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## TURF NEWS LETTER

(Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
Prepared in Cooperation with the USGA Green Section)

May 6, 1952

### THE HERSHEY MEETING

Our first attempt at a joint meeting met with resounding success. Members of the Central Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and Mid-Atlantic Associations of Golf Course Superintendents met at the famous Hershey Country Club owned and operated by the Hershey Estates. Representatives of the Pocono and New Jersey Associations also attended. While there we saw many old friends and made many new ones. Many of the new friends came from the congenial Hershey Estates group which did a magnificent job of accommodating the 100 odd superintendents and guests present. Special appreciation is voted to the Hershey Estates Reception Committee consisting of Messrs. Crown, Brewer, McLeof, Blinco, Banks and Jim Morrison (host superintendent) ... we couldn't have been made to feel more welcome in our own homes.

An excellent buffet luncheon and dinner was served with the compliments of the Hershey Estates. Jim Morrison had the golf course immaculately groomed for play. The Hershey course is considered to be one of the most beautiful lay-outs in the country. The value of planned landscaping and plantings of trees, ornamentals, and shrubbery is readily brought to the attention of the visitor. The beautiful rock gardens and hedges, strategically placed, must go a long way toward keeping the members in bright spirits despite the type of golf they play.

The Hershey lay-out undoubtedly is one which requires much hand labor judging from the number of sand traps, built-up tees, and water holes. It is indeed a tribute to Jim that he is able to maintain the course in such fine condition on a modest budget in these times. Jim also has two other nine-hole courses and another 18 hole course in his charge.

### BUSINESS MEETING

Ed Tabor, President, Central Pennsylvania Association of Golf Course Superintendents presided over this joint meeting. Joe Ryan, President of the Philadelphia Association, and Bob Shields, President of the Mid-Atlantic Association also said a few words. Bob Shields spoke of the Zoysia Fairway Planting Project just completed by the Mid-Atlantic group at Fairfax Country Club. This project consumed 275 man hours - or approximately \$100 per acre for labor for such a planting. A flat of Zoysia (Z-73) seedlings were distributed to members of the Central Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Associations

by the USGA Green Section representatives.

Some of the notables introduced were Mr. Banks, Mr. Crown, Mr. Brewer, Mr. McLeof, Mr. Blinco, and Mr. Jim Morrison all of the Hershey Estates. Dr. O. J. Noer of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; Mr. Walter Densmore of the Belle Haven Country Club; Adm. Jack Phillips, Green Chairman of the Army-Navy Country Club; Mr. Ted Weiser, president of the Pocono Association; Mr. Agar Brown, executive secretary of the GCSAA and Editor, Golf Course Reporter; Mr. Charles Hallowell, Philadelphia County Agent; and Mr. Charles Wilson and Mr. Al Radko, Extension Agronomist and Research Agronomist, respectively, of the USGA Green Section. Sherwood Moore, Chairman, Local Arrangement Committee, 1953 GCSAA meeting and Ed Casey attended the buffet luncheon as representatives of the New Jersey Association.

#### EDUCATIONAL FEATURE

Dr. O. J. Noer, Agronomist for the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin presented his usual excellent talk and kodaslides which touched upon many problems in turf management, with emphasis upon the turf problems of our fellow superintendents in the South. Some of the highlights of O. J.'s talk covered ... a portion of a fairway at Miami Country Club which members of this club consider outstanding. Dr. Grau and O. J. identified this portion of the fairway as zoysia ... The transition period in the South is still a problem of much concern to superintendents ... many use the two green system, one for winter play and one for summer play, because the transition period when the ryegrass goes out leaves an unsightly appearance and poor playing conditions for many days ... Improved bermudagrasses developed by Dr. Glenn W. Burton to shorten this transition period are now being used.

O. J. then showed slides of bentgrass in St. Louis surrounded by bermudagrass aprons with very little encroachment of bermuda into the bent ... O. J. attributes this to a rather cool previous summer ... some of the small bermuda runners were shown being lifted from the rim of the putting green area ... At Tulsa, Oklahoma methyl bromide is being used to kill bermudagrass in putting greens ... At Louisville, Kentucky bermudagrass effectively kept crabgrass out ... also the high cut bermuda areas were the first to be hit by "Jack Frost". Low cut bermuda has a longer growing season.

