Variability here is seldom checked, making straight sand topdressing more and more palatable.

Research projects and experiences during the 1988 season have clarified a few points for 1989 consumption:

1) Regardless of the weather conditions in May and June, Summer Patch treatments should begin when soil temperature at a 2" depth reaches 65^F. A second application should follow in a month. The Michigan state trials showed Rubigan, Bayleton and Banner to be very effective fungicides. Dr. Vargas feels that Banner may also be effective with slightly later applications.

2) Dr. Shearman at Nebraska believes that on days when it is evident that syringing will be needed, it should begin just before noon so that the water droplets on the turf will dissipate the heat via evaporation during the period when solar radiation is at its peak. This will reduce the amount of heat reaching the turf, thus minimizing heat build-up.

3) Relative humidity levels are extremely important as the temperatures rise and when the soil is adequately moist. Evaporative cooling is minimal when atmospheric moisture is high, so general irrigation may be more harmful than beneficial. Daytime hand watering (or just syringing) the high spots when needed is a better idea. Making wet soil even wetter has no cooling effect 0 it just reduces the soil oxygen supply. Even the most sophisticated irrigation system is incapable of solving all the water problems on undulating terrain. That's when quality management shows its value.

In the future we must give more consideration to the grass plant as a whole and its interactions with the rest of the environment. The more that we reduce any factor limiting growth, the better the turf can withstand the cultural stresses which we inflict. That future is now.

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE

* Irrigation parts & supplies for a Toro Vari-Time N/O system 630, 650 & 690 heads-whole or for parts. \$7.50 - \$25.00. Satellites with clocks (30 min.) \$75.00 each. 3 clock central with syringe clock \$100.00. Other Misc. parts & supplies.

* 1982 Jacobsen F-10 w/10 blade reels.

* Perkins diesel w/ 1 250 hrs., asking \$16,000. Contact: Tom Fuller, Town & Country Club, St. Paul, MN. 612/646-7125 ex 499.

