

JOHN MACGREGOR SAYS



JOHN MACGREGOR
Greenkeeper, Chicago
Golf Club

I INTEND to seed about nine acres this fall. Six years ago I seeded this piece of land with timothy. Being outside of the golf course proper, my intentions were to sell the hay thereby reducing the cost of maintenance which it did to a certain extent, until the dandelions became too numerous. This summer I ploughed all of it, (in June) and have been cultivating about once a week ever since, so it is now in good condition.

Sometime between the 20th, and the latter part of August I intend to seed it with Sheep's Fescue about 80 pounds to the acre. My reasons for seeding with Sheep's Fescue are: dandelions do not have a chance to monopolize the land, also one cutting a season is all that is necessary.

Fall seeding should be done between the dates of August 20th-September 15th for best results. My first top-dressing will be done about the first part of September. The usual summer weeding has been finished about this time, and the grass is over its dormant stage. Then too the weather is getting cooler, therefore top-dressing and feeding should be done, using compost to even the irregularities caused

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through weeding, and feeding to give the grass a fresh start after the resting period.

I use about ten pounds commercial fertilizer to a 1,000 square feet or 50 pounds to a green of 5,000 square feet, analysis 10.6.4. This is mixed with the compost and applied with a top-dressing machine at the rate of about a yard to a 5,000 square foot green. My reasons for mixing the fertilizer with the compost are: first the compost absorbs the ammonia to a point where there is very little danger of burning, second; distributing the compost with a machine there is an even distribution of the fertilizer. I find by fertilizing at this rate very little, if any fertilizing has to be done until the following spring.

Fairway fertilizing I have never had to resort to in the fall, I would advise any one whose fairways are impoverished to fertilize both spring and fall until the turf has become dense enough to necessitate spring fertilization only, fertilizing at the rate of about 500 pounds per acre.

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