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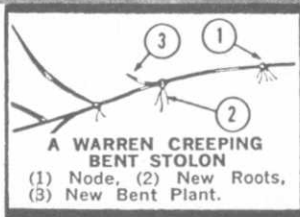


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ufacturers had a quicker buying market there would be a reduction in man-hours of work. Labor economy has been attained to some extent in golf but not to the point of other industries where manufacturers are not held back by their customers' reluctance to junk obsolescent equipment.

Border remarked that if Green committeemen were to serve long enough to learn the job, and if supts. trained assistants who could take over much of the routine, course maintenance would improve because full advantage would be taken of the assets in personnel.

Right Men, Right Plan

Charles Laws, co-chairman, green section, Southern Calif. GA, and green chairman, San Gabriel (Calif.) CC, said that he thought green chairman is a bad name for the job, although in some respects it is appropriate. He told of the difficulty of getting qualified chairmen who are willing to serve. He counseled against making a course so tough that members have to fight it.

Laws urged that the supt. and pro attend directors' meetings so they are kept aware of the status of the club as well as

being available for information and counsel. He presented a handbook for green committeemen's use that supts. and club officials, who have examined it, declare to be the most practical they have seen.

Laws noted that about 35 per cent of a first class club's revenue should be allotted for course maintenance, but added that this observation is subject to revision in many cases.

GWAA Meeting

The eighteenth annual meeting and election of the Golf Writers Association of America will be held in the Tournament building of The August National GC on April 3, the day before the first round of the 27th Masters Championship.

Women's Collegiate

The nineteenth Women's Collegiate tournament will be played June 17-21 at Penn State U. Carol Sorenson of Arizona State is the defending champion.

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Buyers' Service • P. 191

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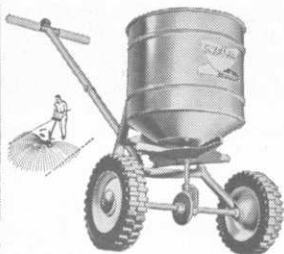
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Grau's Answer to Turf Questions

By **FRED V. GRAU**
Does It Wear Out

Q. Does grass ever have to be replaced? Does it get old like people? (Illinois)

A. Turfgrasses that are constantly closely mowed renew themselves. Yes, older blades do die and are added to the residue in and on the soil, but fresh new shoots continually replace the old ones. In effect, this maintains *young* turf. About 85 per cent of the root systems of grass are completely renewed each year.

The residue that accumulates as a result of dead and dying plant parts sometimes is called "thatch" or "mat." Accumulation is lessened when conditions favor active microbiological decomposition (proper pH range, adequate nitrogen and balanced mineral nutrition).

It is well known that fresh young growth is infinitely more disease resistant than older growth. Removal of old growth by "thatching" (mechanical means) permits improved development of disease resistant young growth.

Apron Problems

Q. Why is it so difficult to maintain good aprons in front of the greens? (Illinois)

A. One of the reasons is that this area becomes more compacted than any other because of the concentration of traffic while the green was being built and since it has been in play. Such traffic creates compaction conditions under which few grasses can thrive.

Another reason is that many greens are built so that all of the drainage water comes off the greens directly on to the approach. This creates a condition under which it is almost impossible to grow anything but poa annua and knotweed. On some courses, the problem has been solved by more frequent aerating and by re-designing the green to take the drainage water off in other directions so that only a minimum comes off on the apron. Planting a type of grass that is suited to the condition also is helpful.

Hard Way Scarifying

Q. One of our members suggested, at a monthly round table discussion, that it might be a good idea in the fall to cut all the sod on the tees with a power sod cutter, but not remove the sod. Would this tend to make better turf on the tees because of the scarifying of the earth underneath? (Minnesota)

A. In my estimation, this would be a very foolish procedure. First, in cutting the sod, all of the

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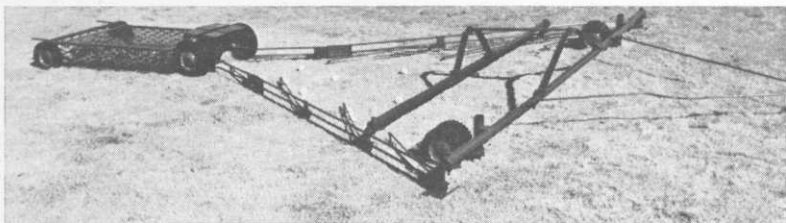
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Outriggers have 'side-kickers' to sweep balls out of low spots and tall grass. Basket opening has rubber lined paddle wheel to ease balls into basket.

