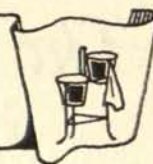




# The Clearing House



Address all questions relating to general golf course maintenance to this department. Every question answered free of charge by a committee of experts.

*What is the best substitute for barnyard manure to use in building a compost bed? What is the best green crop to plant and plow under on a half acre of land I can use to start a continuous supply of top soil? This land is quite sandy.*

Milwaukee, Wis.

If you are unable to obtain barnyard or stockyard manure, poultry or sheep manure will serve as fair substitutes, together with grass clippings. Leaf mold taken from the woods and thoroughly turned over in a sunny place for six months or so, then added to the compost bed is a valuable source of humus. Never use the leaf mold just as it is gathered. It must be aerated in an open place for several months before it is safe to use on greens. Soy beans, cow peas, clover or buckwheat make good green crops, and your idea of thus making a continuous supply of compost is good.

*There is one sand trap on my course which is so situated that there is no down grade on any side. This trap is not properly drained, and I would like some good advice as to how to go about it to keep it free from water.*

St. Louis, Mo.

The most economical and efficient way for you to drain this trap is to dig a French well, four to five feet square and four to five feet deep. Fill with rocks, then clinkers to within six inches of the top, invert a layer of sod over the clinkers, then six inches of sand. This should take care of the water. If not, then it may be possible to fill up the trap with soil and replace with a mound, if there must be a hazard at this point.

*We have several large maple trees on our course which are dying out at the top. In the fall, we have noticed that the leaves on these trees now change to a different color than a few years ago. They used to change to yellow and red, now they turn a deep purplish red. What is the trouble?*

Montpelier, Vermont.

Refer to the May issue of the Greenkeeper, in which C. M. Scherer in "Month by Month with the Trees" gives some very valuable information on this subject. Your trees are evidently under-nourished. For each tree use 200 pounds of blood and bone, incorporating it into the soil with a digging fork, so that the fine roots will not be injured. Thoroughly pulverize the top layer of soil, as this acts as a dust mulch and holds moisture. Examine the trees carefully for pests and report further.

*We are troubled with land crabs on several of our greens. They make three or four holes every night. What can we do to kill them?*

Waukesha, Wis.

Carbon disulphide, applied in the holes with a long nozzled oil can will discourage land crabs. Allow about six drops to a burrow, and close the openings tightly to allow the gas to work. Be very careful that no fire of any kind is allowed near where the men are working with this chemical, as it is very inflammable.

*Why are my putting greens fine in May every year, and then go bad in July and August?*

Columbus, Ohio.

A considerable amount of the nitrogen from sulphate of ammonia evaporates into the air in the form of a volatile ammonia gas during periods of extreme heat. July and August in your locality are the hardest months of the year on grass, and your greens probably need watering thoroughly every second day in mid-summer. Surface watering brings the feeding roots to the surface, while heavy watering encourages a deeper root growth. Try a well balanced commercial fertilizer, applied at the rate of six pounds per 1000 square feet about the first of July, top-dressing every three weeks as usual.

*We planted a vegetative green last September, and put it into play this spring about April 1. Now the grass is in poor condition. Did we begin to play on this green too early?*

Louisville, Ky.

It is apparent the green was not in condition to open for play on April first, although it should have been. The trouble was probably in the care of the new green. New vegetative bent should be top dressed often and lightly, and never allowed to become dry. Runners should be kept brushed up and the grass mowed closely. To get into proper condition, water often, cut close and top dress lightly every week.

*There are morning glories on my course everywhere I look. What is the best way to get rid of them?*

Alameda, California.

Morning glories may be eliminated by raking up and cutting close and often, which is the slow way. Or iron sulphate may be used, 1½ pounds to a gallon of water, immediately dragging with a chain harrow to bruise the plants and allow the iron to penetrate. Repeat when

(Continued on page 34)



# Classified Advertisements

Golf Club Officials who wish to secure greenkeepers, assistant greenkeepers and golf course mechanics, will save time and money by writing our Employment Bureau at 407 Caxton Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

Advertisements under this heading \$1.00 per 20 words, 4 cents per additional word.  
This column is operated in connection with the Employment Bureau of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America.

## Classified Employment

GREENKEEPER with 25 years' experience wants good position. Box 152, this magazine.

GREENKEEPER desires position. Exceptional experience construction and maintenance. Ohio preferred. Box 153, this magazine.

### NEW FIELD

Profitable side line for salesman. Rapid growth of golf and Bent Grass business, also commercial lawn grass seed has opened rich field for live wire salesman. Every club, private estate, hardware dealer interested. We have a position for a man with or without experience. Write stating qualifications and give reference. Box No. 157.

SUCCESSFUL greenkeeper now employed desires change to more progressive club. Understands every phase of golf construction, maintenance, soil, water and machinery, and have ability to handle help, also experience in landscape architecture and nursery. Age 47. Can go anywhere. Box No. 160.

EXPERIENCED greenkeeper will consider position for 1928. Club must desire modern efficiency and the best to interest me. Box No. 161.

POSITION wanted as greenkeeper. I am not looking for a snap but must be a real man's job where club wants highest type of results. Box No. 162.

## NOTICE

Greenkeepers who desire to secure positions through the Association Employment Bureau should submit with their applications an account of their experience, proper references and approximate amount of salary requested.

The Classified Advertisement column of THE NATIONAL GREENKEEPER offers a suitable medium through which applicants for positions as greenkeepers, assistant greenkeepers or golf course mechanics may get in direct touch with opportunity.

## The Clearing House

(Continued from page 12)

new growth starts until controlled. Iron sulphate causes the grass to turn black, but this is only temporary, and it will soon come up green again.

*I would like a little information as to the possible value of granulated charcoal on my greens. Our soil is a very heavy black loam, drying out and baking very fast with hot dry winds, and becoming hard in a day's time.*

*Fargo, No. Dakota.*

Look up the January number of the Greenkeeper, and read Mr. Morley's short article, "Why I Use Charcoal." Charcoal takes up water when the soil is wet, and gives it back to the soil when the soil is dryer than the charcoal. In addition to charcoal, we believe that fairly

heavy application of sand to your greens will help materially.

## KENNY INDICATOR FIELD SET

*For Simple and Rapid Soil Tests*

Free instruction with color chart and special test of soil preferences of many hundreds of plants, shrubs, etc., accompany each set, \$5.00 postpaid.

**LaMotte Chemical Products Company**

Baltimore, Maryland, U. S. A.



Sprinkling Cart for applying  
"ELECTRIC" WORM ERADICATOR

## WHY TOLERATE WORM CASTS?

GET RID OF THE WORMS, AND YOU GET RID OF THE CASTS

Hundreds of greenkeepers throughout the country have solved the worm problem by using "ELECTRIC" Worm Eradicator. They have found that it is the most effective material for the purpose, and at the same time very beneficial to the greens.

"ELECTRIC" Worm Eradicator also acts as preventive against Brown Patch and other diseases of the turf.

We will be pleased to give you full information regarding "ELECTRIC" Worm Eradicator. We gladly ship on approval.

**READE MFG. CO.**



**JERSEY CITY, N. J.**