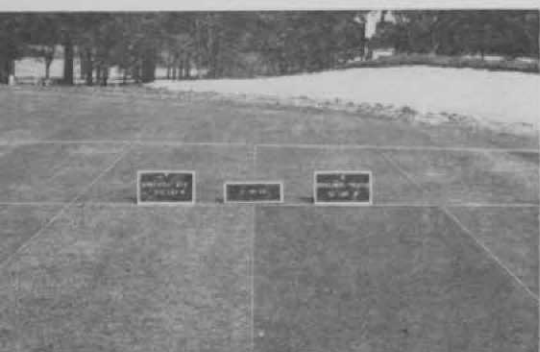


## Report On Overseeding Trials At East Lake, Sea Island



Domestic rye plot is on left and Pennlawn-fescue on right. Photo was taken late in March.

Mel Warneke, supt., East Lake CC, Atlanta, Ga., and T. M. Baumgardner, vp, and Supt. Marion McKendee of Sea Island, Ga., have been collaborating with Charles G. Wilson, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission sales mgr. and agronomist, in overseeding trials.

Kentucky blue, *Poa trivialis*, Pennlawn creeping red fescue, Highland, Astoria, Seaside and Pennecross bents, and Redtop, domestic and perennial rye were seeded individually and in various combinations. The seeding was done in the fall of 1959.

### Monthly Ratings Made

Cooperators made monthly ratings on disease, putting quality, color, density, etc. Results were recorded on film on four occasions during the winter.

All grasses were seeded to furnish the same number of seeds per 1,000 sq. ft., based on rye grass seeding at the 50 lb. rate.

One half of each plot was fertilized and fungicide treatments for "damping off" disease were superimposed at a right angle to the Milorganite treatment. Thus the plots provide fertilized, non fertilized, fungicided and non fungicided areas.

Wilson remarks: "Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on how you look at it, there was no disease at either location and the Milorganite treatment helped the initial stand."

### Pennlawn Fescue Outstanding

"The outstanding individual grass at East Lake was Pennlawn fescue," Wilson continues. "It was excellent early and late and vanished this spring with no transition problems. *Poa trivialis* was also good at

East Lake and ranked best at Sea Island. The Pennlawn fescue was disappointing at Sea Island. Among the bents, Pennecross ranked best at both locations, closely followed by Seaside.

"Transition problems were severe with Pennecross, probably due to its vigor," says Wilson. "Highland was the poorest overseeded plot among the bents, faring worse than Redtop. Astoria was intermediate. Perennial rye grass was better than domestic early in the season but difficulty was experienced with cutting it clean at Sea Island this spring. As a result, the plot was badly off color and unacceptable there."

### Drawbacks to Bent, Rye

Wilson makes these observations: "Many courses have switched to bent rather than rye. Northern golfers prefer it and it is similar in texture to improved Bermuda strains. Unfortunately, bent is sometimes slow to become established in the fall. It germinates rapidly but then stands still for four to six weeks. Conversely, rye grass is excellent early in the season, but passes out with a rush at the first sign of hot weather in the spring.

"The above has led us to suggest combining the virtues of both grasses. Seed bent first at 2 to 3 lbs. per thousand sq. ft. and three to four weeks later overseed with rye grass at 20 to 25 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. The mixture of these grasses was excellent at both Sea Island and East Lake. We still consider *Poa trivialis* and Pennlawn fescue to be in the experimental stage."

### Two Superintendents Learn Value of Turf Nurseries

The value of maintaining turf nurseries was very forcefully impressed on two supts. in recent months. At Paradise Valley CC in Phoenix, Supt. Art Snyder found that vandals had defaced one of his greens the night before an important tournament was to be played at the club. It was impossible to patch the damaged area and so Snyder stripped the sod and replaced it with sod from his nursery. At the Oaks CC in Tulsa, a windstorm uprooted or broke off large branches from about 50 trees and a great deal of the debris landed on and damaged several greens. Supt. Les Snyder (no relation of Art) quickly cleared the damaged areas and transplanted sod from his nursery to places where the greens had been badly gouged. It took him only two or three days to do this, much less time than if he had no turf replacement to fall back on.