

# Jack Bernard Explains His Method of Overseeding

As it is done  
at De Soto Lakes

Results in overseeding Bermuda greens for winter play have continued to show progress in recent years. At some of the Southern courses, winter visitors (pros and amateurs) have pronounced the overseeded greens to be the finest putting surfaces that possibly could be provided.

J. L. (Jack) Bernard, supt., De Soto Lakes G&CC, Sarasota, Fla., has produced overseeded greens that have been widely praised.

Below, Bernard explains his method of getting De Soto's greens, each averaging about 7,500 sq. ft., into condition for winter play:

- The greens are aerified two ways 3 to 4 weeks before planting. Just before seeding the greens are mowed. After mowing, about 1½ yds of good screened topdressing is spread on each green. Then the green is spiked two ways with a Walter power spiker and after that we are ready to plant.

## Prefers Astoria to Seaside

I use four different seeds: Kentucky bluegrass, redtop, Astoria or Seaside bent and Highland bent. I prefer Astoria to Seaside and I have found that the Astoria will take the few cold nights that we have better than Seaside will.

I use three spreaders, two Lawn Beauties and a Cyclone. I start on our largest green, setting one Lawn Beauty for 30

lbs. of Kentucky blue and the other one for 28 lbs. of redtop. The Cyclone is set for 11 lbs. of bent. The same amount of bent ((11 lbs.) is seeded to a green.

## Seed Isn't Mixed

Seeding is done in four separate operations: first, 30 lbs. of Kentucky blue; second, 28 lbs. of redtop; third, 11 lbs. of Astoria or Seaside, then 11 lbs. of Highland. I never mix the seed.

After the seed is spread I use two steel drag mats and drag them four ways. As soon as the greens are dragged I have a man hand water. He never goes heavy on the water but merely dampens the seed. To do this I prefer to use a Rose nozzle.

## Mows on Third Day

Tifton 328, my base grass, is in the dormant stage when I overseed. I plant any time between Nov. 15 and Dec. 1. Mowing can be carried out the third day after seeding. If any seed is being picked up I mow without a grass catcher.

The greens are dampened twice daily until I begin to see results of the seeding. Then we go back to our regular watering program. I get best results from hand watering and do not use a sprinkler on a green at any time.

After planting is finished I spray the greens with a fungicide for disease prevention and with Aqua-Gro to work in a wetting agent. This gives fast germination,

# Observations on Overseeding

## E. Ray Jensen of Southern Turf Nurseries Discusses Maintenance

*Poa trivialis* and various strains of bent and red top have been used in recent years for overseeding Southern greens, but generally, rye still is accepted as the winter grass throughout the South.

As for maintenance of overseeded greens, they should be inspected closely each day for signs of disease inroads, particularly during periods of warm, humid weather. Immediate control of disease can't be overemphasized. Applications of Seme-

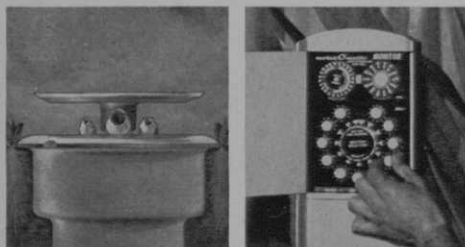
san, PMAS or Caloclor, mixed with Captain 50 W, should be used periodically during danger periods to prevent disease.

Overseeding of Bermuda presents problems. A supt. can't afford to destroy existing turf and to work the soil the same way a farmer does in seeding. The area must be prepared so that seed will come in contact with the soil to encourage rapid germination. This, ordinarily, can be ac-

(Continued on page 118)



## moist O' matic PERFORMANCE LEADER IN TURF IRRIGATION



Moist O' Matic's gear driven rotor pop-up turf sprinkler heads lead the field in durability, adaptability, performance and low costs. The entire gear Mechanism is isolated and sealed. Even water distribution is assured by three nozzles in the pop-up head. Up to 180' diameter water coverage means low cost for new installations or conversions. 1° part circle adjustments from 40° to 320° can be made while in operation without special tools. These exclusive advantages and the rugged, compact MONITOR controller have made Moist O' Matic the turf irrigation performance leader.

