

NOW Warren brings you Warren's A-20 Bluegrass

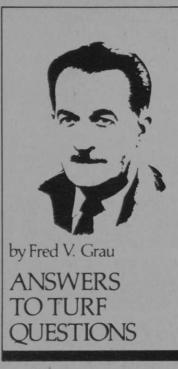
The ideal grass for tees, approaches and collars. Takes short cut. Grows upright, gives better support to ball. Resistant to leaf spot, mildew, rust and stripe smut. Develops less thatch. Greens up earlier, stays green later.

Golf courses from coast to coast for years have planted Warren's Creeping Bent stolons for the finest greens in America. Clean, pure strain Warren's stolons provide perfect, even texture and color. Greens planted with seed do not hold their uniformity of color and texture as well as greens planted with stolons.

And Warren research has now made available the new grass, A-20, with the same high quality, for tees and aprons of greens. A-20 has been tested and rated excellent or superior by leading universities.

Write for specific information about A-20 Bluegrass and Warren's stolons.





National unity: a necessary goal

During the last 12 months I have participated in several national and international turfgrass affairs from coast to coast and border to border. In every encounter I have seen the urgent need and the search for leadership.

Turfgrass interests in America lack unity. Golf courses look for guidance to: 1) the Club Managers Assn. of America, 2) the Golf Course Superintendents Assn. of America, 3) the United States Golf Assn. Green Section, 4) golf course architects, 5) extension agronomists, 6) consultants and 7) university specialists. Athletic field interests, having partially lost faith in living turf, have turned more and more to artificial material. Lawn owners fall victim to commercial claims. I have an imperfect idea where all the other turfgrass people go to get information about their particular problems. Some universities and some county extension services do a good job in providing on-the-spot service when Larry Landowner has blackspot on his roses, but when it comes to recommendations for controlling erosion and for eliminating ugly slopes, we have reached a new high in divergent opinions; few are based on fact or experience.

Why can't we combine our knowledge of soils, fertilizers,

grasses, chemicals and techniques to achieve the best in living turf?

There seems to be a reticence to yield a small portion of authority —a fear that some factor might weaken the prestige of the ruling regime. It is only natural for each group to assert the maximum degree of authority and influence in order to perpetuate its power.

By what method, in which point in time and by whose authority can all turfgrass interests unite to provide the most useful information for the thirsty-for-knowledge turfgrass public, professional and amateur?

At this point turfgrass interests in each state could and should rally around a state organization (a council, an association). When the state groups achieve harmony among *all* turfgrass interests, we will be ready to unify nationally. When this is accomplished we can begin to approach state legislatures and to be represented in Congress to gain the tax funds to jointly pay the salaries of more extension agronomists.

A major factor in achieving our goal is the "State Turfgrass Survey." Nothing else has equal power to sway legislators and university administrators. It is difficult to argue with authentic figures.

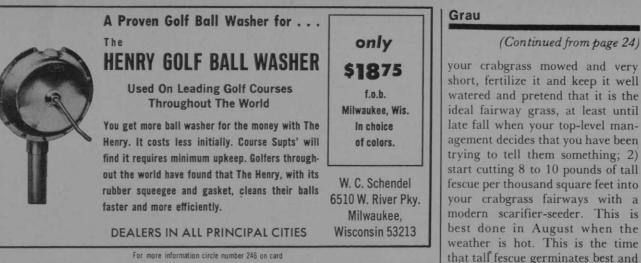
When we consider "all" turfgrass interests, let us not neglect the very great part played by those who sell the products needed in the industry. Every facet of the industry must have a voice.

Are we ready to proceed? Do we have the leadership to press every advantage? Are the several groups willing to yield points in order to achieve national unity?

Grass on a pinch-penny budget

Q—Our course is seven years old. Fairways were seeded to bluegrass, then common bermuda seed was introduced. Crabgrass has been increasing steadily. Our budget will not permit chemical control of crabgrass. Water is limited. The only grass that seems to survive is tall fescue. It is green most of the time. Do you think we should consider seeding tall fescue into our fairways? Our soil is sandy.

(Maryland) A—You have two choices: 1) Keep (Continued on page 26)





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your crabgrass mowed and very short, fertilize it and keep it well watered and pretend that it is the ideal fairway grass, at least until late fall when your top-level management decides that you have been trying to tell them something; 2) start cutting 8 to 10 pounds of tall fescue per thousand square feet into your crabgrass fairways with a modern scarifier-seeder. This is best done in August when the weather is hot. This is the time that tall fescue germinates best and becomes established before winter. Later seedings may only partially survive the winter.

Under your conditions, the second choice has the chance to provide the fairway turf desired by your members even under a "pinch-penny" budget. Provide six pounds of N a year (per 1,000 square feet), irrigate seldom, keep mowers sharp. I've seen crabgrass choke a good turf of tall fescue.

In search of arbitration

Q—In spite of extensive research. many conferences, after-hours discussions and shall we say arguments, we still seem to have wide differences about soil texture, sand sizes, drainage and other features. We can't seem to agree on how best to grow perfect turf. Is there a board of arbitration? Is there a final judgment? How can these differences be resolved? (Oklahoma) A—Let me assure you, you have not reached that point of final judgment. To many, unfortunately, "sand" is still "sand," even though one sample contains 10 per cent clay; the other 0.5 per cent clay, even though both screen out the same.

The best solution that I can see for the future is: 1) more research. 2) regional conferences of scientists to iron out the discrepancies and 3) more study and awareness of current data by architects, builders and superintendents. There seems to be a lack of understanding of the data that has been presented by scientific research. In some cases the deficiency has been interpretation of data. Let's face it, we still have a long way to go.

For more information circle number 203 on card

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