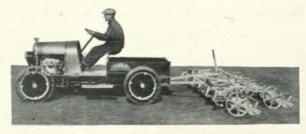


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# The NATIONAL GREENKEEPER

Official Organ of The National Association of Greenkeepers of America

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VOLUME II.

No. 7

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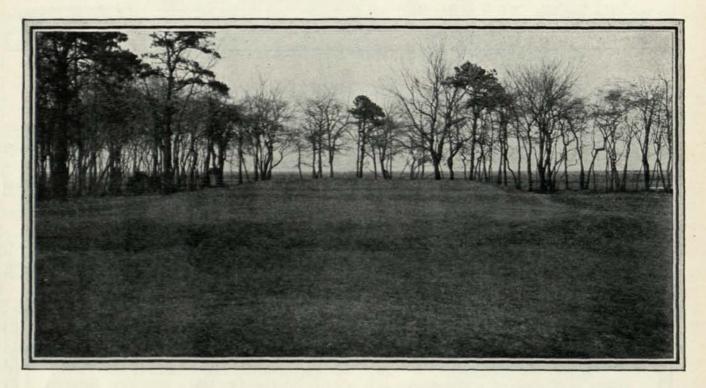
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SAMUEL H. PURVIS Superintendent of course at Seaview Country Club

# SEAVIEW finds SEMESAN best Brown Patch preventive and control



FOR some time after the building of the course at the Seaview Country Club, Absecon, N. J., grass could not be made to grow on it. Extremely damp conditions spread a deadly blanket of brown patch mycelium that killed off the grass as fast as it grew. Then Mr. Samuel H. Purvis was appointed course superintendent. Mr. Purvis immediately applied Semesan to all golf greens and has continued this treatment at regular intervals ever since. Brown patch completely disappeared and Seaview has splendid, smooth greens all year around.

"We entertain over seven thousand visiting golfers each year," writes Mr. Purvis, "and our greens must be in perfect condition to attract these visitors from all parts of the United States.

"To allow brown patch to make its appearance would

be too costly and we, therefore, continuously prevent this devastating disease from getting a start by means of du Pont Semesan, the best disinfectant and brown patch preventive we have ever found—and we have tried them all."

Green No. 12, pictured above, is typical of the brown patch problem Mr. Purvis faced when he took charge of this course. Located in a horseshoe formation of trees at a very low spot in the course, the conditions were ideal for brown patch attacks. Semesan now keeps this green in faultless condition.

Seaview is the scene of thousands of private "championships," every year. The course is never idle a single day. So popular is this famous course, adjoining Atlantic City, that many people spend their vacations at the comfortable clubhouse. Seaview, therefore, cannot afford any time out for brown patch attacks.

End the brown patch threat. Keep your course in championship condition. Write now for a copy of the Semesan Brown Patch Booklet. Complete directions for the treatment of fine grasses.



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Dyestuffs Department, Wilmington, Delaware

# SEMESAN

MAKES SEEDS HEALTHY

Used Wherever Championships Are Played

JULY 1928

# The NATIONAL The Leading Journal of the World on Turf Culture and Golf Course Maintenance

VOL. II No. 7

Official Organ of The National Association of Greenkeepers of America

# How I Control Brown Patch

Contest conducted by the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER produces splendid list of prize stories. A. E. Lundstrom wins the \$50.00 cash prize by close margin on points. Judges' opinions vary greatly.

It was a great contest. Just to show that brown-patch control is still an unknown quantity there was only one paper, that of the winner, Mr. Lundstrom, which any two judges rated the same. It may be that this disagreement is due to the wide territorial locations of the judges, Evans in Philadelphia, McNamara in Pittsburgh, and MacGregor in Chicago. When John Morley appointed these judges he probably had in mind getting as comprehensive a viewpoint as possible which shows rehat a wise head he is.

It might be explained that the judges did not know the names of the contestants. The papers were lettered and the judges rated them from 1 to 10 according to their judgment.

