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and Highland) contain small percentages of creeping types which tend to spread and dominate. Unfortunately, most of the creepers do not form firm fairway turf but tend to be matted or fluffy. It seems to be logical that, if you are going to get creeping bent no matter what you plant, why not go directly to a good creeper? The best creeping bent from seed today is Penncross. This grass seed must carry the Certified Blue Tag, otherwise, it may not be Penncross but an inferior seed.

Some contend that Penncross in fairways will cause nothing but trouble through thatch formation. With the excellent thatch-destroying equipment and know-how that we have today, this should be the least of your worries.

Seaside creeping bent seed is being included in many new bent fairways. It is inferior to Blue Tag Certified Penncross but is a strong creeper. It, too, can be managed thatched.

Many tests and practical applications show Arlington (C-1) creeping bent stolons to be outstanding on fairways.

In general, creeping bents seem to be more resistant to poa annua than the colonial bents. This whole subject deserves further exploration and discussion.

Bluegrass-Fescue Future

Q. On "QUIZ THE EXPERTS," a panel at Cleveland, you used the word, "dubious" in answer to the question, "What is the future of bluegrass and fescue on irrigated fairways in the Northeast?" Would you enlarge a bit on your one-word answer? (Connecticut)

A. All too often, when a club spends \$100,000 or so for a modern irrigation system, the members feel that they aren't getting their money's worth unless they can see the water flying through the air. Many supts. tell me that they had good bluegrass-fescue fairways until they were forced to water far more than they knew they should. The first signs of overwatering are clover and poa. Supts. also tell me that once poa comes in, they *must* manage to hold the poa. When this program is started it is the beginning of the end — with the end result solid poa.

If members and green committees would let supts. do their jobs without agronomic direction, I'm sure that we would use less water and could hold bluegrass-fescue fairways more satisfactorily.

Irrigation, when needed, is wonderful. Irrigation, when not needed, is an expensive and damaging plaything.

Smooth Green Surfaces

Q. We would like to plant our greens in such a way that we can get started with smooth surfaces that are not full of wheel tracks and footprints that are so expensive to topdress out. What do you suggest? (Virginia)

A. The first step is to firm the greens to avoid uneven settling. This is done by harrowing, dragging, heavy watering — anything to achieve settling. Oldtimers used to "tread" the soil firm, using many men who shuffled sideways,

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moving only a shoe's width at each shuffle.

If the green is to be seeded, I strongly recommend hydroseeding (seed, fertilizer, limestone — all mixed in a water slurry). If the green is to be stolonized or sprigged, I urge consideration of hydromulching (stolons or sprigs mixed in water slurry with paper pulp as a mulch).

Both methods minimize footprints and wheel-tracks on the putting surface since nozzles are directed and controlled from the collars.

Your local supplier can secure information on hydroseeders and hydromulchers.

16mm Rental Films Available from USGA

Available for rental from the USGA Golf House Film Library, 40 E. 38th St., New York, N. Y. 10016 are several 16mm films. Featuring dramatizations of the rules of golf, as well as entertainment, history and travel, the films range in length from 14 minutes to 39 minutes. Most of the films are in full color and all have sound tracks. Two of the newest films are: "The Open: The Comeback of Ken Venturi" (32 min.) and "Famous Golf Courses: Pinehurst No. 2" (17 min.).

262 at PGA School

A total of 262 assistant pros was graduated from the PGA's ninth business school held in Clearwater, Fla. in January. Don E. Fischesser, Evansville (Ind.) CC, and Emil Beck, Black River CC, Port Huron, Mich., were the school coordinators. The five-day school term was climaxed by a banquet at which graduation certificates were presented. More than 20 subjects were taught at the school.