

# How I Control Brown Patch

Second of series of prize winning stories by expert greenkeepers. These are considered the most comprehensive articles on the subject ever published

## JOHN PRESSLER

Allegheny Country Club, Sewickley, Penna.

**B**ROWN-PATCH is caused by using too much fertilizer, too much topdressing, too much watering and if you won't correct this or rather these three things you will have brown-patch.

July and August are two bad months to topdress. I have grass tennis courts that have not been topdressed for twenty-five years and are just as good as any of my greens.

What is the use of using chemicals when you get brown-patch just the same. Chemicals will not stop brown-patch if you don't correct the first three reasons.

Visit some poor nine-hole golf course where they have no money to waste on topdressing, fertilizer, and watering and you will see that you never find brown-patch.

Here is something to think about.

Now how to keep your greens in first-class condition.

For twenty-five years I used 100 pounds bone meal to each green in March, that was all the fertilizer all year, no topdressing, and the only fault I found with this system was too much crabgrass.

In 1926 I started to use 6 pounds sulphate of ammonia to each green from the first of March to the last of October per week, no bone meal or topdressing with this system. My crabgrass, chick weed all disappeared.

My greens are in first-class condition, never take grass clippings of greens—that is why I don't topdress. Always topdress a new green the first year.

## E. A. SWANLUND

Rochester Country Club, Rochester, Minn.

**I**N VIEW of the fact that there are posters and a reward out for Mr. Brown-Patch, we'll all have to go after him most energetically, using all the vim and vigor that is in us.

For the past three years I have worked on one method in combating this enemy and have succeeded to such an extent that he has not visited my premises, for which I am not the least indignant. This might have been luck but, nevertheless, my intentions are the same this season to ward off the hated pest, Mr. Brown-Patch, and I would like to see someone else try this.

From the first of April each year I topdress every three or four weeks with compost and sulphate ammonia. My first topdressing in the spring is rather heavy, using from one and one-half to three yards per green of compost and twenty to forty pounds of sulphate ammonia. After this I cut this amount in half and do likewise with all following topdressings. The above mixture is rubbed into the roots of the grass, after which the grass is

watered. There is no danger of burning if mixed and well-washed.

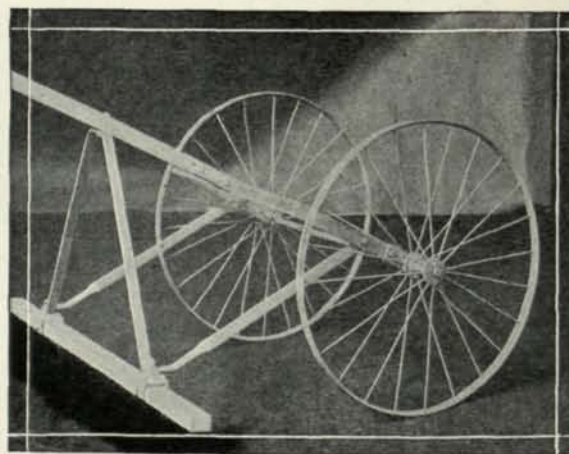
Our brown-patch season being from the middle of June until the first of September, I use sulphate of ammonia in liquid solution between each topdressing. For spraying, Charles Erickson's sprayer is used. This sprayer is very easily manipulated and a good job is the result. Spraying is done in the evening after the sun is down and two men can easily do nine greens in a few hours. As a result of this, the greens are in perfect condition and this gives them food on which to live and from which to resist all abuse and disease. I do not believe in using chemicals. The less used, the better, is my policy. Treat the greens as you would treat yourself, with plenty of good wholesome food and water.

## CHAS. KESSELRING

Washington Country Club, Marietta, O.

**I**N FACT it won't take a long story to give my experience with brown-patch. I have been assistant greenkeeper at the club I am now at for three years, and

## THE MacGREGOR COMPOST BRUSH



### What A User Says:

MacGregor Compost Distributor Co.,  
Wheaton, Illinois.

Gentlemen:

Two years ago I had the pleasure of visiting the Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, Ill., and I was deeply impressed with the methods used in getting the soils for top-dressing worked into the turf, by the use of a compost brush.

Having used several devices for working the compost into the turf, which have not given me good results, I tried out the MacGregor brushes, and I feel, owing to the good results which I have received from them, I should acknowledge my appreciation to you for the service that the two brushes which we received from you have given.

Yours truly, (Signed) John Morley, Greenkeeper,  
Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown, Ohio

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