#### FIRST PRIZE

A. E. LUNDSTROM

Crescent Athletic Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.



THE WINNER

Brown-patch, being a fungus, requires shade and moisture. Reason therefore prompts me to try to eliminate these factors as soon as possible, i.e., destroying the main factor favoring fungus growth.

One seldom sees brown-patch on newly planted lawns or very thin grass, or grass that is allowed to grow undisturbed to maturity, for the simple reason that sun and air penetrates to its roots.

Where brown-patch most frequently occurs is in turf closely cut,

Space will not permit us to publish only the five prize winners in this number Next month we hope to publish the honorable mention stories and it is the Editor's opinion (if it is worth much), that some of those who are not even on the list are worth publishing in THE NA-TIONAL GREENKEEPER. But no matter how opinions may vary we are going to get somewhere on brown-patch control, and as everybody knows THE NATIONAL GREEN-KEEPER, with the co-operation of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America, is setting the pace in a progressive study of this serious subject. We will be glad to have opinions of our readers as to the results of this contest-Editor's Note.

heavily topdressed and fed and where a thick root system is artificially created.

One naturally applies drastic remedies at once. This, however, I feel is not enough, for, by only applying said remedy the cause making brown-patch growth possible is still there. Why not, therefore, eliminate this cause at once with a severe raking, followed by close cutting and avoiding water for several days thus allowing the sun and air to do the principal work.

This naturally creates a brown stubble and is unsightly though only for a short time, for by intensified feeding, watering and topdressing the grass will come back better than ever, due greatly to its well established root system.

The road to least resistance is not always practical and the greenkeeper, like the doctor, must find and kill the cause before a permanent cure is assured and that, with the greenkeeper means elbow grease, and not only chemicals or certain remedies which, however, plays a prominent part.

#### SECOND PRIZE ELMER F. AFFELDT

ABOUT June 15 in this locality the hot muggy nights arrive and with it weather favorable for the rapid development of brownpatch.

This is the time to begin operations for the control of this dread disease rather than wait for its appearance.

I start a man with Knap-Sack sprayer and spray all greens lightly but thoroughly. This covers the foliage of the plants as well as leaving a light film of the preventive material on the surface of the soil.

This treatment should be given every other day, also after a rain. While the disease is raging a daily treatment is necessary.

The reason for the frequent treatments is that foliage is being cut off daily, and the new growth is not immune because of not having been treated.

I use Uspulun Nu-Green because of its convenience and ease of application, using two pounds to fifty gallons of water. Weigh this material out two pounds to a paper bag; the man doing the spraying need only empty the material in the barrel, fill it with water and proceed, as the material is very soluble; it also has a mild stimulative action aiding the green to recover more quickly.

I have been using this method for the past three seasons and have never lost any turf, or had any trouble from burning.

This method has also been equally effective in controlling the small or dollar patch as it has the large patch.

## THIRD PRIZE JACOB BALDAUF

Bloomington Country Club, Bloomington, Ill.

I HAVE taken care of bent greens for the past three years. The first year I had some brown-patch, not very bad, but since then have had very little trouble.

My method of preventing brown-patch—I give them a treatment by June 1 with Upsulun. Then I watch closely every time we have warm cloudy sultry days and I give them a treatment.

Everyone that has any experience with bent greens should know that a day or two of sultry warm cloudy weather will bring brown-patch. Last season a great many of the clubs in this section were very much bothered with brown-patch. Some lost many of their greens entirely.

## The Winners

#### PRIZE CONTEST How I Control Brown-Patch

First, A. E. Lundstrom—20 points.

Crescent Athletic Club, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Second, Elmer F. Affeldt—18 points.

Glen Oaks Golf & Country Club, Great Neck, L. I.

Third, Jacob Baldauf—17 points.

Bloomington Country Club, Bloomington, Ill.

