

## Grau's Answers

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the production fields. Those who buy large quantities of Merion seed (sod growers, new golf clubs) will do well to buy on specifications that provide for "Zero tolerance of poa annua, bent and poa trivialis" with suitable penalties for non-performance. Seed from Europe and parts of the U. S. most often contains objectionable impurities. Duich says that when a customer buys in good faith he should receive what he expects to get.

**Disease:** *Fusarium roseum* has developed into a major headache for many. Commonly believed to be a cool-season fungus, it operates at high temperatures. No one seems to be certain of the most effective treatment for this disease.

Phythium, helminthosporium and curvularia took their toll. Dexon, Zineb and others helped reduce losses. Hydrated lime was a "hot" item on dealers' shelves for ½-pound per-1,000 sprays to check leafspots and to revive tired.

Spring deadspot on Bermuda is reported to be stopped by fall applications of a compound called Spring-Bak.

### Developments of Interest

Duich's soil-mixture studies at Penn State cover the greatest area and range of materials in the world. There will be a constant flow of data for many years. Field and lab studies are leading to increased levels of understanding of necessary individual factors for modifying soils for heavy recreational use.

Juska's work at Beltsville on phosphorus cites applications of 4,000 pounds of  $P_2O_5$  to the acre without injury. The report will be extremely interesting.

Daniel's report No. 28 from Purdue on electric warming of soils for sport turfs makes interesting reading.

Couch's book on Turf Diseases fills a need in this field. Penn State's Circular 510, "Control Turfgrass Diseases," is a useful ready reference.

Florida reports a Bermuda that needs no mowing.

Youngner, California, reports creeping red fescue far in the lead when overseeded on Bermuda turf.

Engel, New Jersey, predicts that confusion is likely because of rapid release of bluegrass varieties that have not had adequate testing.

## Emergency Reserve

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or clubs become so accustomed to escaping large scale emergencies that they come to think they are immune to them.

"On second thought," says Frank, "it shouldn't be left up to the supt. to have to sell the club on an emergency reserve. The club should be operated on enough of a businesslike basis to automatically provide for it."

### Members Hard Hit

A good deal of financial distress has resulted at clubs where there hasn't been some kind of an emergency reserve fund to help pay for the damage caused by major catastrophies such as hurricanes, tornadoes, etc. Members have been taxed with extraordinary assessments to pay for repairs, or it has been necessary to obtain large bank loans to handle them. The blow in many cases could have been softened if a fund had been accumulated over the years to provide for emergencies.

Clubs have no choice but to provide their own catastrophe insurance, by the way, because the cost of obtaining protection against windstorm, vandalism, etc. is prohibitive.

### Poa in New England

Referring to the article on pythium that appeared in the September issue of Golfdom (page 28), Burt Anderson, supt. at Augusta (Me.) CC, points out that Arthur Anderson at Brae Burn in Newton, Mass., and Manuel Francis at Vesper CC in Lowell have virtually eliminated poa annua in their greens, tees and fairways. It has taken them several years to do it with the use of arsenicals.

Quoting Burt Anderson: "To say that New England supts. are divided about going along with poa or getting rid of it means that Art Anderson and Manny Francis are on one side of the fence and the rest of us are enviously looking over at them."