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GRAU'S ANSWERS

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sylvania 16801, E. R. Steiniger, Pine Valley Golf Club, Chairman.

Q.—At our club, we've decided ("if you can't lick 'em—jine 'em") to give up the fight against *Poa annua* on our fairways and do all we can to hold it year 'round. We know that we stand a chance of having it go out in a bad summer but, would you give us a summary of the things that will work in our favor?

(Ohio)

A.—Good luck! Nothing will work 100 per cent, but these factors are considered important in keeping *Poa*: Maintain low N during spring seed set so that abundant seed is produced. High N can cause grasses to fail to set seed. Feed steadily at a low to medium level during the season. Organics favor *Poa* as compared with solubles which produce soft lush growth which falls prey to disease. Keep phosphorus and lime levels *high*. Avoid the use of arsenicals. Avoid moisture stress and wilt. Be ready to spray for disease when conditions favor disease outbreaks. Keep mowers very sharp to avoid bruising and tearing. *Poa* is very hard to cut when seed is being produced. Frankly, it is difficult to tell you how to *keep* *Poa* when my inner feelings want to tell you how to replace it with permanent grasses.

Q.—In the past you have written about using hydrated lime on greens during the summer. Would you let us have the formula once more?

(Nebraska)

A.—When temperature and humidity both are high and bentgrass seems to languish and melt in spite of your best efforts with fungicides, spray the greens in the evening after play has finished. Use enough water to carry the hydrated lime in suspension, very much as though you were spraying regularly. For 1,000 sq. ft., use 1/2 to one pound of hydrated lime. Rinse it in the *next* morning before mowing.

The addition of two pounds of powdered ureaform (38-0-0) will give the

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GRAU'S ANSWERS

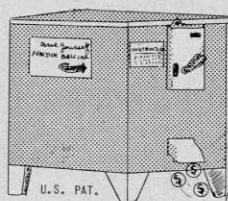
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grass a gentle "lift." DO NOT use any other form of N. (Soluble forms of N in contact with hydrated lime will release ammonia which will burn the grass.)

This is a supplement to your regular disease spray program—not a substitute. The rapid change in pH (up to 9.0 or 9.5) checks growth of harmful algae and other organisms.

Q.—I would like some information on Washington bent and, where I can send for it, as I've called turf maintenance and seed stores and no one seems to know about it. (New York)

A.—The ads have been checked in several magazines and here are the only two sources located: Hiram F. Godwin & Son, Inc., 55150 Ten Mile, South Lyon, Michigan 48178; and Warren's Turf Nursery, 8400 West 111th Street, Palos Park, Illinois. No nursery in Canada could be found that advertises Washington bent.



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