FOURTH, Alex McWhinnie—16 points. Morrison Country Club, Morrison, Ill.

FIFTH, Frank Ermer—13 points. Ridgewood Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio.

#### HONORABLE MENTION

Chas. Kesselring, Washington Country Club, Marietta, O. E. A. Swanlund, Rochester Country Club, Rochester, Minn. Wm. McMillan, Harrison Hills Country Club, Attica, Ind. John Pressler, Allegheny Country Club, Sewickley, Pa. James A. Smith, London Country Club, London, O. Lawrence Huber, Elks Country Club, Worthington, O.

#### JUDGES

John McNamara, First Vice President N. A. G. A. John MacGregor, Second Vice President N. A. G. A. Lewis M. Evans, Treasurer N. A. G. A.

In the past two years in my way of treating them have never had one brown-patch visible to any member of our club. Will not say that I myself did not notice any brown-patch because I was looking for it. Will not say my way of treating the greens will hold good on all greens where the climate is different than it is here, but I do know that it worked with me.

I treat the greens four or five times in the season, about five pounds of Uspulun to eight thousand square feet of green.

Now if anyone knows a better way to treat brown-patch I would be glad to know.

## FOURTH PRIZE

Morrison Country Club, Morrison, Ill.

THIS pest, "brown-patch," will surely visit you, if you give it the right invitation. During the hot stuffy weather of the latter part of July and the month of August, 1925, I was giving my greens a heavy watering every morning and found that brown-patch needed no other encouragement. It came and settled down with damaging results.

Where the surface drainage was best there was no damage whatever. In other words, the greens that dried off quickest after watering were free from it. I also found that where the slopes were most pronounced, the grass was healthiest, while one green which was located

in a ravine, and damp all the time, was almost

completely wiped out.

During 1926-27 I decided to profit by the mistake I made in 1925, and so far I have not been troubled with brown-patch, large or small, I

water in proportion to the humidity.

If the dew is light, I water it off. If it is heavy, I rub it off, keeping in mind the fact that the greens should dry off quickly. Many times the heavy dew rubbed off has been sufficient watering for that day. The idea that creeping bent greens require a lot of water has caused more brown-patch than anything else, is my belief.

Very light morning watering during humid weather will be my method of controlling "brown-patch" until I learn of something

better.

## FIFTH PRIZE

Ridgewood Golf Club, Cleveland, O.

IN THE summer of 1926 my greens were very much infested with brown-patch and as this disease was somewhat new to our district at the time, I tried several methods with very little result until I tried using corrosive sublimate, which I have used during the seasons of 1926-7 and am also going to use it in 1928.

Along about the last of May, or when the weather looks humid, I put one and one-half ounces of corrosive sublimate mixed with three pounds of sulphate of ammonia, using a barrel cart to put it on and use three barrels to a green

of about six thousand square feet.

The reason I use three barrels of this mixture to a green is so as to be sure and flood the green so as to catch every square inch of it. Whereas using only one barrelfull of this solution mixed three times as strong to a green you can not flood the green as the holes in the boom of the barrel cart are drilled too far apart and will not catch all the surface, but will leave lines on the green where no corrosive will be applied and also gives the fungus a starting point.

I use this mixture once a week until the first of July. I then cut down to three-quarter ounce of corrosive and one and one-half sulphate to each barrel until the 15th of September. Or if there is an exceptionally late fall, with hot humid nights I proceed with the latter formula

until the 1st of October.

The reason I cut down on the corrosive and sulphate is if you use a greater amount than the above each week it probably will turn the turf slightly brown and also if applied at intervals of more than one week I think the solution gets weakened or disappears with the cutting and watering of the turf.

