



ing. A flattened or round ring handhold is welded to the end of the handle. Mr. Martin says the rake is inexpensive, easy to use, does the work rapidly, and leaves the sand in even ridges, which look well and make an extra, though fair, hazard.

“Herbae Prati”

In May, 1923, the United States Department of Agriculture, through a press release, called attention to the fact that meadow fescue (*Festuca elatior pratensis*) was being falsely advertised as a lawn grass under the name “turfing fescue,” and that seed of it was being offered for sale at an exorbitant price. Those responsible for the false and misleading advertisements apparently were reached by the Department’s published statement, but they were not sufficiently chastened, for they persisted in making the same or similar statements regarding the grass, the seed of which they continued to offer for sale. They did, however, change the name from “turfing fescue” to “*Festuca elatior*.” How long this name was used is not known, but evidently it carried with it too much information for the public, or it was not sufficiently alluring to catch the desired number of suckers, for it was soon discarded.

As early as November, 1923, advertisements appeared containing statements essentially the same as those used in the advertisements of “turfing fescue” and “*Festuca elatior*,” but this time a new name was adopted, one apparently designed to attract and impress. The new name is “Herbae Prati” which is a Latin name meaning meadow grass.

It should not be necessary to warn the readers of THE BULLETIN against advertisements of this kind. Surely, if they would stop to think, they would shy at the name "Herbae Prati" with no common name accompanying it, or, if not at the name alone, then at least at such statements as these: "The world's greatest lawn grass." "This grass will grow where all others fail." "A lawn in thirty days anywhere." "It will grow in the shade, and heat or cold does not affect it."

Possibly the offering for sale of meadow fescue as "Herbae Prati" might be overlooked, but the offering of it as seed of a high-class lawn grass and at \$1.50 per pound makes the case reprehensible beyond defense. Meadow fescue is a good constituent of pasture mixtures in parts of the country, particularly in the northeastern part of the United States, where moisture and other conditions are favorable; but in no sense is it a lawn grass, and under no conditions should it be sown where fine turf is desired. The price, \$1.50 per pound, is exorbitant. Good seed of it can be obtained from reputable seedsmen at \$12 to \$15 per 100 pounds f. o. b. point of destination.

If the readers of THE BULLETIN will write to the Green Section when in doubt as to statements made regarding grasses or grass seed, they will be given promptly useful and authentic information.

The editors of The Bulletin are always glad to publish contributions from greenkeepers, chairmen of green committees, or others having information of interest to present to its readers on the subject of turf maintenance.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

All questions sent to the Green Committee will be answered in a letter to the writer as promptly as possible. The more interesting of these questions, with concise answers, will appear in this column each month. If your experience leads you to disagree with any answer given in this column, it is your privilege and duty to write to the Green Committee.

While most of the answers are of general application, please bear in mind that each recommendation is intended specifically for the locality designated at the end of the question.

1. Preparation of soil for new greens.—We have a variety of soil on our property with quite a little quantity of muck which was formerly under water but is now drained, also clay running to sand, and a considerable quantity of a fair sandy loam. How would you advise us to use this material in the building of new greens? (Michigan.)

We would advise you to be careful in making use of the muck which you mention. More putting greens have been ruined by the use of commercial humus, which is perhaps similar to your muck, than by any other treatment in the last several years. Try to get the soil for your putting greens as nearly as possible in the condition of a good garden loam. This can be done by working in quite a liberal amount of well-rotted manure. If you can not get well-rotted manure, use fresh manure. It is well to