

# Too Much Information

*Greenkeepers become dyspeptic from salesmen's talks*

By JOHN MORLEY, President

*The National Association of Greenkeepers of America*

ONE trouble with some of us—we have been getting too much information. A great many greenkeepers have become dyspeptic. We do not digest the food of knowledge which is often given to us.

The high pressure salesman comes along and we often swallow all he says without taking time to chew the food he gives. He may inform you that their expert chemists have by experience and research come to the conclusion that the best formula for golf grasses is 9-5-2, and that by mixing the fertilizer with a little compost you can apply it to the turf anytime during the summer season.

Let us observe what John Doe's experience was by not being fully able to comprehend the advice given him. For instance,—his putting greens previous to applying the above

named formula say during July and August—were not doing very well. He treated his putting greens with the fertilizer containing 9-5-2. He observed in a very short time a remarkable improvement in the condition of his turf, and he is so pleased that he informs his fellow greenkeepers who may happen to visit his course the very fine results he has obtained and he feels like embracing the salesman who induced him to buy this special brand of fertilizer.

From now on he will use nothing that does not contain 9-5-2. But John Doe did not realize that this was only for the time being and had only given him temporary success. It was the figure 9 which is nitrogen, that owing to extreme hot weather, soon turned into ammonia gas which with sufficient water and air furnished the grass with food, and also helped

## BENT GRASS SEED

Remember that you can produce a Creeping Bent turf by planting seed for from one half to one third the cost of the expensive, laborious job of planting the slips, runners or stolons.

My price for CREEPING BENT seed is \$2 per lb. in 100 to 500 lb. lots; 500 lbs. or more \$1.85 per lb.

Don't confuse my Creeping Bent seed with so-called German Creeping Bent seed. My Creeping Bent seed is from fields that were planted with seed produced from selected varieties of stolons planted in nursery rows and hand cultivated and hand harvested.

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Don't Run  
The Risk  
Of Getting  
Old Seed  
Of Foreign  
Origin When  
You Can  
Purchase  
Direct From  
Its Native  
Home, Winter  
Hardy Seed  
That Was  
Growing in  
The Fields  
Only A Few  
Weeks Ago.

We have just finished harvesting the best crop of Bent seed that I have ever had. When we started to harvest the latter part of July we had many orders on hand and the first part of August we delivered to a number of golf clubs seed that was actually growing in the field ten days before they received it on their course.

By purchasing seed direct from the farms where it grows you will be assured of a native grown, winter hardy Bent that is acclimated to our severe eastern and northern climate.

My price for RHODE ISLAND BENT seed is \$1 per lb. in 100 to 1000 lb. lots; 1000 lb. lots or more 95c per lb.

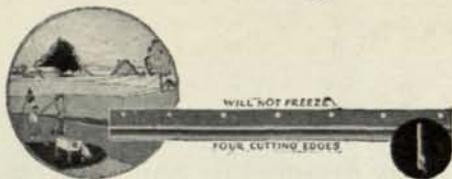
Boost one of your own American Industries to the extent of purchasing your Bent seed from the American farmer who grows it.

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to bring back a fine color in the grass.

With continuous hot humid weather he finds about two weeks later that the grass again begins to get off color, so he gives the putting greens another dose. By the time the greens get the second dressing of fertilizer he discovers that the first five pounds of phosphorus and the two pounds of potash, together with eighty-four pounds of organic matter (or filler which a hundred pounds of fertilizer contains), has commenced to work. The nine pounds of nitrogen, five of phosphorus and two pounds of potash is the food that the plant uses. One for the blades of grass, one for the roots and one that furnishes sugar and starch. The other eighty-four pounds which the plants cannot use gradually will ferment. The double dose of nitrogen has had a tendency to make the grass tender and fluffy.

A short time later when the humidity was high and remained so for a few days and nights he soon observed that his putting greens appeared to be affected with brown patch, both large and small and he often treats it for this disease.

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He soon observed that instead of getting better the turf had commenced to disappear and no matter what treatment he may give it, it seems to be of no avail. It was not brown patch. The second application, especially the excess of phosphorous and potash and a double dose of eighty-four pounds of organic matter caused fermentation which had scalded the roots of the grass. We often blame this on to sun scalds after a heavy storm.

The above demonstrates that over-feeding during extreme hot humid weather will often give the greenkeeper no end of trouble.

This short article is not given in the sense of giving information, but to endeavor to bring forth through the columns of the National Greenkeeper constructive criticism, so that eventually we may come closer to understand what is right or wrong to do. I hope other greenkeepers will write short articles giving their ideas with the same objects in mind as I have stated above.

## Pittsburgh Turf Gardens

By JOHN PRESSLER, *Greenkeeper*  
*Allegheny Country Club, Sewickly, Pa.*

THE experimental turf gardens planted at Oakmont and Allegheny Clubs a year ago are beginning to show results which immediately justify their existence. Member clubs are supporting the maintenance of the gardens by each contributing an annual fee of \$25.00 and member clubs should visit the gardens as often as possible to inspect them and report observations which will ultimately benefit the turf situation in this locality.

At present the different grasses planted for putting green experiments are very nearly in shape for putting. The chewings fescue grass has been particularly thick and is just now beginning to turn brown; the poa annua has had the quickest and thickest growth of all the grasses; but superior to these plots are the bents, namely, Rhode Island, Seaside, German Mixed, Washington and Metropolitan Stolons, which are all fine and vigorous grasses. The velvet bent stolons have been rather slow in growth and the velvet bent seed was not available until this spring.

In the fertilizer experiment on both green and fairway grasses, outstanding results were observed where complete fertilizers (analyzing 6-12-4 and 12-6-4) were used. To further prove the effects of various fertilizer ingredients an extra row of grass will be added to the garden on which to test combinations of nitrogen and phosphorous, of nitrogen and potash, and of phosphorous and potash used alone.