

FROM THE FIRST TEE TO THE 19TH HOLE... A ROYER SHREDDER MAKES A BETTER COURSE

Royer Soil Shredders are currently being used at most of the bestknown golf courses in the country. And for good reason. These shredders provide the most efficient means available for preparing top-quality soil mixes. The kind of mixes that produce greener greens, smoother fairways, tighter tees and overall, just a better-looking better-playing golf course.

Consider our Superintendent Model the Royer that's intended especially for golf courses. It's big enough to handle expansion and reconstruction jobs (produces at the rate of 15 cubic yards per hour), yet small and mobile enough to use when top dressing greens and tees. (It thoroughly mixes, cleans and aerates any formula to a top dressing that spreads easily, doesn't stratify, and guarantees ready percolation of water and fertilizer.) ☐ Between these jobs you can use the Superintendent for many other chores involving soil mixing. Like building a turf grass nursery, preparing a compost pile, emergency turf repairs and even landscaping at the 19th hole. Our new booklet, "Golf Course Superintendent's Guide to the use of Royer Equipment" outlines these uses and several others. It also includes some tips on using the Rover Powerscreen. There's no obligation; a copy is yours for the asking.

ROYER

ROYER FOUNDRY & MACHINE CO. • 171 PRINGLE ST. • KINGSTON, PA. 18704

GRAU

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istics of Merion, with its ability to tolerate close mowing and elite appearance, gave the sod growers a tremendous sales pitch, of which they quickly took advantage. Today we talk in terms of blends but rarely is there a blend without Merion. It imparts a quality found in no other bluegrass.

Thus, the award presented to Dr. Duich is an expression of gratitude for the important part he has played in building a firm foundation not only for Merion Kentucky bluegrass, but also for the entire bluegrass industry.

Q.—For a number of years we have heard about systemics in relation to Dutch Elm disease, to grass diseases and to insecticides. The popular version was "when the bug bites the plant, the plant bites back." Has there been progress with systemics?

(Ohio)

A.—Yes, there have been definite breakthroughs in systemic control of diseases and insects. One has to do with stripe smut on grasses. Another controls dollarspot and brownpatch. I am sorry I cannot catalog the various developments—some are still being developed to the point where they can have an approval label. Watch for releases from experiment stations and from firms which manufacture and sell the products. They are well worth waiting for.

Q.—We have an 18-hole golf course near Cadiz in southern Spain. There is very little water during summer; no rain falls from early spring through the fall. We must either irrigate (when water is available) or develop turf that will survive throughout the summer with

little water. Soil tests show that we lack nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. A program is under way to correct these deficiencies.

What is the potential of Merion, Fylking and common bluegrass? We now have a variety of grasses including winter rye. Our greatest desire is to develop a good bed of turf that will take our dry summers with minimum water. What can you suggest?

(Spain)

A.—The situation that you describe is familiar. Once, long ago, we had to produce playable turf without irrigation. At that time we did not have improved grasses, fertilizers that adjust to conditions and machines to help rainfall soak into the turf. Today, with better grasses, better fertilizers, improved tools and sophisticated chemicals, we should be able to do a much better job of giving the golfer a

decent turf with little or no irrigation.

Considering everything, you will do well to consider establishing turf with a blend of the best bluegrasses available. Plan the time of seeding when natural rainfall provides the best opportunity for establishment. Incorporate adequate nutrients, including slow release nitrogen, into the seed bed in sufficient quantity to carry the turf over the dry season into the next rainy period.

Merion and Fylking Kentucky bluegrasses should be the basis for your blend. Use Pennstar bluegrass also if it becomes available when you get ready to plant. Prato is one that deserves to be included—also South Dakota Common (Certified). For a perennial ryegrass companion for quick starting you should consider Pelo or Manhattan.

At this point and at this dis-

tance I hesitate to outline a complete program. Additional information on soils, soil tests, climate, weeds and other vegetation would be helpful.

Q.—Have the new turf-type ryegrasses lived up to their promises? Can we look forward to newer and better ones?

(Maryland)

A.—In my estimation the new ryegrasses have, in many cases, exceeded expectations. Growers have not been able to produce enough to meet the amazing demand. In a few cases they have been disappointing but due principally to misuse or mismanagement. Look for the announcement shortly of the release of a new synthetic turf ryegrass from a northeastern university. I've seen the plots and the quality is there. This

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