

# Look Up Occasionally; See What's Going On

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Many supts. work so hard that they don't take time to attend monthly meetings of their groups or read the ads and promotion literature put out by suppliers. If they were to do both they would make their jobs a bit easier.

In the last three years I have started using a half-dozen products that are supposed to inhibit growth when desired, or promote it where wanted. All have given medium to good results, but most important have freed several maintenance department employees for jobs that are more important than such things as weed cutting. In addition, we have purchased a utility vehicle that is used almost exclusively in the fairway spraying operation. This has made the difference between finishing the work with comparative ease and never getting it finished on time. A new edger that is used for keeping the traps groomed produces about the same result. I probably wouldn't have bought either of these pieces of equipment or the supplies if I hadn't read literature describing what they can do.

As for monthly meetings of GCSA chapters, a fellow isn't smart to pass them up. He usually brings home an idea or two that he can use. Just this spring I found out that some supts. preserve their hoses by looping half-hitches around the ends and letting the loop drag rather than one end or the other. At another meeting I learned that a brush made of street brooms and attached to the front end of the Park Special we use for the operation, does a fine job of working in top-dressing.

I suggest, too, that supts. keep an eye on the turf research work that is going on in their sections and for that matter, in others. Many different types of Bermuda are under observation at our Missouri Valley GCSA plots. One of these may prove to be sturdier and more disease tolerant than U3, which doesn't hold up as well as we'd like. If that happens, our jobs will be just a little easier for it.

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## More for the Maintenance Idea Hopper

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*Keeping an eye on turf research work . . . Getting help from kids on cleanup jobs . . . Cutting down on employees' walking time . . . Improving drainage . . . All add up to better ways of getting things done out on the course*

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*Some other ideas that supts. have used in improving operations at their clubs were described in August GOLFDOM (page 23).*