

FALL SEEDING — TOPDRESSING

Representative opinions of America's leading greenkeepers on green maintenance work. Here are their answers.

1--Are You Seeding This Fall?

From Joseph Valentine, Greenkeeper,
Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia.

I will do the reseeding this fall, especially on the fairgreens. Due to disease and draught one always loses a certain amount of turf and I will use four parts of Kentucky blue grass, one part of red top (to get a quick turf establishment) and one part of South German bent, as the red top will disappear and the bent will fill in.

From Alex Binnie, Greenkeeper,
Shoreacres Golf Club, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

We are seeding and topdressing this fall in areas affected by winter kill and by poor drainage. Where proper drainage has been at fault we are lifting and replacing the tiling and filling in with number four stone to within one foot of the surface. We have corrected similar weak spots by this method and the results have been very satisfactory.

Whatever seeding is necessary we are disking with a Meeker disc and sowing fescue. Immediately after we are topdressing with two-year old compost.

From Elmer F. Affeldt, Greenkeeper,
Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, Great Neck, Long Island.

We are renovating our tees at this time as follows: spiking well with a spike roller, patching large bare spots, fertilizing with Milorganite 30 lbs. to a 1000 sq. ft., seeding and top-dressing with good compost, followed by a good watering. We usually plant enough stolons every year to lay down three or four greens, planting this in our nursery and then transferring the sod to the green. By this

method the green is not out of commission for a very long time, and the work can be done late in the fall when play on the course is at a minimum.

From Walter C. Reed, Greenkeeper,
Westwood Country Club, Clayton, Missouri.

We are going to seed the course the first of September with a 30-70 mix, thirty per cent red top, seventy per cent Kentucky blue grass. So that we may have a finer turf next year. We are going to seed one hundred and twenty-five pounds per acre and on our 27-hole course there will be seventy acres to seed.

Hugh C. Moore, Greenkeeper and Professional,
Sea Island Country Club, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

I am seeding with red top for winter greens as I find that this grass is superior to Italian rye and gives me a green equal to northern courses for putting surface.

From James Muirden, Greenkeeper,
Ridgewood Golf Club, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Yes, I expect to seed parts of fairways requiring it by cutting them with a disc and seeding with seventy per cent blue grass, thirty per cent red top, also topdressing with soil and sand.

From Thomas Galvin, Greenkeeper,
Rhode Island Country Club, West Barrington, Rhode Island.

I am going to sow about fifty pounds of Velvet bent seed on a turf garden this fall.

I have an acre of creeping bent which I sowed last fall. One-half is South German

DRESSING — FERTILIZING

Answers on the best methods of handling the important fall
answers to the three questions sent them

mixture and the other is Rhode Island creeping bent, which I purchased from Mr. A. N. Peckham, Kingston, Rhode Island. The Rhode Island creeping bent seems to show a finer strain and a deeper greenish color than the South German seed. The South German is a shade lighter in color.

From Herbert E. Shave, Greenkeeper,
Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham,
Mich.

On the third of September we start to regrass our eighteen greens on our North course. The bent of Inverness strain is getting too much nap, so we are going to skin them down to the roots, spike, roll and seed with fifteen pounds Cocos bent, seed and topdress with two and one-half yards topdressing. We had some of this seed tried out and I believe it's the best ever.

From Chester Mendenhall, Greenkeeper,
Sim Park Golf Club, Wichita, Kansas.
No.

From John Gray, Greenkeeper,
Essex Golf and Country Club, Sandwich,
Ontario.

For fall seeding I use New Zealand fescue and South German bent for fairways and tees.

From Joe P. Mayo, Greenkeeper,
Pebble Beach Country Club, Del Monte,
California.
No.

From James W. Bolton, Greenkeeper,
Berkshire Country Club, Reading, Pennsylv-
vania.

We do not contemplate seeding this fall. If a bent nursery is kept in good condition at all times we find that we can work to a much

better advantage by sodding and plugging the affected areas before our regular topdressing once every month. On our fairways we use a mixture of Kentucky blue grass and Rhode Island bent. We do not use red top for we find in many instances that there is a considerable amount of red top in the bent.

From A. E. Arnold, Greenkeeper,
Masonic Country Club of Western Michi-
gan.

I am planning in September of planting sixty-five thousand square feet of Washington strain bent stolons to take up as sod next fall to replace the grass we have on nine of our twenty-seven greens. This planting will be in our nursery where we have enough sod of Washington strain to replace seven greens this fall. We changed sod on two of our greens last fall and we find a marked difference in two different grasses. We do not know the true name of our present grass but we note it is inclined to go off color during the hot weather of July and August. In two more seasons we hope to be completely changed over to Washington bent.

From Ford Goodrich, Greenkeeper,
Flint Country Club, Flint, Michigan.

Tees—Fescue
Greens—Washington Bent Stolons
Fairways—One-half fescue, one-quarter red top and one-quarter Kentucky blue grass.

