

Our Bent Thrives in Hot Weather

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THE bent we have planted is a hot weather grass and stands up wonderfully through the hot weather of July and August, but is slow in developing into a putting green through the cool weather of April and May.

When the temperature reaches eighty degrees it makes a dense turf very rapidly. During this time it calls for several topdressings at very short intervals, also an abundance of water and close cutting every day. After the turf is fairly uniform over the entire green topdress with fine dry sand and brush well into the turf with a flexible steel mat.

Our Grass is Fine and Does Not Nap

I agree to disagree with some greenkeepers who claim that bent should not be cut as close as other grasses. If this is true their bent is surely very different from the strain we have or they have not learned to maintain the upright growth of bent which makes for a fine, true and uniform putting surface.

Our greens are very fine in texture. The grass does not develop a grainy turf as the Washington may. It has a very bright green color when properly fertilized and I believe it to be more resistant to brown-patch than the Washington.

I base my opinion on the fact that the conditions favorable for the growth of the fungus are also very favorable for the growth of this strain of creeping bent. Therefore, this one characteristic makes it more resistant to the attacks than is the Washington, which is a lover of cool weather.

However, it is very susceptible to the effects of cold winds, and it would perhaps not maintain a satisfactory color much farther north than here. I have received a great many compliments from visiting golfers as well as my club members. Among the visitors were the Shriners of Grand Rapids, Michigan. They all claim these greens to be the finest first-season bent greens they have ever played on.

We secured our stolons from the Flossmoor Nurseries, Chicago, and I would suggest that our members give a plot of this bent a trial, especially those who have been having trouble with brown-patch.

Killing Out Wild Morning Glory

EXPERIMENTAL work which has been in progress for some time at the Kansas Experiment Station has determined that sodium chlorate applied at blossoming time on wild morning glory and bind weed will do much to eliminate these pests. This chemical is cheaper than many others, and not injurious to the soil.

New Method for Mixing Concrete

THE amount of water which is added to a mixture of cement and aggregate is what determines the strength and durability of the hardened and cured concrete.

For instance, recent tests have proved that one sack of cement, mixed with ten gallons of water and an amount of clean sharp sand sufficient to make a workable mixture, will stand a pressure of about seven hundred pounds to the square inch. In comparison, a sack of cement mixed with three gallons of water and thickened to workable consistency with aggregate, was found to withstand a pressure of six thousand pounds.

The old method of mixing three parts of sharp sand and gravel with one part of cement, thinning the mixture according to the judgment of the operator, is now obsolete. For ordinary purposes, the addition of six to seven gallons of water to one sack of cement, floating in this mixture enough clean sand and gravel to bring it to a jelly-like consistency, will prove satisfactory. Such a mixture will stand a pressure of from nineteen hundred to twenty-four hundred pounds per square inch, which is sufficient for all construction such as steps, sidewalks and roadways.

It is best to mix concrete for at least three minutes before spreading, and the finished work should be kept dampened for from seven to ten days to cure. Too quick drying of concrete interferes with the curing process.

Arsenate and Sulphate

SEVEN years ago Fred Burkhardt started using powdered arsenate of lead on his greens at Westwood Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio.

"I apply it with a fifty-gallon spray barrel," says Mr. Burkhardt, "mixing one and a half pounds to each barrel, and using about three barrels of this mixture to the average six thousand square foot green."

"I always apply it after mowing the greens, and it is now three years since I used any worm eradicator. There are almost no grubs on the Westwood course, and while I have always given the credit for control of weeds to my consistent use of sulphate of ammonia, recent developments in Professor Leach's experiments seem to prove that arsenate has a direct effect in weed control."

One of the most effective uses to which Mr. Burkhardt put sulphate of ammonia during this past fall was in the control of chickweed which crept into two of his greens because of the excessive wet weather. He applied sulphate of ammonia dry from an ordinary large size salt shaker to the patches of chickweed, and within a few days the chickweed had entirely disappeared and the bent filled in so rapidly that no bare patches resulted.