



William E. Lyons (right), golf course supt. and his son, Bill, planting long runner Pennlu stolons on the nursery green at Firestone CC in Akron, O.

## How to Make Quick Work of Planting a Nursery Green

By WILLIAM E. LYONS

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**H**ERE is a quick way to make quick work of planting a nursery green whether it is to be in Pennlu Bent, Hall's U-3 Bermuda or one of the Zoysias.

So that the green will hold its shape or surface, it first should have all necessary fertilizer and lime worked into the soil. Then, it should be leveled by raking, rolling and watering and smoothed with a 3-ft. board bolted on a rake. This should be repeated until all settling has stopped. It takes time, but results are worth it since a green built this way can be walked on without leaving deep footprints which cause humps and hollows.

I keep a supply of fresh stolons, preferably the long runner type, ready for planting. It is my observation that one bushel of long runners will produce as much turf as two bushels of chopped stolons, a fact verified by Dr. John Monteith who ran various stolon tests several years ago.

Long runner stolons ship better than the chopped variety. If they are received during a period of bad weather, they can be spread out in a shallow lake and safely kept in water for several weeks. I recall that Dr. William Daniel of Purdue University once grew bent grass by keeping it in shallow water under a bench in his greenhouse, so that should allay any fear of this kind of temporary storage.

### Work Upgrade

I use 3-ft. by 5-ft. steel mats in the planting operation. I start working directly ahead of one of the rolled mats, dropping the stolons root side down just as they grew in the nursery. I try not to work more than a foot or so out ahead of the mat before unrolling it (see photo). The planting surface should be lightly raked so that when the mat presses the stolons down, they take a good hold. I recommend working upgrade because I think it is easier



Long runner stolons, according to Lyons, will produce twice as much turf as the cropped variety. They also ship better and can be stored longer.

and gives better results.

Top dressing should be very light. Five gallons are sufficient for nine mats or 135 sq. ft. An average green (5,000 sq. ft.) requires about 2 cu. yd. After the top dressing has been applied, the mat is rolled backward. In this way, the person working on the green is almost standing on a mat. Following this, the planted surface should be watered from a hose that has a

shower head or rose nozzle. Thereafter, the green should be watered daily for a week, preferably between 11 a. m. and 3 p. m.

I find that a little extra nitrogen will start growth quickly. Ten lbs. of ammonium sulphate or five lbs. of urea pellets per 1,000 sq. ft. are also recommended. The new green should be mowed in a week or less.

## Golf History Relived in USGA'S New Film

Premiere showing of the USGA's motion picture, "Inside Golf House" was held at the Association's annual meeting in the Vanderbilt Hotel, New York, Jan. 28.

Produced by National Education Films, Inc., for USGA, the motion picture is 16mm black and white sound and runs for 27 minutes. Findlay S. Douglas, amateur champion in 1898 and onetime Association president, plays a leading role in the production which is narrated by Lindsey Nelson, radio and TV sportscaster. They guide the viewer through Golf House's historical exhibits and are joined by Margaret Curtis, Francis Quimet, Chick Evans, Bobby Jones, Mrs. Glenna Collett Vare, Gene Sarazen and Ben Hogan.

USGA's first film, "The Rules of Golf—Etiquette," was released about a year ago.

## PGA to be Decided Solely by Match Play

This year's PGA championship, at Blue Hill CC (Boston dist.) July 20-24, will be played entirely at match play. The defending champion, Doug Ford, and 127 who qualified sectionally will start at 18 holes Friday, July 20. There will be two 18-hole matches on Saturday, two on Sunday, two 36-hole matches on Monday and the 36-hole final on Tuesday.

No other PGA championship since the event was started in 1916 has been decided solely by match play. The new schedule which reduces the tournament from a seven day event to five days was approved at the PGA annual meeting. Tom Mahan, NE PGA pres. says the all match play affair gives "even the players who are beaten in the first round a sense of participation."

Total prize money will be \$40,000.