From J. O. Campbell, Greenkeeper,
Wethersfield Country Club, Hartford, Conn.
No.

From John Morley, Greenkeeper,
Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown,
Ohio.
No.

2--When and How Will You Topdress This Fall?

From Joseph Valentine, Greenkeeper,
Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia.

I will topdress the fairgreens with top soil mixed with the same amount of sand so as to not get the mud formation and the putting greens I will topdress about the second week in September. I will also reseed them (greens that should have thicker turf), and will use South German bent and will use topdressing with one part of screened mushroom soil, one part of compost, two parts of sand and one hundred pounds of cottonseed meal, using about one and one-half yards to five thousand square feet.

From Alex Binnie, Greenkeeper,
Shoreacres Golf Club, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

The amount of top dressing used on any one fairway or spot will vary depending entirely upon the requirements. We will topdress during September and October.

From Elmer F. Affeldt, Greenkeeper,
Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, Great Neck, Long Island.

It is too early to estimate the work that may be necessary on our fairways, as much damage has been caused by the drought as we have had no rain to speak of in nearly three months and we have reason to feel that a great deal of seed-ing will be necessary, especially on the knolls.

When we do undertake the work it will be done in this manner—disc the bare spots well,

with the blades of the disc set rather straight, seed well, topdress and roll.

From Walter C. Reed, Greenkeeper,
Westwood Country Club, Clayton, Mis-souri.

We will topdress about the middle of Sep-tember and will use one and one-half yards to seven thousand square feet. We will use good screened soil with one-third sand and ten pounds of ammonium sulphate per yard.

From Hugh C. Moore, Greenkeeper and Pro-fessional, Sea Island Country Club, St. Si-mons Island, Georgia.

I topdress once a month using a black loam known as muck. The quantity per thousand square feet I use according to conditions of the green. I have no set amount.

From Thomas Galvin, Greenkeeper,
Rhode Island Country Club, West Barring-ton, Rhode Island.

About the first of October I topdress greens and tees with compost. In the middle of No-vember I cover the greens with seaside sand which is sifted through a fine screen. The golf-ers play on the greens all winter, except when there is a thaw. I then give them temporary greens until the big greens freeze up again then I move them back into the big greens as they won't do them any harm when they are frozen. I use about two yards of compost and about ten pounds of sulphate of ammonia to six



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greenkeeper of the Westwood Country Club, Cleveland

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thousand square feet as I believe in a heavy compost for spring and fall.

From James Muirden, Greenkeeper,

Ridgewood Golf Club, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Expect to topdress fairways about same time as seeding around September 1 to 15. Greens will be topdressed every two weeks from about September 1 to end of playing season at which time they get a heavy topdressing of fifty per cent good soil, fifty per cent sand good and sharp, plus one-half ton for green of Fertiluvia fertilizer.

From Herbert E. Shave, Greenkeeper,

Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.

On our South course as you know we hold the Women's National Open commencing September 30. Our greens will be topdressed the fifteenth of August or twentieth with two and one-half yards of dressing composed of humus and sand, fifty per cent of each just to give them a little color and true them up. I am going to add fifteen pounds arsenate of lead as a check for chick weed and worms. On each green where we used arsenate of lead in the spring we had no worms.

From Chester Mendenhall, Greenkeeper,

Sim Park Golf Club, Wichita, Kansas.

We will topdress our greens the first of September and again the first of October. Our topdressing is made up of equal parts rich soil and sand. We will use one yard topdressing per five thousand square feet for each application, to which we will add twenty-five pounds sulphate of ammonia per yard of topdressing mixing same well with the topdressing before putting it on the green.

From James W. Bolton, Greenkeeper,

Berkshire Country Club, Reading, Pennsylvania.

We will start our fall topdressing about September 26. The compost is prepared from sods, leafmold from the woods, and good top soil and is not used until it is over two years old. We use one part compost, one part mushroom soil and two parts sand. It is applied at the rate of three cubic yards to the green averaging from five thousand to six thousand square feet in size.

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June 8th, 1929

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I am getting another machine so that I will be able to get my greens top-dressed within two days.

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Yours truly,

W. J. Sansom, Greenkeeper

Toronto Golf Club.

MACGREGOR COMPOST DISTRIBUTOR COMPANY
P. O. Box 717, Wheaton, Illinois

From A. E. Arnold, Greenkeeper,

Masonic Country Club of Western Michigan.

I have already started to topdress our greens using about two-third cubic yards per one thousand square feet of surface with sand top soil run through a screen, and following up after topdressing each green with five pounds sulphate of ammonia per one thousand square feet in liquid form. I plan to topdress again in September with compost made of barnyard manure, sandy top soil and muck which has been prepared six months ahead of use and to follow with Milorganite using about twenty-five pounds per one thousand square feet.

From John Gray, Greenkeeper,

Essex Golf and Country Club, Sandwich, Ont.

September, October and November. Four year old organic fertilizer, loam and sand, equal parts at the rate of seven cubic feet to one thousand square feet. November topdressing, sand only at the rate of five cubic feet per one thousand square feet.

