

disease, I gave the greens an application. I have been unable to find a chemical to prevent the growth.

I composted about every 15 days, using both organic and inorganic fertilizers lightly, and spiked the greens frequently. I have always used organic fertilizers during the summer and have never found that they caused either large or small brown patch.

Watering has an effect on brown patch. Too much water during the hot weather has a tendency to produce the disease, but allowing one's greens to get too dry is just as bad. So, during the brown patch season, I give lots of attention to watering, practically all of my watering being done at night.

I have observed various diseases on greens that have been dried out, the principal one being brown patch. I believe it is caused under these circumstances by a weakened condition of the grass, either by over-fertilization (too much sulphate of ammonia, acid phosphate, etc.) or by the lack of fertilizer.

It will be interesting to read of the conditions on other courses in different parts of the country and compare my methods with other greenkeepers. Most of our trouble here is brown patch.

Poor Drainage Hurt Aurora

By SPENCER MEISTER, *Greenkeeper*

Aurora Country Club, Aurora, Ill.

WITH reference to your inquiry of September 8th, I wish to quote the following: Our golf course started to suffer with the extreme heat and humidity of the latter part of June. Immediately we got busy with fungicides.

I used corrosive sublimate and Semesan with

equally good results which were effective throughout with the exception of some spots on our 7 and 14 greens, which places were poorly drained and where these greens were water-logged is where the serious damage was done.

I can best explain the damage which occurred, when I mention that No. 7 was affected to the extent only of having to wait 45 days for these affected parts to grow in, which on No. 14 it was necessary to lift and replace about 20 square feet of turf where the large brown patch in the poorly drained area would have taken too long to recuperate and grow back in.

We continued playing these greens, however, and they were better than any temporary green we could have provided as far as a putting surface was concerned.

I did not use any organic fertilizers in any top-dressing after this trouble and as a matter of fact, I let up for a couple of weeks after this hot spell on any fertilizing plan and also cut down on the water applied, thinking that the fertilizer was adding too much added heat to the soil and that the water was adding to that almost steaming condition which existed.

Whether or not this helped me and if so to what degree I am at a loss to say. While I did not have any further attacks of brown patch (I used preventative measures of mercury compound meanwhile) it left my greens with an unhealthy color. The grass did not grow so fast and became thinner and then I decided I must feed the greens and get water on them as I felt the starving of them was bad from a golfing standpoint, appearance of color, lack of ability to hold a ball and also too fast a putting surface.

About a week after using fertilizers and water I also got some favorable weather and the greens showed a marked improvement and at this writing they are in excellent condition.

I was not troubled with webworms. Had a few so-called large cutworms but noticed no damage from them.

I also noticed no damage on what bent we had on fairways which were not watered or fertilized except the natural burnt appearance and this all left after the last couple of rains which restored their color. The bent referred to on fairways is on one of the lowest places on the course and probably gets a little air as any area.



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