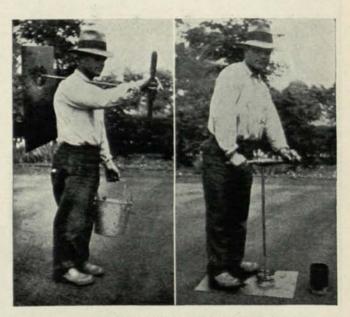
I do not use fresh compost for top dressing, it should be at least two years old. The spring top dressing I put all I can work into the grass with a mixture of two parts compost and one part sand. Then one or two light top dressings during the summer, consisting about two parts sand and one part compost. The fall top dressing, about the middle of September, is the same as in the spring.

By using this method since the spring of 1926 I have not had one spot of brown-patch in two seasons. I do all my watering at night.

# Changing the Holes By JOHN MCNAMARA

WHILE at the greenkeeper's meeting at Pine Valley I heard some of the greenkeepers talking about the men changing the holes. It was a surprise to some of them to see the man carrying this sheet of iron around him, so I had a picture taken when I came home which I am enclosing for the July number of The NATIONAL GREENKEEPER as some of its readers may be interested in it.

The sheet of iron measures  $16 \times 24 \times \frac{1}{8}$  inches, having a hole cut about 6 inches from the one end which gives



SHEET IRON PLATE USED IN CHANGING HOLES

the man cutting the hole room to stand on the other end and leaves the grass edge perfect when he places the cup and removes the plate which is only 12 pounds. This will never kill the man that carries it around as the man in this picture has been carrying it around for me for twenty odd years.

### Detroit's Demonstration Day



DETROIT DISTRICT GREENKEEPERS AND GREEN SECTION STAGE EXHIBIT MAY 28
(1) Herbert E. Shave at wheel of Toro tractor; at extreme right is R. H. Montgomery, chairman of Detroit District Green Section, (2) Messrs. Tyson and Fellman demonstrating Friend sprayer to Mr. Noone of Bloomfield Hills, (3) Reunion of Dundee-ites, Scotty McLaren and Alex McPherson, (4) Scotty McLaren demonstrating Toro Mower on hillside, (5) The Worthington "Overgreen" mower, (6) New Toro "Whippet" drawing five gang unit, (7) John Dee, western representative Worthington Co. and Ernest Chamberlain of Detroit examining Worthington cutting unit, (8) L. A. Ferguson, Ideal Sales Mgr., (center) and K. E. Goit, Toro Sales Mgr., (right)

# U. S. G. A. Greenkeepers' Meeting

Terse story of the three-day convention of greenkeepers at Atlantic City, Pine Valley and Washington. Small attendance due to season.

By JOHN McNAMARA, 1st Vice President

National Association of Greenkeepers of America



JOHN McNAMARA

THE 2nd annual Greenkeepers' meeting of the U. S. G. A. Green Section was held at the Atlantic City Country club on Monday, June 4, 1928.

When we arrived in the morning at the club house, it was noticeable to see a gang of men and a tractor with a chain harrow cleaning up the sand traps for the occasion.

The first thing on the programme in the forenoon was a golf tournament for those who wished to partici-

pate. The Philadelphia greenkeepers took three of the four prizes offered, Mr. Valentine taking the first, Mr. Ryan the second, Mr. Daugherty the third, while the fourth prize was won by Mr. Hackney, the professional of the Atlantic City Country Club.

After lunch, which was served at the club house, Mr. Kendall Read, chairman of the Green committee of the club, led the party of about sixty-five to seventy-five, including some of the officers of the U. S. G. A., Green Section and Green chairmen of various clubs, over the golf course.

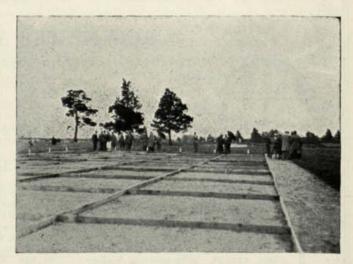
The first place of interest was the pump house where the water situation was fully explained. All of the water supply is forced by air from a 200-foot deep well into a tank. From there it is pumped out through the ground for the watering of greens and fairways. The capacity of this well is from four to five hundred gallons per minute. We then proceeded to the tool house, which contained power sprayers, mower sharpeners, tractors, etc. The party then continued to go over the golf course.

