

offer as to how I may obtain information in regards to literature on grass as it is grown and maintained on courses. I would also like to have a source of information regarding turf schools. (Md.)

A. We are glad that you are happy with your work on the golf course. The profession needs more men like you. One outstanding book is "Turf Management" by H. B. Musser, available in your bookstore or from McGraw-Hill Book Co. in New York. Naturally, GOLF-DOOM and the Golf Course Reporter are two important current periodicals containing much useful information on the subject. If at all possible, you should receive Turfgrass Conference Reports or make arrangements with someone to study their copies. As you attend conferences and register, you automatically will receive the Turf Conference Reports.

A rather complete bibliography of turfgrass literature and other excellent reading material for students of turf soon will be published and the announcement will be made through these columns as well as through News of the "Blue Chip" Turf World published at Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

Regarding schools, I have sent you, under separate cover, a brochure from the Pennsylvania State University, giving you the information on their short course which will be activated in the Fall of 1957. I advise you to study the brochure and make application for the short course.

Soil Test

Q. How can I go about having my soil tested to find out what it needs? (Ga.)

A. Dr. Carter, speaking before the turfgrass conference at Tifton, said that people of Georgia are entitled to a free soil test. The first step is to see your county agent. Since you grow grass (a crop) you qualify as a farmer. There are four locations to which samples may be sent — Athens, Griffin, Blairsville and Tifton. Every County Agent has soil sample bags and information sheets. The background history on each sample helps greatly in interpreting results.

Soil Testing Kit

Q. Could you please tell me where I could purchase a soil testing kit and a tissue testing kit? It doesn't have to be an expensive one, but at the same time I don't want a real small one — I'd say about in the middle bracket. I used to have a very small one and it came in handy at times. I would like to get a complete set. I have been taking care of golf courses, also building courses since 1924. Most of my work has been in the region from St. Louis to Oklahoma, yet I have a lot to find out. I've had experience with Washington Bent, Metropolitan Bent Seaside and now I'm working with Cohansey C-7 Bent.

A. I would suggest that you write to W. H. Daniel, Purdue University, West Lafayette,

Indiana and inquire about soil test kits and tissue test kits. Also, I would contact Roger Bray, University of Illinois, Urbana. They have had a great deal of experience with both of these kits in Illinois.

Some time ago a tissue testing kit was produced by West Point Products Corp., West Point, Pennsylvania. You might write to them and inquire about its availability.

It may pay you to inquire closely into the soil testing and tissue testing services that you might have available to you in the states in which you are operating. Sometimes it is just a little bit easier and perhaps more accurate to have the work done in a control laboratory where all the chemicals are fresh and where the workers are skilled and are not being distracted by other things. Soil testing service is now more readily available than it has been at any time in the past.

Destroying Seedheads

Q. We have a Pennlu nursery and I was wondering what chemical is the most effective on the seedheads.

A. To my knowledge there hasn't been very much work done on this subject but I will give you the benefit of our own experience. In our Pennlu nursery at the Farm near State College, Pennsylvania, we let the Pennlu throw seedheads and come to bloom. We know it will take at least three weeks from the time of blooming until mature seeds are set. Therefore, just as soon as the heads are blooming, we spray the field with Brush Killer (Mixture of 2-4D and 2-45T) and sodium arsenite, using a pint of Brush Killer to the acre and two pounds of sodium arsenite to the acre in about 100 gals. of water.

This seems to do a very effective job of preventing the seedheads from forming seed. We repeat the application in about ten days to be sure we catch any late blooming seedheads so they do not produce seed.

You will note that the seedheads turn brown and shrivel and are completely incapable of producing any mature seed when hit with this combination. It does practically no damage to the bent, particularly if it is in a healthy growing condition and the soil is moist, so that there is good growth.

There possibly may be better methods of stopping seed production in Pennlu nurseries.

Fertilizer Consumption

Consumption of fertilizer in the U. S. increased nearly 70 per cent between 1945 and 1955, according to information recently released by the Ohio Farmer, Pennsylvania Farmer and Michigan Farmer. In 1945, about 13 million tons were used as compared to 22 million tons 10 years later. Nebraska showed the biggest increase, raising its consumption 65 times over what it had been in 1945. Several states listed increases ranging from 155 to nearly 2,000 per cent.