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3--Have You Planned a Fall Fertilizing Program?

From Joseph Valentine, Greenkeeper,
Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia.

I have not planned any fertilizer program for this fall, as in the past I have used so much of it that my grounds are a bit overfed, so perhaps I am going to lay off for a year.

The spring of 1930 I may use some inorganic fertilizer in order to stimulate quicker growth.

From Herbert E. Shave, Greenkeeper,
Oakland Hills Country Club, Birmingham, Mich.

We always fertilize in late fall and early winter. We intend to close our North course in October and spread rotted cow manure on our sand. This we have had to do every fall on this course as it is very sandy and cow manure sure does help it along. I try to get some heavy soil to help out, but don't have much luck getting any after play has thinned

down. I usually go over our greens with a dressing of sharp sand about two yards per green. It has all winter to work into the ground and helps protect the grass from players who like to tramp around the course and think they are enjoying their game of golf.

From Alex Binnie, Greenkeeper,
Shoreacres Golf Club, Lake Bluff, Illinois.

We plan to topdress or fertilize a number of fairways each year and seed whenever necessity demands. The type of fertilizer used is governed entirely by an analysis of our soil. We are, at this time, awaiting an analysis report on samples submitted a few weeks ago.

From James Muirden, Greenkeeper,
Ridgewood Golf Club, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Where fairways are thin I generally use barnyard manure applied with manure spreader late in fall.

From Thomas Galvin, Greenkeeper,
Rhode Island Country Club, West Barrington, Rhode Island.

During the months of June, July and August I topdress with about ten pounds of sulphate of ammonia and morate of potash (five pounds each) every two weeks. I get very good results.

From John Gray, Greenkeeper,
Essex Golf and Country Club, Sandwich, Ontario.

I intend fertilizing all fairways. One hundred yards from tees to greens at rate of eight hundred pounds per acre with Milorganite.

From Joe L. Mayo, Greenkeeper,
Pebble Beach Country Club, Del Monte, California.

Every two months one hundred and fifty pounds of sulphate of ammonia and three hundred pounds of gypsum and eight yards of fine loam per acre, using a lime spreader for distribution. We fertilize the year around.

From James W. Bolton, Greenkeeper,
Berkshire Country Club, Reading, Penna.
We have planned to put about seventy-five

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pounds of hydrated lime to the average green this fall. We are considering a reconstruction program and for that reason we have not considered much fertilizing.

From Joe P. Mayo, Greenkeeper,
Pebble Beach Country Club, Del Monte,
California.

Topdress my greens every six weeks with ten pounds of 6-9-6 and two pounds of sulphate of ammonia and one-sixth of a yard of finely screened compost.

From Ford Goodrich, Greenkeeper,
Flint Country Club, Flint, Michigan.

No fertilizer on the greens after September. Rotted manure or refuse from the sewerage disposal plant on the fairways during the winter.

From J. O. Campbell, Greenkeeper,
Wethersfield Country Club, Hartford,
Conn.

About October 15 I topdress for winter. I will use a good top soil about forty per cent sand thoroughly mixed with one hundred and twenty-five pounds Milorganite to one and one-half yards of top soil, twelve pounds arsenate of lead and twenty pounds sulphate of ammonia. This will be spread evenly and raked over with the back of steel rakes. This is enough for seven thousand square feet.

From John Morley, Greenkeeper,
Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown,
Ohio.

We will topdress about the middle of October with compost containing two-thirds of soil and one-third of sharp sand about one and one-half yards to a putting green.

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our fairways this fall at the rate of five hundred pounds per acre, after the fall rains begin. We expect also to spread barnyard manure on spots where grass is thin and ground is hard—this we will do very late this fall.

From **Elmer F. Affeldt, Greenkeeper,**
Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, Great Neck, Long Island.

I prefer to do the fertilizing in the spring, just as the grass is beginning to take on a green color, using 500 lbs. of Milorganite per acre.

From **Walter C. Reed, Greenkeeper,**
Westwood Country Club, Clayton, Missouri.

We are going to use a 10-6-4 fertilizer. This is organic nitrogen base fertilizer and we are going to use four hundred pounds of 10-6-4 and two hundred pounds of steamed bone meal per acre. This fertilizer will be applied eight or ten days before seeding.

From **Hugh C. Moore, Greenkeeper and Professional,**
Sea Island Country Club, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

I will fertilize my fairways and tees with bone meal this fall. For my greens I am very partial to Vigoro and sulphate of ammonia. I have also obtained good results from Milorganite. I do not approve of set methods and ways of using fertilizers.

From **Ford Goodrich, Greenkeeper,**
Flint Country Club, Flint, Michigan.

Will stop dressing September 15. Compost—one-quarter yard to one thousand sq. ft.

From **J. O. Campbell, Greenkeeper,**
Wethersfield Country Club, Hartford, Conn.

I have no fertilizer program for this year.
From **John Morley, Greenkeeper,**
Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown, Ohio.

None.