
Grau's Answers to Turf Questions

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

The Fine Supporting Role of Fred Williams

Two men in the turfgrass profession recently have come to the time to pause. H. Burton Musser and Fred H. Williams started serving their respective institutions in 1922. Both will terminate active service in 1959. The accomplishments of Prof. Musser may be seen on the turfgrass areas of the nation wherever his improved grasses are grown. The book "Turf Management" of which he is the author, may be found in the library of every dedicated turf man.



Fred Williams

Not so well known is the story of Fred H. Williams. His contributions to turf have been in a "supporting role". His accomplishments may be classed as "vicarious" in that he has lived and worked only to bring help and knowledge to others. The world of turf owes a great debt to this shy and wonderful man.

During the 37 years of devoted service to the USGA green section illness has claimed but seven days of his time. Dur-

ing these years he has worked under these men: Dr. C. V. Piper, Dr. Russell A. Oakley, Harvey Westover, Dr. John Monteith, Jr., Dr. Fanny Fern Davis, Dr. Fred V. Grau and C. K. Hallowell. As executive secy. he has given unstintingly of his amazing energy and consummate skill.

Outside of office hours, Fred has devoted much time to working with young people in athletics. He has remained single, but has spent more time helping boys to find themselves through Sunday school and in sports than most fathers. His tremendous success in athletics can be attributed to a thorough apprenticeship in playing, officiating, managing, coaching and scouting. He has conducted basketball tournaments, baseball schools and clinics. Fred himself is an accomplished bowler. It's characteristic of him to give credit to the other fellow by saying, "You have a ten-strike there."

Owns 10,000 Books

Among the many hobbies which he pursues in his "spare time," Fred loves books best. His library of over 10,000 volumes, none donated, boasts a diverse classification. It is believed that he has the largest individual collection of books on sports, chess and psychology in the Mid-Atlantic area. Many books have been donated to those in need — no youngster ever has been turned away from his shelves. Some of us remember the hurricane of 1947 which soaked 250 volumes of Fred's precious books. Not a book was lost but it took weeks to dry each page by hanging the books on a clothesline. His love of literature and his generosity in helping youngsters are only two indications of the depth and warmth of this man.

His years of service have covered all but one year of the life of the USGA green section. The game owes as much to Fred H. Williams as to any scientist with whom he has worked.

Bermuda in Bluegrass

Q. We have an area of bluegrass fairway that is becoming infested with volunteer Bermuda grass. How can we eradicate this Bermuda and keep it from spreading? (Ill.)

A. Two materials are effective in destroying unwanted Bermudagrass; Vapam and Dowfume. Replanting may be done about three weeks after treatment with Vapam, in 2-3 days following treatment with Dowfume. Vapam may be applied with sprinkling cans. Dowfume requires a cover. Follow manufacturer's directions.

Some golf clubs near you have decided that

(Continued on Page 109)

We'll Plant Your Greens To

TIFTON 328

(Tifgreen)

**SOUTHERN TURF NURSERIES
of Tifton**

"The South's Turf Headquarters"

P. O. Box 569 — Tel. 616

Tifton, Georgia

Ray Jensen, Agronomist

Grau's Answers

(Continued from page 52)

Bermuda makes good golf turf and they are sprigging it into their fairways. I shall be most interested to learn more about your situation and to what extent the Bermuda is undesirable. How large is the area that is being invaded and how long has the Bermuda been there? A sample of the grass will be appreciated.

Q. I am writing for information on killing silver crab growing in Washington bent greens and on the aprons. Mercury preparations used weekly have controlled growth of regular crabgrass very well, but silver crab has caused a great deal of trouble. In 1957 was used disodium methyl arsonate and had some success with silver crab when we used the material regularly each week. Last year we used another brand of D.S.M.A. regularly each week but had very little success. I understand that one brand containing 2, 4D can be used to control silver crab but I wonder if the amount contained would damage our greens.

Also, we plan to rebuild a green which lies in a hollow with trees on three sides. Very little air gets through and during the hot, humid months we have trouble with disease. We plan to rebuild, getting better drainage, and also cut a path through the trees to get a flow of air. Is there a bent grass such as C-1 or C-7 that

would withstand this condition better than Washington? (Ind.)

A. First of all, I advise you to stay with Washington bent. Washington is an excellent grass when properly handled. This entails generous feeding because it can utilize rather large quantities of nitrogen fertilizer. Good feeding will help any good grass to crown out weeds.

Second, I advise you to examine your methods and see whether or not you are planting silver crabgrass seeds on your greens. If you are applying unsterilized topdressing, then you are planting the weeds. I suggest that you sterilize topdressing by using the cyanamid method or the Dowfume method so that you begin to cover any viable seeds that are in the greens and completely avoid planting any more.

I believe that, used judiciously, disodium methyl arsonate preparation with 2, 4D does a good job on the silver crab in Washington greens if they are good and healthy. A preparation of this kind easily could knock out the grass if it is weak, as you infer, on the green that you plan to rebuild. Keep in touch with Purdue University for late information on fighting silver crabgrass in greens.

Your plan for rebuilding the green down in the hollow sounds good. I do not believe it would be wise at this time for you to change to another Bent. It is preferable to have the same kind of grass on all the greens to give the members uniform putting conditions.

For better and more economical golf ball washing

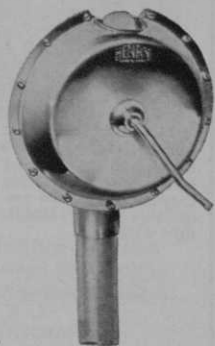
HENRY Golf Ball WASHER

- Will dress up any course • Dirty water will not splash • Heavy gauge steel • **NEW** improved insert in rubber squeegee • Oil impregnated bearings • No brushes to rot.

A. C. Schendel, Distributor

R.R. 5, Box 92, Waukesha, Wisconsin

Dealers in all principal cities



**BALL
WASHER**

\$14.75

Prices F.O.B.
Waukesha, Wis.