

Pearlwort seems to thrive on lots of moisture. Perhaps there could be some way of reducing the amount of water applied.

Vertical mowing helps to reduce pearlwort by thinning it. Arsenate of lead helps to discourage pearlwort. Apply 5 pounds to 1,000 sq. ft. at each application, repeat once a month until results show—then twice a year, spring and fall.

Q-What are the controls for goosegrass? (Mass.)

A-One of the controls that has been used with a fair degree of success, particularly in the southwest, has been a combination of phenyl mercury acetate and 2,4-D. This is a bit risky in the humid areas, but has been used successfully. Another control for goosegrass is di sodium methyl arsonate (sold under various brand names). Vertical mowing is a good mechanical control.

Q-We have used calcium cyanamid to sterilize topdressing at different times. Sometimes the results are very good indeed, but at other times it is not nearly so effective. Have you any idea why we cannot always obtain the same results? (Ky.)

A-Cyanamid requires warmth and moisture in order to work effectively. Soil material should be kept moist, though not soaked. If the proper amount of cyanamic is used and the temperature and moisture factors are correct, then you should obtain consistent results.

Q-Do seeded or stolonized bents root more deeply? (Ia.)

A-I do not know of any comparative, data on depth of rooting of seeded and stoloniferous bents. I rather think that other factors influence rooting depth. Improper watering, a surface thatch or buried layer would induce shallow rooting, regardless of the type of bent. On the other hand, good drainage and aeration, deep watering and feeding would promote deeper rooting of any grass.

Q-Soil in our greens is sandy and welldrained, which I understand is the ideal condition. However, we find that the greens* dry out quickly and the grass is rather thin and of poor color. Do you think we have too much sand? (Mich.)

A-Not necessarily. Have you taken into consideration that grass growing on sandy soils usually demands more frequent fertilizing? The usual fertilizer recommendations, based on "average" conditions, must be varied to meet individual needs. In your case, more frequent applications to compensate for leaching may be needed. The extra feeding helps the grass to put down deep roots, thus less frequent irrigation is required.

Q-What is a good fertilizer to use on bent greens to start them out in the spring? What rate would you use? Would you add arsenate of lead to control worms? (Wis.)

A-A well balanced fertilizer for early spring use is 10-10-10 (or similar) used at the rate of 10 lb. to 1,000 sq. ft., or, sufficient to supply one pound of nitrogen to 1,000, plus phosphorous and potash.

It is well to have part of the nitrogen quickly available—the remainder slowly available derived from natural or synthetic organics.

Applying the spring fertilizer immediately following thorough aeration will serve to get deeper penetration of the fertilizer more quickly to aid root growth.

I have seen countless good examples of the value of adding 5 lbs. arsenate of lead to the fertilizer. Not only does it check worms but also chickweed, poa annua, etc.

Don't forget that soil test to keep a check on your "soil bank."

Q-You recommended 10-10-10 fertilizer

for early spring use. Should this be applied "as is" or should it be mixed with black dirt or Milorganite to keep it from burning? Did we understand also that we could add 5 lbs, of arenate of lead per 1,000 sq. ft. or was it 5 lbs. per green? (Wis.)

A-If you apply the mixed fertilizer (10-10-10) to the green immediately after you have aerified and before you break the plugs and drag them in, you will not need to mix it. It will be mixed sufficiently with the soil of the plugs to keep it from burning, particularly since you will water the green well when it has been finished. If you apply the fertilizer on the grass without aerating of any kind it will be a good idea to mix it with some non-burning material and water it in well. The rate for arsenate of lead is 5 pounds to 1,000 sq. ft.

Q-We have a watering system which we use to draw directly from the lake. The big question is, when is the best time to water; in the real early morning or at night? Please give us your opinion. (Wis.)

A-The best time to water is in the early morning. This washes the dew and the guttated water off the grass blades into (Continued on page 114)

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