At Southern Hills Country Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma, O. J. showed off-color bermuda fairways which were completely white; yet the golfers did not object... the playability of the off-color turf is excellent ... however, off-season play does tend to wear bermudagrass excessively ... no healing-over when bermuda is dormant.

O. J. also showed slides of a poor stand of bermuda growing in the shade... bermuda will not do well in the shade ... Rhodes Scale (an insect) caused considerable damage to bermuda in Texas and Florida.

Other slides of fairway areas seeded to bluegrass and fescue voluntarily went to bentgrass after a fairway watering system was installed ... Another slide of fairway area of poor turf due to iron deficiency aggravated by an



application of lime ... large scale bermuda plantings of plugs at the Rose Bowl and also at UCLA stadium have been successful ... a pneumatic drill was used to make the holes into which the plugs were inserted.

We are extremely grateful to Dr. Noer for his excellent presentation; we trust that we may have the pleasure of having him address our group again at some future date.

NEXT MEETING - QUANTICO COUNTRY CLUB

On June 3rd host superintendent Ernie Stanley, Officers Golf Club, Quantico Marine Base, Quantico, Va. welcomes the Mid-Atlantic group for a return engagement. Bolstered by the Marines, Ernie can probably keep John Connolly from placing the "double whammy" on him. John found the "evil eye" to be very successful at Hershey.

Golf At:

12:00 noon

Business Meeting At:

6:00 P.M.

Educational feature:

A panel of association members will discuss Warm-season perennial grasses ... the panel is composed of Cliff Eisley, Francis Coupe, Ernie Stanley and Al Radko. Each panel member has an interesting story to relate - it should be an excellent session and one deserving 100% attendance from member of this association.

Transportation:

Contact Jack Witcher in Baltimore; George Cornell, the Holmead boys, or Wilson Disney in Washington, D. C. soon in order that car-pools may be arranged to accommodate all of us.

NEW USGA REGIONAL GREEN SECTION OFFICE

Next month the USGA Green Section opens its first regional office at Davis, California with Charlie Wilson as the regional director. Charlie has done a "bang-up" job as Extension Agronomist for the Green Section at Beltsville for the five years that he has been located in this area. He has also been one of the staunchest supporters and one of the hardest workers for the Mid-Atlantic Association. He was largely responsible for the initiation and development of the Turf News Letter and inaugurated the Constructive Suggestion Report which has proven to be of such great value to members of this association.

We hate to see you go, Charlie ... our loss is California's gain ... the best of luck and success in your new venture ... from the Mid-Atlantic gang.

IMPORTANT

How to Calibrate a Tractor Boom-Type Sprayer:

1. Fill sprayer tank with water
2. Turn spray on and drive 660 feet at a constant speed, then shut off spray.

Note: Record or mark notch and throttle gear when traveling 660 feet. Gallonage sprayed can be regulated by speed. On level areas your speed will be constant, however on steep slopes your speed will vary greatly; therefore a speedometer is recommended to maintain constant speed.

3. Refill tank with water - accurately measuring the amount needed to refill tank.
4. Multiply 66 times the amount of water sprayed (step 2 above) in gallons and divide the product by the width of the strip sprayed in feet (width of boom). This will give you the amount of spray that you will apply per acre.

Example - Following Above Steps:

1. Fill tank with 50 gallons of water
2. Throttle in 3rd gear at notch nine for 660 feet.
3. It takes 4 gallons of water to refill tank
4. Sixty-six times four equals 264. Dividing 264 by 20 (width of spray boom in feet) equals 13.2 gallons per acre.

Note: Therefore, fifty gallons of solution sprayed as directed above will cover 3.78 acres with the tractor and spray tank used in this example.

Now is the Time to:

1. Aerify greens, tees and fairways.
2. Fertilize greens.
3. Begin chemical crabgrass control program.
4. Check broadleaved weeds with 2,4-D if existing turf is strong.
5. Watch for cutworms - chlordane is excellent for control.
6. Rake greens to prevent mat build-up and remove grain.

Did you mail Charlie Schalestock your green chairman's home address?

YOUR EDUCATION COMMITTEE