For complete information, write to:

**moist O' matic, inc.**

1795 Massachusetts Ave. • Riverside, Calif.

### Location in Grass Selection

(Continued from page 68)

lawn fescue seeded at 50 lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. ranked first at East Lake throughout the first year. Poa annua was not present. There was no transition. Tiffine came in as the fescue disappeared. Pennlawn started the same way at Sea Island but lost first place when poa annua appeared in the plot. Then putting was bad.

Poa trivialis at 4 to 6 lbs, and Seaside at 2 to 3 lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. seeded together or along with some Kentucky blue grass and fescue should be a good basic seed mixture. Where weather is cold in Dec. and Jan. overseeding with rye grass at 25 to 40 lbs per 1,000 sq. ft. after other grasses are well established may be justified. Rye will do well then and competition from the other grasses improves its texture.

### Can Be Smothered

Any topdressing used after seeding with bent must be at a light rate, otherwise grass will be smothered. Some prefer to cross spike first, topdress and mat the seed in place with a flexible steel mat.

The use of fungicide to check pythium, and a little nitrogen at seeding time seems justified. Bent seed is especially small in size so the young seedling must have food for growth right after germination.

Uncertified bent seed may contain shepherd's purse and related types of weed seeds. They were present in some seed used in Florida last year. The premium for certified blue tag seed is nominal and is the only kind to use.

### Overseeding Observations

(Continued from page 72)

completed by aerating one to three weeks ahead of seeding, and verticutting at the time of seeding to reduce thatch and assure soil contact. Use of a power spiker, as needed, also is recommended just prior to seeding. A phosphorus and potash fertilizer, along with lime, should be applied in accordance with soil test findings prior to seeding. The application of a mercury-containing fungicide at this time also is good practice.

Seed should be cross-broadcast uniformly and dragged into turf with a steel door mat. Two or more passes with the mat may be necessary. Following this, about ¼ or ⅜ ins. of sterilized topdressing should be applied. This, too, should be dragged to obtain a level surface. Then water

---

---

# ONE Golfing Magazine

*has a wide margin of leadership in readership concentrated on men and women identified as the top spending customers for top quality golf equipment and apparel!*

## Golfing

*-- the working tie-up of advertising and Pro Shop merchandising!*

---

---

should be applied. The soil must be kept moist constantly until emergence is complete.

### Start Nitrogen Application

As soon as a good stand of overseeded grass is obtained, nitrogen application should be started. Rule of thumb application calls for 1 lb. of N per 1,000 sq. ft. per month. Organics are a little safer to use although inorganics generally are much cheaper and don't burn if properly watered in following application to dry turf. Urea and Uramite have been found to be fine sources, according to impartial tests conducted by agronomists at experiment stations.

### Farrell in Hall of Fame

*(Continued from page 44)*

Championship, losing to Leo Diegel in the final, 6 and 4. Farrell was a PGA semi-finalist in 1933 and runnerup to Walter Hagen in the 1929 British Open. He was a member of the first Ryder Cup team in 1927 that beat the British, 9½ to 2½, and in 1929 and 1931 he also played in the international matches.

Farrell, summertime pro at Baltusrol, Springfield, N. J., and wintertime pro at the CC of Florida in Delray Beach, is the father of five children. One son, James serves as his assistant, and another son, Bill, is the New Jersey Open champion and plays the tour. A third son, John Jr., is assistant products manager for Colgate Palmolive Co. A daughter, Peggy, is a medical secretary and a second daughter, Kathy, is studying to be a nun.

### Ed Oliver Fund

A full report on the various funds raised for Ed Oliver's family in recent months aren't available. A committee headed by James O'Keefe of the Western Golf Assn. has raised about \$10,000 for the education of the Oliver children. Florida golfers have contributed more than \$9,000 and tournament sponsors have turned over several thousand to the PGA for Ed's wife and children.

### Get Seniors' Plaques

Illinois PGA Seniors recently presented plaques to Joe Graffis, Sr., Golfdom's publisher, Bud Binyon and Bob Lamkin for their services to golf over the years. Harry Adams made the presentations on behalf of the Seniors' organization.