

## BROWN-PATCH

### GIVE US YOUR 1924 EXPERIENCE WITH BROWN-PATCH

We are anxious to learn of your 1924 experience with brown-patch, both the large and small kind.

Please write us fully, giving us (1) the date or dates of appearance, (2) severity of attack, (3) measures used to combat, and particularly (4) the results you have gotten from any of the new fungicides.

It is planned to publish a full report on all the brown-patch data for 1924. Your cooperation is wanted in gathering information on which to base our report.

---

### Strains of Creeping Bent

There seems much haziness in the minds of our readers as to just what is meant by a *strain* of creeping bent.

Many letters reach us, usually with a specimen of the grass, asking us to identify the strain. This is next to impossible without further data. We may hazard the statement that the specimen looks like the Washington strain, but to say it is identical with that, or with any other, is not usually possible.

In the work at Arlington we have tested more or less thoroughly about one hundred strains of creeping bent. There are in existence perhaps five times this number. They differ in color, texture, disease resistance, vigor of growth, etc. Many strains were discarded because they were too susceptible to disease; others because they lacked vigor; still others because they grew too fluffy.

Each one of the strains is the vegetative progeny of a single plant, and therefore "pure,"—that is, perfectly uniform. Such a *pedigreed progeny* is what we refer to as a strain. For example, the Washington strain is the progeny of a single plant, or rather of a plug out of its center, selected for brown-patch resistance from a putting green on the Washington Golf and Country Club course. The Virginia strain is originally from the same course. The Vermont strain was selected from a putting green on the Ekwanok Country Club course at Manchester, Vermont. Metropolitan bent is from a golf course near New York City. Columbia is a strain originally found on the Columbia Country Club course, and is the strain used to plant the famous No. 9 green. Seaside bent is from the salt marshes near Revere Beach, Massachusetts, where it occurs in large areas, perhaps all of one strain.

Growing side by side, either in rows or in turf plats, the differences in these *six* strains are striking. They have been saved as the best out of about 100 strains tested. If a club has nursery rows known to be of one or more of these bents, the strain can by careful comparison be identified. If it is a wild bent or one casually selected, it can not be identified at all, other than by pointing out its superficial resemblance to one of the tested strains. Two bent strains may look superficially alike and yet in actual tests prove totally unlike.

To summarize concisely, a strain of bent named by us is a thoroughly tested and pedigreed culture. It is only by keeping its pedigree straight that one can be sure of any strain.

Some of these strains may prove to come true from seed, but this is as yet uncertain. During the present season seed has been raised from each of several tested strains, and in two years' time it will be possible to determine whether or not any one strain breeds true to seed.