



GETTING READY FOR WINTER

By Monroe S. Miller

The circumstance for asking the January/February SURVEY questions were perfect.

We'd had a spring with too much damaged golf turf as a result of a miserable winter.

Almost coincidentally, the Symposium Committee had selected a topic that was more than timely. And I was there. So it was a natural for me to ask colleagues what, if any, changes they anticipated in getting ready for the winter of 1993/1994.

The questions and results follow.

1. Did you make any of the following changes in preparation for the cold weather season?

	YES	NO
Increase height of cut?	18	18
Adjust late season N application?	12	24
Increase K fertility?	12	24
Irrigate differently going into winter?	10	26
Drainage work resulting from last year?	22	14
Are you using covers on greens?	14	22
Did you last year?	12	24
Has mercury loss affected how you will prepare for snowmold this year?	14	22

2. Have you done anything else in hope of better and increased survival of golf turf this winter?

- A. Aerified later in the fall versus right after Labor Day.
- B. Testing of snowmold materials on my own course.
- C. Better and more thorough leaf removal than in past years.
- D. Increasing the areas sprayed for snowmold protection.
- E. More overseeding with perennial species this fall.
- F. More and heavier topdressing of greens and tees.
- G. Expanded the areas aerified this time of year.
- H. More use of excelsior mats.

It is clear from the responses of the 36 WGCSA members who answered the above questions that there has been a lot of thinking put into winter preparation, hoping to gain an edge against the potential for damage in the coming months.

And, after the lectures given at the Symposium, there will be more praying this winter! 🙏

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