

## Brown Patch Control

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**I**N MY last article I told you about some of the materials used in the control of brown patch and this article will tell you a little about the fungi and the remedy that has solved the problem for me.

### MOLDS

**A**S FAR as fungus goes (what we call brown patch) reams of articles can be written about its forms, where it comes from and how it develops but for our purposes we know that it belongs to the mold family and in that classification there are many kinds of molds, mildew, smut, etc. Mold, then, covers the start of our trouble, which has no cell coloring matter and derives its nourishment from organic compounds.

Our greens are ideal locations for the development of mold, because we use a soil rich in organic materials and most greens are planted with bent. Bent grass forms a dense growth (which is desirable, from the golfer's standpoint, because it makes a good putting surface), but it is also an ideal bed for mold development.

### WATER

**Y**OU can argue until the cows come home whether to water or allow greens to dry out. Some claim that the drying-out process keeps down the brown patch trouble, but I am firmly convinced that it does not pay to allow your greens to dry out because bent grass, with its dense and powerful root growth, can and does conserve moisture and to thoroughly dry out a green would destroy the growth.

To dry out and then wet down a green does not improve the situation. True, molds contain about 90% water or moisture—dry them out and fungi lie dormant until moistened again. Acidity, temperature, soil construction and a hundred and one things influence the development of fungi.

### REMEDY

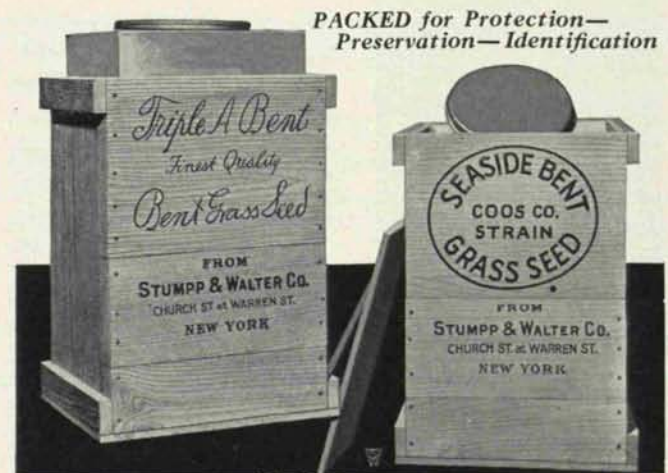
**I**N EXPERIMENTING with many kinds of formulas containing all the well-known ingredients used for the control of molds causing brown patch we have found that we can go just so far with safety and anything beyond that safety limit spells ruination to the grass. It has been our experience that the most effective and fool-proof treatment for this pest consists in applying a solution of a highly purified form of an organic compound of mercury developed for us by a young chemist friend of ours who has spent a number of years in studying this problem and in developing a special product for this purpose.

A number of such organic compounds of mercury are to be found on the open market but we have not found them as effective or as safe to use as the one developed by our chemist friend. While we realize that the use of

calomel and bichloride of mercury results in some improvement and is the treatment recommended by a number of experiment stations, the continued use of this treatment in our hands has shown very bad eventual effects on the grass growth.

The special fungicide we are using at present is now available in bulk and as it is used in very small quantities and in the form of highly-diluted solutions its effect on soil and grass growth is negligible even after long continued use.

After three years of intensive practical study and with the help of a nationally-known chemist I am mighty pleased to be identified with this outstanding contribution to the golf courses of the country.



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