

ways. What is the reaction of the various types of grass to a sour or alkaline soil? Here is another question: What would the proper pH level be for various types of grass?

We know that there are different types of soils in various sections of the country and that a farmer or supt. would actually have to make a test of the soil to determine the pH level. This would be the basis for limestone application. We would only be interested in contacting golf courses in Ind., Ohio and Mich., as we feel this is our immediate marketing area. (Ohio)

A. Lime neutralizes acidity but more important it provides a rich source of calcium and magnesium, critical nutrients for bacteria and plants. Most turfgrasses would grow satisfactorily in an acid soil if they had a source of available Ca and Mg. Most acid soils render unavailable the basic elements by forming insoluble iron and aluminum compounds. The practice of using dolomitic limestone is highly favored on most turf grass areas where soil acidity tends to develop.

Grass is an agricultural crop. The pH range of 6.5 to 7.0 is known to be most favorable to beneficial soil organisms and to most effective release of plant nutrients. This principle covers farms and turfgrass areas. Ranges above pH 7.0 are not necessarily detrimental to turf. Some of the best turf grows well at pH 8.0 to 8.5 in alkaline desert areas. Thus it can be seen that there is little danger of "over-liming" when dolomitic limestone is used.

Bentgrasses and fescues can tolerate acid

soils but they do better when the acidity level nears the neutral point (pH 7.0). Bluegrasses, Bermuda and zoysia perform better at or near the neutral point. A certain amount of acidity is very desirable for helping to dissolve minerals and to make them available to plants.

Periodic soil tests have been advocated for turfgrass areas as well as for farms. Several fertilizer companies that make soil tests for customers actually "sell" as much lime as fertilizer. It would be very helpful to have a lime company assist in the educational work in the testing of soil samples and in making sound agronomic recommendations. To the best of our knowledge, your company is the first lime outfit to come forward with this kind of positive thinking and planning.

## **Record Entry for Amateur**

A record 2,019 players submitted entries in the 1961 National Amateur which will be played at Pebble Beach (Calif.) GC, Sept. 11-16. This exceeded the 1960 total by 282. The Pebble Beach field will consist of 200 players who have survived qualifying rounds or are exempt from qualifying. Deane R. Beman, Arlington, Va., is defending champion.

> Tell Them You Saw the Ad in GOLFDOM

