

RAIN ON CUE

Don't rely on the whims of weather. Ask Miller to give you "rain on cue" by installing an automatic sprinkling system. Often, an automatic sprinkling system will pay for itself in labor cost alone. If your course is already irrigated, Miller can economically convert your present system to one that is fully automatic. Remember, peace of mind is a built-in advantage of Miller sprinkling systems...so don't be irritated...get irrigated.

MILLER SPRINKLING SYSTEMS

Division of A. J. Miller, Inc.

1320 North Campbell Road • Royal Oak, Michigan • 313, 542-8400

40 years of experience in designing and installing
sprinkling systems



Who Causes Compaction?

(Continued from page 28)

leaning too much toward sand as a base for greens sod in a not too well advised effort to provide quicker and more complete drainage. I have tested and played on greens constructed of 90 per cent sharp sand and found practically all of them to be hard at the surface. They undoubtedly drain better, but at the same time they probably require frequent irrigation, cultivation and heavier feeding than I think is good for turf.

Desirable Mixture

As far as I am concerned, a good soil mixture is made up of 35 per cent loam, the same amount of sharp sand, 20 per cent peat and 10 per cent Terra-Green or calcine clay. This mixture, under heavy traffic conditions, has good rebound quality, something that isn't found in soil void of organic matter. The drainage quality of the 35-35-20-10 mix is good. The use of calcine clay seems to aid permeability. It permits water to flow freely, yet intercepts enough to feed the grass roots.

In my 30 years in the golf business, we

have gone through several stages when a great deal of emphasis has been put on a single product, element or ingredient. Oldtimers recall the ammonia sulphate sieve, for instance. Pure peat was once thought to be the only type of material that should be used in topdressing. Phosphorus was thought to be the key to fertilization some years ago, and potash was a dirty word. Now, I'm afraid we are caught up in the sand stage. Overuse of sand, as far as I am concerned, is causing many but not all of our compaction problems. That, and play when conditions aren't favorable, and perhaps the maintenance department itself.

Seventh California Clinic

The seventh All Golf clinic and workshop, conducted by the California Association for Health, Physical Ed and Recreation and the National Golf Foundation, will be held June 20-23 in Monterey. It is staged with the cooperation of San Jose State College and the Northern and Southern Calif. PGA sections. Bill Wakefield is clinic chairman.