

other dangers in over-feeding. If you over-feed grass during the hot summer months and run into a few days of damp, cool weather you are sure in for trouble. You will get a rapid, sappy growth, and every time you mow your greens they will get lighter in color and more sappy. Then when that hot sun comes out they will melt down like a fat man that has been over-fed and kept in the shade.

So I would say feed often, feed light, but beware of over-feeding.

Turf Problems At Crestmont

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THE season just passing will probably go down in history as being one of the hardest for the greenkeeper, especially in the East. From early June until late August, weather conditions have been such that some of the golf courses with the oldest and best established turf have found it very hard to keep greens, tees, and even fairways in playing condition.

The reason mostly is poor drainage.

Three major tournaments were staged at Crestmont this season. The Women's Open, June 11, 12, and 13; we had so much rain before and during this tournament that we were pumping the water out of traps and bailing it out of depressions in the fairways for five hours before the start of the last day's play. These conditions showed us where our drainage system was deficient. Three of the approaches to the greens were so bad one week after this tournament that they had to be re-sodded.

A hot sun beat down on us in that water-soaked condition and wiped the Poa Annuum and the Kentucky Blue Grass right out of these approaches. There was nothing to do but drain and re-sod them. They were playable for the Metropolitan Open, July 13, 14 and 15, but we continued to get lots of rain and very hot sun. It taxed us to the limit to keep the greens right. Repeated attacks of brown

patch, mostly large, were intercepted just in time, using a mixture one part Bichloride and three parts Calomel: three ounces to 1000 square feet in twenty pounds of mushroom soil and sand. No fertilizer whatever was applied.

Early in the spring about May 1, four samples of soil were taken from each green and tested for acidity. Also for phosphoric acid content and showed a test of 6.4. Each one being high in phosphoric acid and each green tested the same. Keeping this test in mind, with very little acidity we applied fifteen pounds of ammonium sulphate to each green ten days before the late New Jersey Open, which started August 15. This was applied on Friday, in solution. That night it rained all night and all Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon and Sunday was very hot. On Monday morning all the poa annua in every green was gone.

Fortunately only three greens had enough poa annua to leave noticeably large bare spots, but they looked bad enough to me, even if there was some clover left. I immediately spiked the bare spots, seeded with red top and Colonial bent and top-dressed with mushroom soil. The New Jersey Open came and went and some favorable comments were passed on the condition of the greens, but I could not help feeling that there were plenty of missed putts on those three greens.

I have learned this season that it is not a question of how much water to apply when watering greens but to find out the minimum that is required and let that be the guide. Too much water, together with repeated applications of fungicides applied to greens which do not have sufficient surface or under drainage to run off excess water, has been the reason why many golfers have been playing temporary greens this season.

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