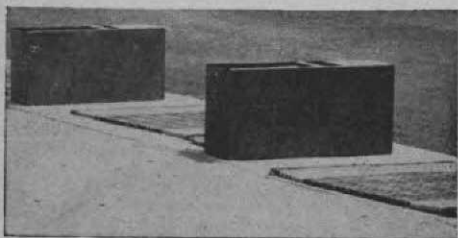


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## **Grau's Answers**

*(Continued from page 76)*

exact prices as to the cost of stolons, but they range somewhere between \$3.50 to \$5.00 a bushel — sometimes a little more. When this cost begins to sound a bit high, clubs consider using Penncross bent seed, using it at the rate of one lb. to 1,000 sq. ft. The price of this has dropped recently and is a good buy. It will develop putting greens that become well adapted wherever they may be planted.

I would hesitate to suggest any change in your watering program. The one-hour soaking in the morning actually may be just a little bit more than needed. You may tell your members, who insist on soaking the greens during hot weather, that they had better let the supt. and you run the course, because you have proved that your method is successful. By keeping the greens soggy during hot weather, you can be sure you are going to lose grass.

I would not consider that hard well water would have any important bearing on your problem. Bentgrass can grow over a wide range of acidity and alkalinity and thrive at almost any range if it has sufficient nutrients and plenty of oxygen in the soil.

There are two good ways to sterilize your topdressing. One of the cost convenient is to use cyanamid at the rate of 13 lbs. to a cu. yd., incorporating it and mixing it well with the topdressing, letting it stand 3 or 4 months before using to allow the cyanamid to kill weed-seeds. The other way is to enclose the topdressing in a gas-tight frame and treat it with methyl bromide gas under a cover, according to directions, which is much more rapid than the cyanamid treatment, but somewhat more labor. The topdressing following the methyl bromide treatment can be used in only a few days.

**Q.** Do you know of any courses in the U. S. that have sodded their green rather than using sprigs or stolons? If so, did the sod greens make a good putting surface quicker than where stolons were used?

**A.** Many courses regularly sod their greens, particularly when they are changing from an unsatisfactory grass to a new grass. In this way, they are able to get the greens into play more quickly than if they were using sprigs or stolons. About the quickest way you could possibly get a green in play from sprigs or stolons is 8 weeks. You can have a green in play from solid sodding in about a week. The reason for this is that you are developing the solid sod in a nursery where there is no play and no interference with maintenance. Then, when the sod is mature and ready to be moved, it can be put in place on a firm, well-prepared, well-fertilized seedbed and, with proper rolling, topdressing and other maintenance practices, the green becomes playable in about a week.

The sodding method is preferred particularly where the course is continued in play and where it is desired to have greens out of play for as short a time as possible. If the

course is out of play for two or three months there would be little advantage in sodding over sprigging or stolonizing.

**Q.** Please advise how to kill or remove chickweed in our greens. (Mich.)

**A.** Arsenate of lead probably is your safest material for eliminating chickweed from your greens. During hot weather apply no more than 5 lbs to 1,000 sq. ft. The chickweed will be hit harder if the plants are damp so that the arsenate powder will cling to the leaves.

In the fall, when cool weather starts, you can apply safely 10 lbs. to 1,000 sq. ft. mixed with a little topdressing to act as a carrier. If some patches are particularly stubborn, rub some lead arsenate directly into the weed. Wear a rubber glove when doing this.

Do not expect the chickweed to go out overnight. It will be a slow, gradual process. Yearly applications should be made until it disappears.

**Q.** I am building greens at X X X Club in Virginia. I would like to know more about the new grasses being developed for the South. I am familiar with the bent now growing at Winston Salem. I would like more information on bents. Some bents seem to stand up better than others. I wonder if you know which is the better. I am putting in some Tifgreen. I would like to know if there is any special

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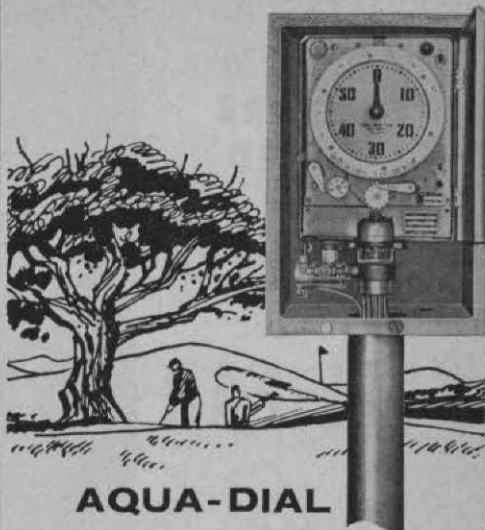
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