

# Maintains Nursery for Fairway Turf

By **CHARLES G. BASKIN**  
Supt., CC of Waterbury (Conn.)

When a nursery is established, the first thing a person thinks of is using the turf for tee or green repair. But how about fairways and roughs? Fairways take as much or more punishment as par 3 tees, especially about 175 to 200 yards out. Seeding divots is all right, but re-growth is slow. If you have turf to lay in the divot marks, the appearance of your course is quickly improved, especially after busy weekends. Sodding the rough may be overdoing it, but don't forget that a large percentage of your players constantly take the long-grass route to the hole. If the rough at your club is low cut, the divots there stand out with the same sore-thumb prominence that they do in the fairways.

Our nursery for supplying turf for fairways and roughs is in an experimental stage. We planted it only last year. Eventually, we may decide that seeding the gouged out areas beats sodding them, but we are going to give the new plan a fair trial.

Courses that have manual watering systems don't always find it possible to hire persons who are willing to work split shifts to operate them. We solved this problem by finding a school teacher who is attending summer school. He is happy to come to the club early in the morning and set out the fairway sprinklers and return in the evening and repeat the routine. That gives him the late morning and afternoon free to attend graduate classes. Our watering schedule dovetails perfectly with his school work.

# Deeper Roots Give Bermuda New Life

By **HUNTER GAMMON**  
Supt., Wolf Creek GC,  
Reidsville, N. C.

Wolf Creek was one of the first courses in North Carolina to put in Tifton 328. That was back in 1956. The first two

years the grass was planted, it came up beautifully in the spring. We topdressed greens three times a year, aerified lightly and verti-cut heavily. We have always been on an organic fertilizer program and have resisted the suggestion of members to overwater.

The third spring the 328 was in, spots appeared on the green surfaces and it was evident that the grass wasn't growing with its accustomed vigor. For the next two years it was touch and go and, finally, in 1961, we lost practically all our fine Bermuda.

I came to the conclusion that the 328 roots were too shallow. We had been using aerifier tines that were from 3 to 4-inches long, and ½-inch in diameter. I decided that we needed 6-inch tines of ¾-inch diameter. After using the larger tines, topdressing with coarse sand and fertilizing with 12-4-8, we verti-cut only lightly. Thereafter, our crew dragged the putting areas three ways and slowly soaked the greens.

Three weeks after this spring preparation program was carried out, a check showed that the roots were growing to a depth of six inches, as compared to only three or four in previous years. That convinced me. I threw out the old tines and kept the new. For the last three years, our 328 has come in strong and always gone the distance.

# Members Are Interested in Turf Clinics

By **JOHN J. SPODNIK**  
Supt., Westfield CC, LeRoy, O.

Golfers are more interested in turf than you may think. They aren't going to track you down to the maintenance building and ask about the different varieties of bentgrass, how diseases get started or how to rid their lawns of broadleaf weeds. But if you meet them halfway, many of them are willing to listen to what you have to tell them about turf management. And, if you are in the midst of one of those summers when grass isn't growing for you or the greens aren't looking their best, it gives you a chance to explain why.