

**GRAU** from page 14

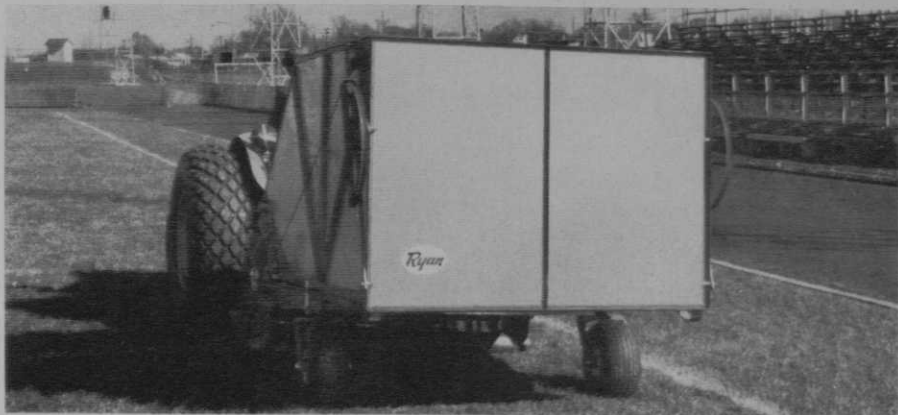
ly, then we scattered a popular wash-dry detergent, wetted it and washed the suds off with a fire hose. Hopefully, we got rid of the oil sludge. In reseeding (a necessity) we were advised to add Pennfine or Manhattan perennial ryegrass (two to three bags per 1,000 square feet) to the 1½ pounds of Penn-cross. Now that we've done this, we are wondering if we did the right thing. (Virginia)

A—I vote with your advisor on the addition of the perennial ryegrass. Manhattan ryegrass is on a par with Pennfine, but doesn't have as dark green a color. There is no way that the addition of one or the other of these elite fine-bladed ryegrasses could be deleterious. They will provide a playing surface sooner, they will be virtually indistinguishable from the bent and will gradually fade away as the Penn-cross matures.

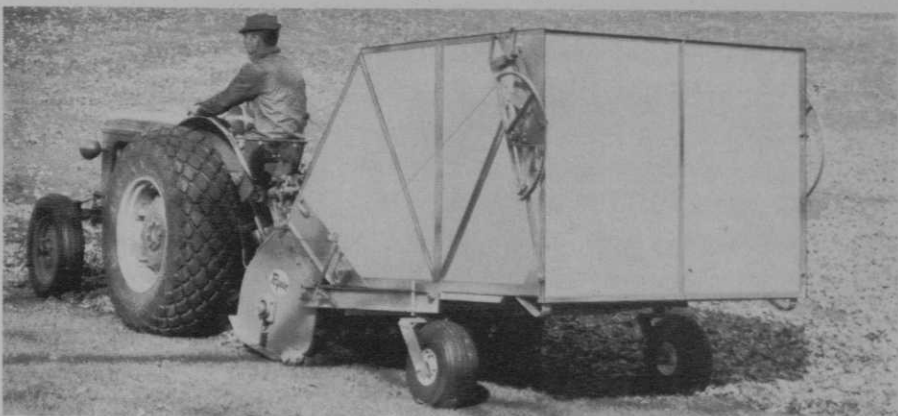
Q—When golf courses become crowded with players from sunup to sundown, there was quite a bit of talk about night maintenance to avoid interference. Lately we haven't heard much along this line. Didn't it work out or had another angle been developed? (Virginia)

A—I can't give you all the answers, but for starters it seems that the dew created problems which caused the cut grass to collect in bunches. There was additional maintenance the next day breaking up the grass mass. Mow lines are harder to see at night even with good lights. The superintendent and his wife weren't too pleased with the 24-hour duty watch instead of the usual 16 hours.

Better planning and more equipment for daytime maintenance enables the crew to keep ahead of the golfers, thereby avoiding interference. In some cases an entire nine holes may be closed to permit extensive work, such as aeration, vertical mowing, fertilizing and topdressing. Mowing, a daily necessity, is less arduous when three-gang power mowers are used on greens and several, five- seven- and nine-gang fairways mowers are put to work. We are well aware that dry grass can be mowed faster and better than dew-soaked turf. □



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