not enough oxygen in the root zone.

There is a direct relationship between wet soil and pythium but high temperatures are needed too.

If we can get the root systems good and deep early in the season we can keep the greens drier and avoid some of the disease troubles. By having a porous soil the water applied on the surface will quickly filter down into the soil leaving the surface drier. Dusting hydrated lime (2 lbs. to 1000 sq. ft.) is a good simple home remedy for sick grass. Spraying chemicals keeps the green wet when what we want is less water. Lime dries the grass and checks most diseases.

### **Tournament Pros Plan To Hire Manager**

A PGA Tournament Bureau manager with full authority over PGA tournaments and the responsibility of scheduling tournaments, increasing prize money, handling publicity and administering discipline, is contemplated by the playing professionals.

Approximately 50 PGA tournament circuit players at a meeting during the Sponsors' tournament at Charles River CC (Boston dist.) agreed to begin the hunt for a qualified man. A salary of \$20,000 a year and annual expenses of \$10,000 is to be paid by deduction of three per cent from tournament purses.

Jerry Barber, chmn., PGA Tournament committee, says the PGA Tournament Bureau costs now run about \$75,000 a year. The PGA now is having expense headaches and at its forthcoming meeting will consider a change in location of the association's headquarters in an effort to reduce expenses.

A Division of expenses between home club pro and tournament pro requirements has long been a subject of PGA controversy. The matter of taking a percentage off the top of tournament purses to finance the Tournament Bureau has come up several times but previously has been voted down by tournament players.

The proposed arrangement would continue the services of Ray O'Brien, Tournament director.