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year of being one of two clubs in the city to withstand the summer with almost perfect greens, but we did use about twice as much fungicide as in other years. Could this have caused our greens to be weak and subject to Poa Annua? I attribute a lot of our trouble to the cool, wet spring. Please answer at once so we can check or stop this siege of Poa Annua. (O.)

A—It is my fervent hope that research workers soon will learn how Poa Annua can be eliminated. For discussion on Poa, we refer you to this department in GOLFDOM's past issues. See also USGA Journal, July 1951 page 27. Read also Turfgrass Conference Proceedings at Purdue where Poa was thoroughly discussed. There is no one answer to Poa control but if it were my course, I would learn how to use sodium arsenite in a sprayer and I would do a lot of spraying.

Regardless of the reasons for grass being weakened, Poa invasion is a natural result where large quantities of water are used. Diseases and insects rate high for giving Poa a foothold. Compaction helps also. Weak strains of grass lack aggressiveness to keep Poa out. You did not say what kind of bent you started with.

Arsenic (lead arsenate or sodium arsenite) seems to be of great value in fighting Poa. Dr. Wm. Daniel at Purdue has done some classic work on the problem and his papers are very much worth serious study.

Cool wet weather is conducive to growth of Poa. Unless we have a desirable grass that grows better than Poa under these conditions maybe we should not expect too much. Where Poa is out of control you would do well to have a turfgrass specialist from your State University give you a hand.

Q—Poa annua is our No. 1 problem. Is there any chemical formula available for elimination of this pest in bentgrass greens? (Ky.)

A—There is no simple formula, chemical or otherwise, for eliminating Poa annua from greens. It is considered a pest in Florida, California, New England and other places, too. Keeping greens free of this pest probably is the high mark of the art and science of green-keeping. The best chemicals to keep Poa annua in check are arsenate of lead and sodium arsenite. Both may be applied as a spray solution, or dry mixed with topdressing. Lead arsenate usually is used at 5-lbs. to 1,000 sq. ft. starting in early spring and applied monthly except in hot weather. It is more effective when soil phosphorus is low.

Sodium arsenite is much more potent and requires more skill because it is essentially a contact herbicide, affecting leaves and seed stalks. It usually is applied ½-oz. to 1,000 sq. ft. as a spray in 2 or 3 gals. of water; or 1-oz. to 1,000 sq. ft. in the dry form mixed with sand or topdressing. Bentgrasses may get a slight tipburn but they quickly recover, generally after the new mowing. Repeat sodium

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arsenite treatments every 10 days to two weeks except in hot weather. Try it out in the nursery first to get the "feel" of sodium arsenite. Don't look for quick spectacular results because they will be gradual.

As we have said before, you can help give Poa annua the "bum's rush" by introducing more vigorous grasses, by keeping greens on the dry side, and by applying principles of aerating and vertical mowing.

**Q—What is your opinion of the new Uramite fertilizer? Would you recommend it? If so, at what rate? (Wisc.)**

**A—**Experimental evidence to date shows that Uramite produces results comparable to those developed from natural organics such as Mil-organic, Agrinite and seed meals. We do not yet have evidence that could warrant a statement that it is better than natural organics. Slow steady release of nitrogen is one feature—non-burning characteristics another. To offset this, natural organics carry phosphorus, potash and certain trace or minor elements. Uramite contains nitrogen only.

In some cases the lasting effect is only half as great as claimed, probably affected by compact soil, lack of aeration, excess water, and other factors. Some users attempt to correct by doubling the recommended quantity.

My last recommendation for any fertilizer is to follow manufacturer's directions. We have observed good results when fertilizer is applied following aeration.

**Q—We want your advice on using sewage sludge on golf greens, such as in topdressing mixture; using it straight as topdressing; and using it in mixture in building a new green in place of peat. We may try this. (Ill.)**

**A—**Raw or partially digested sewage sludge is not recommended to be used straight as topdressing on greens. I have seen bad burns on bentgrass from using sludge straight. If you were to spread the sludge out on a soil bed, disc it into the soil and let it compost for a year, you'd find it an excellent addition to the topdressing mixture. It can be used this way to replace part of the peat.

Sludge decomposes so rapidly that it would not be wise to depend upon this source alone for organic matter. In building a new green it would be very beneficial if sludge were used as composted material, disced and blended a year in advance into the topsoil that is to be used for the top 8-10 ins. on the green. A generous application of complete fertilizer high in P & K is recommended to be added to the soil bed in which the sludge is to be composted. Properly used, sludge can be a good material for supplementing the topdressing used on greens.

**Q—Why is it better to apply all-organic fertilizer in the fall instead of the spring? (N. Y.)**

**A—**Your query is reminiscent of the trick question asked by the prosecuting attorney—"Have you stopped beating your wife?" Any way you answer you are wrong.

Where did you get the idea that applying all