

Use the best **GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT**  
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nursery of U-3 bermuda at Five Farms, Baltimore, Md., under Bob Scott (retired) now has become the production nursery from which planting material will be taken by Frank Dunlap to plant all the tees on the new 9 and all fairways on the course. Before such a program could be launched there had to be the knowledge that it worked and worked at Five Farms!

Alex Repin's nursery at Tulsa CC told him that Cohansey (C-7) bent was worth trying on a regular green. No. 7 green was planted and managed to suit Cohansey! The results can be seen on many courses in the Southwest, very few of which had test plots of their own. They drew strength from Alex Repin's success and suggestions on maintenance.

Pine Valley's nurseries are the most extensive in the world, so far as we know. Eberhardt Steiniger spends a great deal of time and effort on them and derives from his studies valuable information that can be obtained nowhere else. No experiment station has sand such as Pine Valley has. Therefore, to know whether a grass, a fertilizer, or a tool will work at Pine Valley it must be tried at Pine Valley.

The best place to find out how anything works on your course is to test it

on your course under your management and with your labor force.

### Changing Bents

**Q.** We are interested in your article in July **GOLFDOM** concerning the change from one bent to another. We have our original Seaside in the first 9 built some 20 years ago, to which we have added about ten lbs. each year (after spiking the greens) of Seaside bent seed. The second nine also is seeded with Seaside.

I think that the bent has been satisfactory except that it seems very low in resistance to snowmold. When the bent goes out in the spring, poa annua comes into the spots. Some of our greens are getting to be almost solid poa annua. We are told that our feeding program is okay but we have this fight every spring to get the greens back into play.

Would you advise seeding into the greens some new type of bent, probably Penncross? Would this new seed eventually supersede the Seaside to an extent that Penncross would eventually take over? We have a very good spiker with 250 lb. weights, (pulled by our old three-gang power mower). We count on seeding the Penncross, then compost with the compost that you saw at Magna, Utah. This is three-quarters sheepmanure with one-quarter part very sharp sand. This compost has in the past acted as a very good seed bed when we put Seaside seed into the greens. We don't like to waste expensive seed, but would like to get the Penncross seeding program started.

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says CARL O. WEIS, Sup't. of Parks, Canton, Ohio



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We, (the Canton Park System) tried the small 3 hp size, liked it, kept it, and since have bought two more of the 7 hp size.

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We are still using the vertical mower. There is a tendency for the know-it-all golfer to insist that we go deeper with the machine but we like to use it often — once each week and not so severely. (Idaho)

A. You have evaluated your Seaside bent correctly. Continuing to sow Seaside bent into the greens does nothing to bring about permanent relief from snowmold and poa. You will do well to begin a program of seeding Pennncross creeping bent seed into greens, particularly if you prepare greens properly before doing so. This consists of removing a great deal of the surface matted material and using a spiker very thoroughly to prepare as good a seedbed as possible for the Pennncross. Even if you damage the Seaside and set it back, it will be all to the good if you prepare your members for what you are doing.

I think you can look for Pennncross to take over the Seaside in time. I have seen excellent results from a program of this kind in different parts of U.S. Do not expect miraculous results in one or two years. You should change the compost to about three parts sand and one part sheep manure. This sounds like a drastic change, but actually it will be for the better. If this seems too drastic, you can start by making it 50/50 by volume.

I would like to review your fertilizer program with you. In some cases I detected evidence where the program actually contributed to poa annua invasion. You are wise to use your vertical mower lightly and frequently. It is possible to do considerable damage with machines

of this type by going too deeply at any one time. The rate of sowing Pennncross will be not more than one lb. to 1,000 sq. ft.

## Invasion of Greens

Q. On our 9-hole course we have two greens that were rebuilt about 10 years ago. Grass on these greens is very fine and dark green and does not grow very fast. It does not develop runners and makes a fine putting surface. The last few years spots of grass similar to that on five of our other greens have shown up in them. This grass is coarser, lighter green, grows faster and develops runners badly. The spots have almost doubled in size the last year. Is there anything I can do to prevent this other grass from taking over? I have not been able to find out what kind of bents are in.

Last year we rebuilt two greens and seeded them with Seaside. I understand Seaside is not the best kind of bent for this part of the country. If I would over-seed with Pennncross would it eventually take over?

I understand greens should be mowed with mowers set at about 1/4 in. Every time I begin to mow my mower below 5/16 inches it seems to remove all the upright growth and they turn brown. The two greens with finer grass I described above will stand to be cut much closer. Our greens have not been topdressed this spring as we were out of material. Will topdressing improve them by firming around the stem that grows above the ground and prevent the mower rollers from going so deep? (Iowa)

A. It is almost impossible to advise from