The grass was rather wet after a shower of rain and Mr. Read went on to explain at some length the advantages of building greens so that they may show up from different angles by not placing the face of the greens always at right angles to the fairways. He also explained the way they had the traps built so as not to have any high banks around them which may cause extra hand labor. While talking of this economy, many of the greenkeepers noticed a pair of horses pulling a mower that was used for cutting the rough and they remarked that a club of this size should be more modern and have tractors for this kind of work as it would be

more efficient and more economical in the long run.

After explaining about the partly poa annua greens and fairways (which from my estimation may be all improved by the use of more fertilizer) the fairways principally of fescue, clover and poa annua looked rather hungry and a little extra care would improve their looks to a great extent. What a difference in the fairways and greens of the Pine Valley Country Club where they have practically the same ground and weather conditions. I have travelled over the country quite a bit and have seen a good many golf courses and have always noticed that where there are too many advisors the course always suffers for it.

The next places of interest were the experimental plots, about fifty in number. These plots, as I understand, are under the supervision of the United States Golf Association, Green Section. Each patch is of a different variety of grass seed sown on sandy or very poor soil for the experimenting of various fertilizers.



NEW GRASS PLOTS, ATLANTIC CITY COUNTRY CLUB

The seed had not been sown long and it was just beginning to show some green grass. The most advanced or fastest to germinate was the poa trivialis, which shows it is the fastest grown of the fifty varieties sown.

By this time it was cold and raining somewhat and everyone went for the club house where dinner was served, after which the prizes were awarded the winners of the golf tournament. Among other things discussed were poa annua, brown patch and their remedies

# A Treat for Players and Course!

Fletcher Golf Specialties will make the game more enjoyable and the course more attractive



#### GREEN ROLLER

The Fletcher Green Roller has been designed and developed with one purpose in view, to produce a perfect roller for putting greens.

Its weight is scientifically distributed in relation to its length, so that just the right pressure for greens is obtained. Due to its sectional construction (there being really four rolls in one) it turns very easily and will not burn the green. Grease packed roller bearings require no attention. No oil drippings to mar the green.

Rolls are cast iron, absolutely true and smooth. Slightly rounded edges cannot mark or cut the green.

Handle is galvanized iron, and has no wood parts to rot or become splintery.



#### PRACTICE GREEN MARKER

Staff is fitted with a plate which catches the ball as it drops in the hole. When staff is lifted, ball comes out automatically.

No stooping. No muddy ball.

Fits the "Drainwell" or most standard cups with 11/8 in. hole.

Attractively finished in Duco-red disc, yellow staff, black numbers one to eighteen.

#### "CROWN" TEE MARKER



Attractive, inexpensive and durable.

Easily moved and placed.

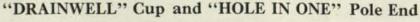
Does not mar the tee.

Open sections allow the grass

to grow-no bare spots.

Hugs the ground and stays in place.

Finished in Duco-white for men's tees; red for ladies'.



#### More Holes in One

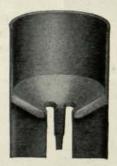
There is plenty of room between the edge of the cup and the flag pin to allow the ball to drop.

Using "Hole in One" pole ends last season, Whitemarsh Valley Country Club, Philadelphia, won district prize for greatest number of holes in one.

#### Free Drainage

Even with the flag pole in place, the water runs out of the cup, and drains away at the side as well as the bottom. This is an exclusive and patented feature of the "Drainwell."

The bottom of the cup is cone shaped, and the flag pin automatically finds the hole.



The cup and pole end may be used separately. A bamboo or other wooden pole will fit into the "Drainwell." Likewise, the "Hole in One" pole end will fit most standard cups with 11/8 in. hole. However, best results are obtained by using both together.

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