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CADDY-ROLL RENTAL SERVICE

Three Rivers, Michigan

Grau's Answers

(Continued from page 45)

of a significant revolution in over-seeding warm season grasses. We commend Dick Schmidt and R. E. Blaser, Hurley Savage, Harry McSloy and all others who have made contributions to this great advance.

Q: I am sending some samples of sandy loam, peat, and sand, that are available in this section for topdressing greens. Greens have not been topdressed in two years. We can not buy a coarser sand here. Is this sand too fine to use on greens? We sent plugs for soil test. Reports back were around Ph 6.4 and a sandy loam in upper 2 ins. Is this sand too fine and will it pack too much in a 1-1-1 mixture? (Ohio)

A: The sample of sand is so fine that you will be well advised to leave it strictly alone and look for a source of coarser sand. In a 1-1-1 mix you would develop a low-grade cement. The soil is a floury silt that is about the worst you could put in a topdressing mixture. The peat is of good quality but is not of much use by itself.

Rather than use a mixture that will give you future trouble, you will be better off to do no topdressing. You can do a great deal by cultivating the greens now while growth is active,

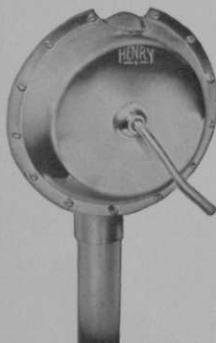
and by fertilizing generously with slow-acting, insoluble types of nitrogen. The aero-thatching process brings a great deal of soil to the surface where it is distributed by dragging and where it becomes your topdressing. The soil is in a pulverized condition so that the putting surface after the operation is as smooth as before.

Fertilizing immediately after the cultivating procedure is excellent practice. The maximum quantity of plant food enters the rootzone where it can be of the greatest benefit.

Some supts. who have not topdressed a green in 25 years tell me that they can't see any reason for it.

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