

Mid-Atlantic Field Day Meeting

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers is sponsoring a field day meeting to be held at the Beltsville Turf Gardens on September 18, 1947 at 9:30 a.m. The Beltsville Turf Gardens are maintained cooperatively by the U. S. Golf Association Green Section and the Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture. They are located at the Bureau of Plant Industry Station, approximately 3 miles north of College Park on U.S. Highway No. 1.

The following tentative program has been arranged:

- 9:30 a.m. Assemble at Turf Garden. Welcome by President R. P. Hines.
- 9:30 a.m. Tour of Turf Garden and discussion of various observational and trial plots. Emphasis will be placed on the uses of Bermuda grass, the bentgrasses, Alta fescue, and Zoysia.
- 12:30 p.m. Luncheon at the station cafeteria.
- 1:30 p.m. Inspection of maintenance equipment and display of "Greenkeeper Gadgets."
- 2:30 p.m. Practical demonstrations, including various methods of applying fertilizer and seed and methods of renovating and reseeding lawns.

It is desirable for all those who have gadgets or tools which are useful, though not available commercially, to bring them along to the Field Day. Perhaps others may find your gadgets useful to them too. There will be a display of those "Greenkeeper Gadgets."

Report of August Meeting

Sixteen members teed off at 2 p.m. on August 12, at Five Farms Country Club, Baltimore for one of the hottest matches of the season - the temperature was over 90° and the fairways were as fast as the greens. Only a few hardy souls completed the 18 holes, so the scores were taken on the best nine, with the following results:

E. E. Stanley	43-5	-	38
P. Carson	48-10	-	38
McCarthy	47-9	-	38
M. Ferguson	53-15	-	38

The pool was divided evenly among these four.

At 6:30 we adjourned to the Baltimore Country Club, where Bob Scott had made arrangements for a fine dinner for the 28 members who gathered to eat, drink, and listen to O. J. Noer, Milwaukee, who was the speaker for the evening.

O. J. Noer gave a general talk on his observations during the present growing season. He stated that the spring weather had been cool

and wet after a dry February and March. This resulted in shallow root systems on turfed areas all over the country. Complaints about Poa annua and clover were more frequent this year. The shallow root systems resulted in excessive wilting during the mid-summer heat and drought.

Mr. Noer commented that a spraying of iron sulfate on a velvet bent green in Springfield had reduced chlorosis of the grass blades in 24 hours.

Mr. Noer described Mr. Marshall Farnham's present program of growing "Astoria" colonial bent in the fairways of the Philadelphia Country Club. Mr. Farnham is watering his bent enough to keep it alive, using sodium arsenite to get rid of crabgrass, and fertilizing during the summer with organic fertilizer. He does not fertilize in the spring in order to avoid encouragement of Poa annua.

Mr. Noer stated that T. T. Taylor of Westchester Country Club had lost all his Poa annua fairways last year. He used two tons of hydrated lime last year to reduce acidity. He is fertilizing at a rate of one ton of a 6% nitrogen organic fertilizer to the acre. Mr. Noer states that Mr. Taylor's fairways are improving as a result of this program.

In his discussion of fairways, Mr. Noer stated that the best method of use of water on fairways needs to be investigated. Acid soils below H 6.0 require lime if they are irrigated. Mr. Noer stated that the right fairway grass needs to be found - bent should be considered. Bluegrass went out on many courses this spring. The disadvantages of bent include danger of loss through drought and chinch bug attacks though the use of DDT offers a possible solution of the latter threat.

In his discussion of weed control, Mr. Noer said that 2,4-D checks plantain, buckhorn, and dandelion, with little difference in efficiency among the various 2,4-D formulations. Mr. Farnham cleaned up his roughs with dry 2,4-D applications at the rate of 2 pounds of 2,4-D to the acre. 2,4-D checks clover but sodium arsenite does a better job. Chickweed is not effectively controlled by 2,4-D, but arsenicals do a good job.

Returning to a discussion of fairways, Mr. Noer said that on the watered fairways of the Philadelphia Country Club light summer and heavy fall fertilization should keep the fairways in good condition. When questioned about the Economy sprinkler, Mr. Noer commended it and stated that it did a good uniform watering job.

In answer to another question, Mr. Noer stated that sodium arsenite used in weed control might give some protection against grubs as 2 - 3 lbs. of sodium arsenite gives as much control as do 8 lbs. of lead arsenite. DDT applied at the rate of 25 pounds to the acre grub-proofs the soil for at least three and perhaps four years and is considerably cheaper than is lead arsenate.

In answer to the question "What grows with Bermuda when it goes out in the fall?" Noer replied that Poa annua and clover come into Bermuda grass turf in the South in the fall.

In answer to another question, "Does bentgrass get fluffy on fairways?" Noer replied that it did, especially when the fairway is cut to favor bluegrass. Close mowing is necessary in order to hold down fluffiness, and use of the aerifier is necessary to get water through thatched bent especially on slopes.

When questioned about the effectiveness of Puratized 177 and 531 on disease, Mr. Noer remarked that the results on dollarspot have been good, but that on brownpatch have not been too good. Tersan appears to be much better for large brownpatch. Those who use mercurials in the spring and fall for the dollarspot and Tersan through the summer have good results. Noer said he felt that a good fertilizer program had much to do with dollarspot control. He also stated that organic fertilizers may be advantageous in this respect.

Bill Glover pointed out that he had checked brownpatch immediately with Puratized 177 at double the recommended rate.

All present felt that Mr. Noer's talk made this meeting one of the high spots of the Association activities this year.

Special mention must be made of the enthusiasm of Messrs. Stanley from Quantico; Allanson from Richmond; Thomas from Charlottesville and Lindsey from Hagerstown who travelled a long way to be with us.

During the many discussions at the meeting which followed the dinner, President Hines stressed the necessity of supporting the USGA Green Section in their work on better turf, not only for greens and fairways but also for lawns, parks and similar areas.

The next regular meeting will be held at the Burning Tree Country Club on Monday, September 8. Luncheon will be at 12 o'clock noon; the meeting at 1:00 p.m.; and the golf match will begin at 3 p.m. Please indicate your intentions to attend so luncheon arrangements can be made at the club.