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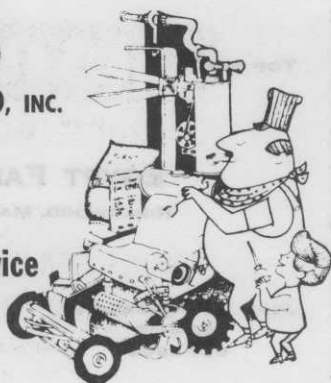
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## GOLF COURSE DIVISION

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ponds in the spring and enable high tides wash salt marsh larvae out to sea.

Overuse is the danger with ditching and draining. Too zealous a program will cut down on important wildlife habitat and probably reduce ground water supplies.

### Prevention of Water Pollution

Mosquito larvae thrive in water far too polluted for their most efficient predators, fish. As soon as water is cleaned up enough so that fish can be introduced, the fish take care of the larvae. In the Northeast the recommended species for larval control are goldfish for ornamental pools and blue gill and bass for anything larger.

### Zoning to Prevent Construction on Lowlands

This is natural control with a reverse twist; people are kept away from the mosquitos. Favorite breeding places for the Aedes are lowlands, especially river flood plains and a large proportion of their victims are the people who live in these low lying areas which should not have been built upon in the first place.

## A MOSQUITO'S LIFE

To put mosquitos in their place, they are a minor kind of fly. Nearly 2500 species have been catalogued for the world, about 150 for the United States, and 45 or so for the Northeast of which only half are common. They made their earliest appearance in recorded history about 3000 years ago when the Egyptians wrote about mosquito nets and smudgepots. A few years later philosophers in India were wondering if it was necessary to apply the doctrine of nonviolence to mosquitos.

Like other insects they grow from egg to adult through larval stages. Some mosquito eggs are laid in permanent water, such as ponds and swamps. Some are laid in temporary water, such as tree rot-holes and buckets filled with rain. And some are laid in damp debris and on the ground in low places that will at some time in the future be covered with standing water.

Wherever the eggs may be laid, the larvae can exist only in water. The eggs laid in permanent water have no problem. They develop methodically through the larval stages and emerge as biting adults one to several weeks later. But eggs laid in dry habitats don't become larvae until their site has been flooded. Then they race through the larval stages in order to become adults before the temporary water disappears. It has

recently been found that these eggs can remain viable for at least three years and probably many more. So naturally we suffer from a bumper crop of the pest in the first year of normal rainfall after a long drought.

Male mosquitoes are vegetarians who live on nectar and other plant juices. It is only the female that bites animals, and her bite is actually a sucking operation. With her "drill" she penetrates the skin, injects a fluid which prevents the blood from clotting, and then sucks blood. It takes her about one minute to drink her fill. After the blood meal she retires, like a gorged lion, to sleep it off. She then lays her eggs.

While some female mosquitoes can lay eggs while living on plant juices, most need blood before they can lay their first batch. In order to keep on producing all require a series of blood meals, rich in protein.

Their "hum" is the vibrating of their wings. The average life span is only a month or so, but several species can live through the winter as adults and more lead active spring and autumn lives while passing the summer in a state of torpor. Many can produce nine or ten generations a year.

## FROM THE EDITOR

This year has been a real experience with greens chairmen. The second new chairman this season has just taken office and his headaches have just begun. But as far as his new greens committee is concerned, he has yet to select anyone to serve. So a thought, rare as they may be, did come to mind. Put yourself in the new green chairman's place — you have all the complaints of both the men and women to listen to, you can bet you would give a heck of a lot of thought to who you picked to be on your committee.

Although personal experiences do play a part in the editor's thinking, unfortunate as it may be, the wife in a family does hold somewhat of a controlling interest on a lot of items within a happy family. (As I recall) And the more unfortunate part of this is that if the family belongs to a country club, the course and its condition often times fall into this category. So eliminate a lot of friction between husbands and wives and lady golfers and greens chairmen, consider only please, a lady greens committee member. This could be beneficial in a few respects, to wit:

In the daily or weekly work plan, the committeewoman could relay the information concerning work to be done as it might affect the regular weekly play or the special events such as field days, invitationals, etc.

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