

---

# Turfgrass Questions Answered by Grau

---

If you've got a question you want Dr. Fred V. Grau to help you answer in this department, please address it to Grau Q&A, Golfdom, 407 S. Dearborn, Chicago 5, Ill.

---

**B**usiness management represents a great opportunity for improvement and development in the supt's profession. Technical advancements have reached the point where the growing of grass can be accomplished with greater ease and less effort than at any time in turfgrass history. Better grasses, modern machinery, improved technics, effective chemicals and long-lasting fertilizers mean that the supt. can produce championship turf for everyday play with greater ease and assurance than ever before although still at the mercy of nature.

---

## The Case for Business Management

---

The "greenkeeper" of yesteryear becomes today's supt. by learning and applying modern technics of business management. This means, first of all, organizing activities on the golf course in a business like manner. This includes an inventory of all physical assets, soil tests of every area, plans for alterations and improvement, replacement of needed equipment and periodic progress reports according to plan.

It is not my intention to attempt to explain how one can achieve proficiency in business management. This subject will be given consideration at the GCSA of America conference at Louisville, Ky., next February.

During a recent visit to Chicago we saw evidence of successful business management by supts. Examples of efficient planning and programming may be found in the well kept, attractive supt's offices at several courses. We visited only a few, so we can cite only a few.

There are many good business executives among supts. Those whom we mention here are representative of supts. of the future who are here today. No slight is intended to those who are not named.

Bob Williams, Beverly CC supt, showed us plans and records that tell why he has

gained such high ranking in his profession and in his club. He has earned and has been given added responsibilities involving maintenance of all physical facilities at the club. The net result has been regular salary increases, complete freedom to develop his program and full cooperation of all club employees. In addition to growing grass, he must understand plumbing, refrigeration, heating, painting, repairs, etc. In a large measure Bob has become "Supt. of Buildings and Grounds".

He is not the only one in the Chicago District to achieve this position. Ray Gerber at Glen Oaks, Gordon Brinkworth at Olympia Fields, Don Strand at Westmoreland — and we could name many others — also have raised the standards of the profession, with profit to themselves, by applying principles of business management.

In our capacity as an agronomic adviser, we are often called to a club where money is no object, where they want only the best and they can afford to pay for it. At other clubs there is a tight budget and every move must count. Recommendations must recognize existing conditions. The greater the budget limitations, the greater the necessity for sound business management. The sooner supts. develop this phase of their activities to the utmost, the sooner their profession will be recognized and given just compensation.

Q. We would like to have you help in selecting the most adequate grass or bent for our new fairways. Soil is ideal but after winter rains it gets a bit clayish and dries up quickly. Fairways have been irrigated and allowed to grow natural grasses, some with local river bent. Fairways are thin and poor. Irrigation expenses have to be kept low in summer when course is generally used. So far we have kept Bermudas out, but upon hearing that there are improved strains with fine leaves and better color in winter, we may want to try some, perhaps with dwarf clover. Would a soil analysis help? (Chile, S. A.)

A. Yes, a soil analysis will help. You may

# Tufhorse GOLF BAGS

## next year's features bring **FASTER SALES**

Next year's golf bag features are designed into this year's line of top-quality Tufhorse bags.

This large Keystone model of two-tone sturdy duck features embossed steerhide leather trim on top and bottom cuffs, molded handle, deluxe wing-type sling suspension and "truss-ribbed" saddle at top of side panels. Every player convenience-feature is provided. Available in canary and black, red and black and gray and black.



Model  
LP622

**MacGregor**  
THE GREATEST NAME IN GOLF

DES MOINES GLOVE AND MFG. CO.  
DES MOINES, IOWA

send a report at your earliest opportunity.

It is my opinion that you would do well to give some of the fine Bermuda grass strains a chance to see what they would do. Your climate and your soil seem ideally suited to Bermuda. Select those types which in themselves provide excellent putting surfaces. They would be least likely to invade greens and give you trouble.

I would be loathe to advise bentgrass because of its rather difficult maintenance requirements. In a series of tests, however, there are a few bents that have a chance of giving good results. These include Arlington (C-1), Dahlgren (C-115), and an unknown of which there is only a little material. Arrangements to ship small quantities of experimental materials can be made through the U.S. Dept.

### More on Poa Annua

Dear Dr. Grau:

In June GOLFDOM I saw where you had several questions on poa annua, and I thought you might be interested in knowing how I controlled it in my winter rye greens.

About the second week in March when I first noticed it coming in, I sprayed my greens with an application of PMAS (1 oz. 1000 sq. ft.) and another application of PMAS same strength in 7 days. Then in 3 days I sprayed with an application of 24-D fungicide (3½ oz. per 50 gal. of water to each green).

This spraying completely eliminated poa annua from my rye greens and, as yet, I have none in my Bermuda greens. Maybe this might help some of the southern courses keep poa annua out of their greens.

Hal Jernigan  
Beechwood CC, Ahsokie, N. C.

of Agriculture. This I shall be glad to arrange for you.

Among the Bermudas that you should try are Tiffine, Uganda and Gene Tift. Should one or more of these strains appeal to you it will be possible to arrange air shipment of commercial quantities.

Bents and Bermudas tend to form thatch and mat which become objectionable for play and for maintenance. Both can be overcome mechanically so that this need not worry you.

Bermuda will give you maximum satisfaction during summer when you have most of your play. Bermuda will be far more economical on irrigation expenses although part of the saving will be spent on fertilizer — a good investment.

Q. I plan on putting in a new green, and would like to try some Polly Cross if I can locate seed. Have been referred to you for information. (Kans.)

A. "Polly Cross" now is known officially as Penncross creeping bent seed. There should be a supply of seed soon for fall planting.

Golfdom