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Grau

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ture at dozens of institutions in the United States and Canada. In 1970 he and Mrs. Burton visited Australia where they took scores of fascinating pictures, which were shown to the 200 banquet guests at the Tifton conference in April.

Suffice to say that the world of warm-season turf has advanced immeasurably because of Tifton and Dr. Burton.

Q—We have converted to the triplex system of putting green mowers and we are very pleased. One thing worries us, though, and that is the possibility of losing turf as the result of a blown-out hydraulic line or hose. If this should happen, what might be done to save the turf? (North Carolina)

A—Two excellent remedies were discussed at the Tifton conference: 1) Douse the affected area with a wetting agent and use water copiously to flush the offending oil off the green. 2) Spread topdressing thickly on the oil slick and leave it on for a few hours, then remove it. The oil will be absorbed.

Calcined clay also may be used because it is a good "oil soaker-upper" on garage floors. The detergent flush may be used after most of the spill has been removed by the dry method.

Q—Our company plans to build a golf facility in the Carribean where water is at a premium. In considering the several grasses available for fairways, we have thought that common bermudagrass seed might be suitable. Could we develop quality fairway turf from seed? (Pennsylvania)

A—In the frost-free climate of the Carribean you may expect to develop excellent quality fairway turf from seed. It will require occasional irrigation and generous fertilization during the first two years, especially. Economy of seed may or may not be a factor but the cost of common bermuda turf from seed will be significantly less than vegetatively planting a monoculture of a specific strain or variety. If cost is not a consideration, and if highest quality and uniformity are paramount, then consider vegetating the fairways to a selected variety (Tifway, Ormond or even Tifgreen).

Q—For years we have been overseeding our bermuda putting greens with
(Continued on page 26)

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annual ryegrass and, more recently, with a mixture of grasses, including *Poa trivialis*. What would you think of using one of the new turf-type perennial ryegrasses for overseeding? (Georgia)

A—During the past few years I've not had the opportunity to observe overseedings in the South, but at the Tifton conference, we heard Palmer Maples describe with pictures his experience with Pennfine perennial ryegrass. After the meeting one top-notch superintendent said that he was ready to place his order for Pennfine right then and there for his fall, 1971, overseeding needs. Maples considered the performance from every angle, including side-by-side comparisons with annual rye and with a *Poa trivialis* complex, and Pennfine won "hands down" on every count. He used 40 pounds of seed to 1,000 square feet and admitted that 30 pounds probably would have been ample. The higher cost of Pennfine is no deterrent, according to Maples.

Q—We have many fine young hardwood trees on our golf course which continually are in danger of contracting "mower canker." What are some suggestions? We cannot seem to convince our hot rod drivers to stay away from the trees. (Tennessee)

A—There are several ways to treat the area immediately surrounding the tree trunks. 1) Remove soil to a depth of three to four inches in a circle three-feet in diameter. Line the bottom with plastic and refill with broken stones. 2) Kill all vegetation in a three-foot circle using a weed-killer that will not affect the tree. 3) Plant a ground cover in a three-foot circle to protect the tree trunk. Acceptable ground covers include pachysandra, crownvetch and myrtle. This keeps mowers away and holds moisture. The legume provides nitrogen. □

Note

If you have any questions you would like to ask Dr. Grau, please send your inquiries to Dr. Fred Grau, c/o GOLFDOM Magazine, 235 East 45th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017.



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