

# How I Fertilize My Greens

BY LAWRENCE HUBER, *Greenkeeper*

Elks Country Club, Worthington, Ohio

Read at the Green Section meeting of the Central District Golf Association, June 10



LAWRENCE HUBER  
He has made a great reputation in the Columbus district

fertilizer is "Weeds."

Last year I used Milorganite but had to use

EARLY in the spring after rolling is completed, I topdress my greens with one yard compost mixing about half sand with one hundred pounds of fertilizer added to each yard of compost for each green. I use half sand on account of our soil being heavy clay. The fertilizer I used this year is 8-5-3 purchased from the Smith Agriculture Chemical Co., Columbus. The name of this

as much again in the topdressing as 8-5-3 to get the same results. I noticed, however that the Milorganite lasted longer than the 8-5-3. Being an organic fertilizer, the grass had a supply of nitrogen to keep drawing from. In weed control the 8-5-3 was much better than the Milorganite. Our greens were infested with chickweed before using "Weeds" but since using it this year we are gradually getting rid of it. We still have plenty of it, but it will take time to completely control it.

In March of this year while the ground was still frozen I took some sulphate of ammonia and sprinkled it heavy on spots of chickweed on about half of our greens. It was so cold that it laid there and didn't burn at all until the sun came closer and then it did its work. By putting it on heavy it burned the chickweed and also the bent. I finally had to plug some

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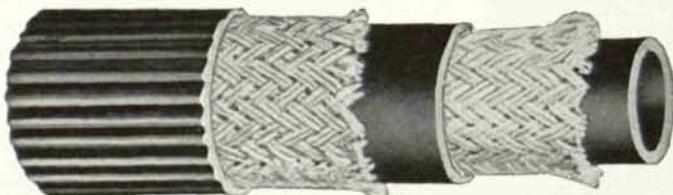
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of the larger burnt spots to get them together quickly.

About a month later when we got our 8-5-3 I thought I would try it on the other half of the greens to kill the chickweed. We sprinkled it on the spots the same as I did the sulphate and the sun by that time was plenty warm. I left it on the spots from noon until the next morning and then washed them off with the hose. On every spot where I used the "Weeds" or 8-5-3 the chickweed disappeared but the bent kept on growing and wasn't even scorched.

Every three to four weeks since our first topdressing I topdress the greens the same way only instead of using one hundred pounds of fertilizer I use only about forty to fifty pounds. Also after cutting the greens down to putting length I can only work about one-half yard of compost into them and still have them playable.

### Topdressing with Pure Sand

I HAVE this year given our greens two topdressings of pure sand, one of which I am now putting on. Our greens have been pack-

ing by using heavy roller mowers but since I have added more sand to our topdressing the soil doesn't pack like it did and we are getting along fine with our power mowers.

I think that keeping these topdressings up during the entire season will work anywhere. Some don't think you should fertilize during July and August, but I think a light topdressing with around twenty to twenty-five pounds of fertilizer added will be a big help in keeping greens during that time.

I use lots of water especially after putting on the topdressing. We wash it in thoroughly with water. I haven't put anything on the greens to keep them over winter and they have always come back in the spring healthy.

About fairways: We intended this year to put three hundred pounds of 8-5-3 to the acre. We were going to put it on in three applications. I put one hundred and fifty pounds on the first part of April and intended to put one hundred pounds on now, but since it is so dry, will wait until September and then put on the other hundred and fifty pounds. I use an endgate fertilizer spreader to put this on with and it fastens on the back of our Toro steel wagon. One man sits in the cart and feeds it and the other man runs the tractor. We are lucky to have around one hundred loads of manure to use in thin spots this fall and will put that on with a manure spreader.

Now let's hear how some of you do your fertilizing.

## Greenkeepers Visit Toronto

(Continued from page 6)

of mutual interest and to effect sound economies in the interest of the game while protecting the interests of all, and that Columbus had been accepted as the next convention city.

As he left Mr. Morley was extended another invitation to visit Toronto and was assured of a greater measure of hospitality from the Canadian members of the association, who, although not large in numbers, were unanimous in their view that the association was vital to their interests and that it would play a larger part in the development of golf.