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deep roots would be severed and the sod would be dependent upon the more shallow roots until roots began to form below the cut. If dry weather intervened, it would be possible to lose a great deal of the sod. This might be particularly harmful if there was a cold, dry spring with high winds causing a great deal of desiccation. Without deep roots, much sod could be lost.

Wants to Kill It

Q. I am sending a sample of grass that we'd like to get rid of. Would you please tell me what type it is and what is the best way to kill it (Arkansas)

A. the grass which you sent is *Eleusine indica*, better known as goosegrass, crowfoot or silver crab.

The best way to kill it is to grow dense, solid turf so that it can't get started. Chemicals are only partially successful and they may damage the turfgrasses more than the weed. Successive light applications of DSMA can be very helpful along with an adapted grass and a sound feeding program. Goosegrass on the greens frequently is brought in with unclean topdressing. Soil sterilization will help here. Soil compaction may be partially responsible.

This weed ceases to be problem when Bermuda and zoysia turf can be grown and where these grasses are adequately fertilized. A good sharp knife is still a good tool to remove goosegrass. Vertical mowers can be very useful in

removing seedheads of goosegrass without seriously disturbing the turfgrasses.

How About Japonica?

Q. What is your opinion of *Zoysia japonica*, Japanese lawngrass, for course roughs? (Va.)

A. Within its range of adaptation, Japanese lawngrass (common zoysia) makes very nearly the "ideal" rough. It can be established from seed which is available on the market. It has low fertility requirements, is remarkably drought tolerant, and effectively chokes nearly all weeds without the need for chemicals. Height of cut can be varied without injury to the grass to meet requirements of championship play or to suit the weekend player. It can be established as part of the seed mixture during construction or it can be introduced later by appropriate means.

Merion Is Main Grass

Q. Under what conditions would you specify Merion bluegrass as the principal grass for lawns or fairways? (Illinois)

A. Within its range of adaptation, Merion bluegrass should be specified as the main grass for lawns and fairways only if it is the intention to fertilize and manage for Merion. This includes optimum nitrogen fertilization (6 to 8 pounds N per 1,000 sq. ft.) with balanced minerals, minimum irrigation, realistic height and frequency of cut and removal of clippings. Merion has been disappointing when management has failed to meet its requirements.



AERIFY OR VERIFY?

Which is your choice for greens — to aerify with the new GL-3 Aerifier® or core with West Point's new Verifier®? Everyone agrees that the cultivating action of the Aerifier® spoon gives maximum root growth. Coring is preferred by many because it is felt it leaves a smoother surface. You as the superintendent know the best answer for your course. As a point of discussion, however, why not

AERIFY AND VERIFY?

It seems to us that the play on today's greens requires both. Early spring aerifying, with its cultivating action, followed by a coring maintenance program — this could be the final answer — for you, your greens and the golfer.

What do you think?

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Says More Clubs Should Copy Dinelli's Winter Program

By ORVILLE CLAPPER
Turf Supply & Equipment Dealer,
West Newton, Mass.

The article on Joe Dinelli's winter repair operation at North Shore club in Chicago (GOLFDOM, Jan., page 30) emphasizes once again that every club with 200 members or more should have a shop that handles its own machinery and equipment renovations. Why pay dealers and others \$5.50 an hour for work that can be done on a club's premises for about \$2.50 an hour? Besides, the summer breakdowns would be less frequent and costly if a program like that at North Shore is followed.

Much needs to be done to make club officials, especially green committeemen, and supts., aware of Dinelli's idea. Many regard the winter months as the time to ease off and head for warmer country. You can't blame supts for doing this when they have to fight with officials to get set up to handle winter work at their

clubs. Why not toss the work into the dealers' shops, they ask?

