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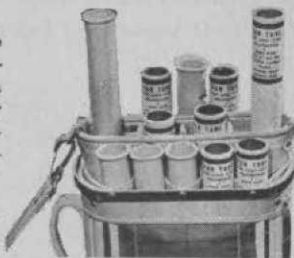
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Grau's Answers

(Continued from page 42)

plish significant savings at the end of the season.

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Snowmold and Clover

Q. We have a 9-hole course opened to the public for the second year. The greens are very good but they seem to have a lot of white clover coming into them. Is there anything on the market to treat these clover spots without killing the seaside bent? Also, is there a weed killer on the market for bent greens? (Mich.)

A. You are likely to be severely affected by snowmold, particularly on seaside greens, because this grass is very susceptible to the disease. It so frequently happens that when seaside is injured by snow mold, or by some other disease, clover seems to be one of the first invaders. Therefore, the appearance of clover is natural but does not make it acceptable. I mention it to emphasize that complete control of snowmold is one of your first steps in preventing clover invasion.

If you will read your back issues of GOLF-DOM you will notice various discussions of clover control in bentgrass greens. It is important, first, to have good, strong grass. Through proper

management such as aeration, minimum watering, adequate fertilization and disease control, you will be in a position to use most effectively a weed killer for clover. The best I know of is Brush Killer, a mixture of 2,4D and 2,45T. This must be used carefully and at low rates in order to avoid damaging the bent. I would use about 1/4 of the recommended rate on the Brush Killer container. I would try this first on a nursery or practice green so if it does cause damage it will not be serious.

Another way to discourage clover spots is to dust them with calcium arsenate. This material is quite safe on bentgrass although if used in excessive amounts, it can burn the grass. A light dusting on the clover spots could be very effective.

There is no weed killer that I know of that is designated specifically for bentgreens. For the most part, we try to avoid using any kind of weed killers on bentgreens. Sound management practices that produce good turf are the best defense against weeds in greens.

Ugandagrass for Collars

Q. Why wouldn't Ugandagrass work well on Poa annua collars of bent greens? (Md.)

A. We believe that Ugandagrass may be a good one to plant on the collars of bentgreens where Uganda is adapted. It looks like a very good summer companion to Poa. It grows well in hard soil which we usually find on collars

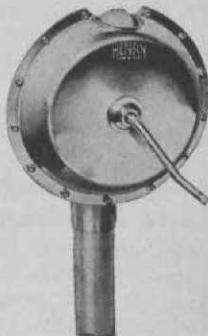
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