



SOME MORE QUESTIONS I'D LIKE ANSWERS TO

By Monroe S. Miller

Although I've pretty much been a hermit since the last issue of *THE GRASS ROOTS* hit the newsstand, a number of people have either called or written with answers to some of the questions I asked in that issue. I hope more replies come my way. It has been fun listening to the responses and, so far, everybody understands the intent. I found it interesting, for example, to learn that some golf course superintendents **do** like thornless honey locust trees! And Dave Strang was especially reassuring in his letter to me that deep tine aerification is here to stay. He also was very complimentary in his comments about all of you he has done business with here in Wisconsin.

So, as more food for thought, here are some more questions for you to deliberate.

1. When are turf equipment manufacturers going to put the engineering into triplex greensmowers that they've invested in the fiveplex fairway mowers? (The fiveplexes I've operated and purchased are marvels and shame the greensmowers)

2. When is some sharp engineer going to design a grass catcher for a greensmowers—triplex and/or walker—that doesn't dribble grass clippings on the putting surface?

3. Would you be in favor of requiring a driver test for all golfers who want to use a golf car to play golf? How about adding a written test to that?

4. With all of the rain we have received in Wisconsin this season, have you taken any grief from players when you have been forced to limit, restrict or forbid the use of golf cars?

5. OK. Now that we have had a monsoon season for comparison, would you prefer it as a lesser evil to a drought year, or vice versa?

6. How's your fungicide budget holding up for 1993?

7. Now that the mercurous/mercuric chloride salts and phenyl mercuric acetate will no longer be manufactured (you were aware of that news, right?), what are you going to apply for snow mold protection in place of them?

8. How is your operating budget looking under the press of weather and reduced rounds of golf?

9. Have you had enough rain yet?

10. When was the first time this year that you operated your irrigation system at night? (For us, it was the night of July 22nd)

11. Are there any golf courses in Wisconsin who have yet to resolve the underground fuel storage problem?

12. Are there still quite a number of Wisconsin golf courses that are harvesting fairway clippings, or has the practice declined?

13. How did your USGA Green Section visit go this summer? (You did schedule one, didn't you?)

14. Will the tough weather this summer and last spring impact on your 1994 budget?

15. What effect has the miserable weather had on the turf distributors who serve our industry?

16. Is there such a thing as a "walker ring"?

17. Could it be that the WSGA State Amateur is amateur golf competition at its finest?

18. Do you think that there may be one player who uses a golf car to play who might concede that there actually exists, if even only rarely, conditions

that dictate a "no cart" decision on the golf course?

19. Have you demonstrated one of the new mid-size rotary mowers on your golf course yet? (Talk about smooth operation!)

20. Have you seen Dr. Rossi's new "do"?

21. Speaking of the USGA Green Section, during what season—spring, summer or autumn—do you prefer your agronomist's visit?

22. Did the severe winterkill of 1992/1993 alter your management plans for going into the winter of 1993/1994?

23. What is the normal term of service for the green committee chair at your golf facility?

24. Are women players represented on your green committee?

25. Do you own any equipment in partnership with another golf facility? If so, does it work well? What pieces are particularly given to co-ownership?

26. Michigan has had a waste pesticide collection program for some time. Minnesota has a similar program now. Once again I ask, why is it impossible for Wisconsin to do the same?

27. Wouldn't a well engineered quick height of cut adjustment be nice on a walking greensmower?

28. Is this by coincidence or by design—Dr. Frank Rossi (native of New York) now lives on Knickerbocker Street in Madison?

29. What do you think—should there be a fine for a golf player who tromps through a mature, full-bloom flower bed to retrieve a golf ball? How about a suspension? ♣