We and other dealers just cannot handle that winter work load as we would like to. Good men for this work are hard to find. You simply can't afford to hire them for concentrated work in the winter months and then carry them all summer doing practically nothing.

Dealer Loses Money

I think that every dealer who keeps accurate figures on his service shop operation finds that he loses money. I would prefer to have a small crew to handle warranty and emergency work and repair jobs for small clubs instead of a large crew and the blown up cost of operation that has to be passed along to keep us solvent.

We have trained a good many men from club maintenance staffs in our shop in the wintertime. Such training takes from three to five weeks if a man has good basic qualification; if not, we won't try to train him. We pay regular wages but when you add training and supervisory expense and overhead and some work that has to be done over, it is not profitable for a dealer.

Crabgrass or weeds spoiling your turf?

2 new NUTRO products help end turfgrass headaches!

CRABGRASS KILLER

and LAWN FOOD

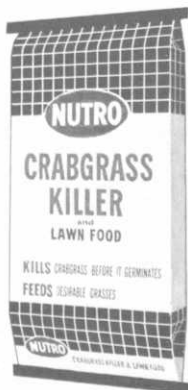


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Did crabgrass make your turf ugly last summer? Millions of crabgrass seeds were deposited. You need **NUTRO CRABGRASS KILLER** and **LAWN FOOD** now.

NUTRO CRABGRASS KILLER contains Dacthal for near-perfect pre-emergence crabgrass control . . . kills it before it sprouts. A special high-nitrogen formula makes your turf green-up fast.

NUTRO CRABGRASS KILLER and **LAWN FOOD** does two jobs. Controls crabgrass and gives turf complete feeding.

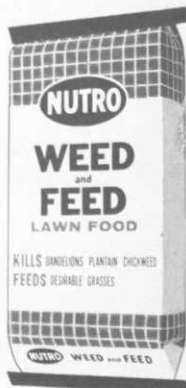


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Contains two powerful weed killers. Controls dandelions, ragweed, plantain, buckhorn, nettle

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Turfs green-up in a hurry, too. **NUTRO WEED and FEED Lawn Food**, with an extra high-nitrogen formula, gives complete feeding while it kills weeds.



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Nelson, GCSA President, Is 20-Year Turf Veteran

Roy W. Nelson, the GCSA's new president, is a veteran of nearly 20 years in the turf field. He started his career as a greenmaster immediately following the end of World War II by going to work at Minikahda in Minneapolis as an assistant supt. Three years later he was promoted to head supt. He stayed at the Minneapolis club for 10 years following this promotion and, in 1958, accepted the position of supt. at Ravisloe CC in Homewood, Ill.

Nelson attended the University of Minnesota for two years, majoring in engineering. He is married and has three sons. During World War II he served with the infantry in the Pacific for three years and was discharged as a first lieutenant.

From 1960 through 1962, Nelson was a GCSA national director and served as vice president in the latter year. During this time he was chairman of the supts' editorial, advisory and education committees. While employed at Minikahda, Roy was a director of the Minnesota GCSA for nine years and sec.-treas. of that organization for six of those years. He also

played an important role in organizing and expanding the annual Minnesota GCSA turf conferences.

David Moot of Toronto, Canada is vp of the GCSA and Ted Roberts of Wilmington, Dela. is sec.-treas. Directors are James Brandt, Danville, Ill., George Lanphear, Palm Springs, Calif., Bob Shields, Rockville, Md., Lawrence Mattei, Gloversville, N. Y., and Riley Heckert, Hummelstown, Pa. Sherwood Moore, Mamaroneck, N.Y., the GCSA president in 1962, automatically becomes a member of the board.

Airline Bag Rate

American Airlines offers a fee of \$4 to carry a golf bag up to 2,400 miles. One bag is permitted each passenger and may contain 14 clubs, a dozen balls and one pair of shoes.

Wisconsin Turf Clinic

The 1963 Wisconsin Turf conference will be held Mar. 25-26 in Madison. There will be sessions for supts. and course operators as well as for those in the parks and recreation fields. The conference will be held in the Wisconsin Center, located on the University campus.