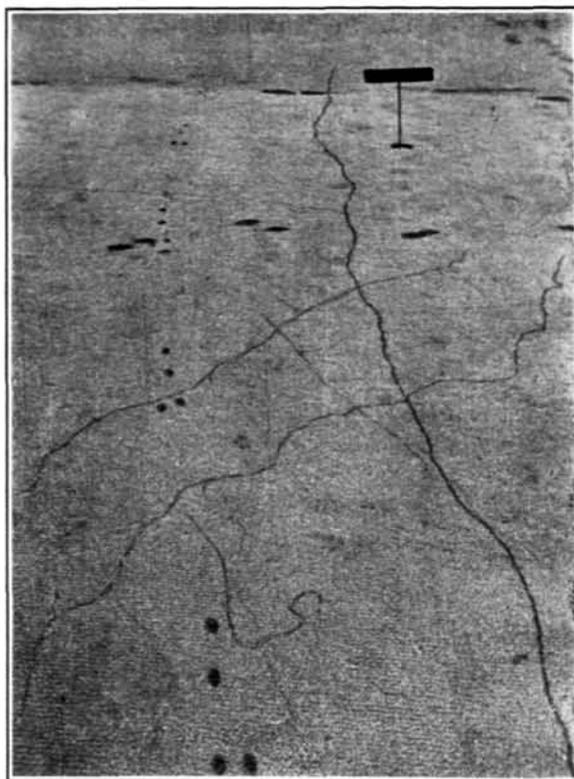


Earthworms and Cutworms Travel Far at Night

One frequently hears discussions as to how far earthworms and grubs travel on the surface of putting greens during the night. These pests frequently leave their trails in the dew which indicates that they travel long distances. The accompanying photograph was taken on velvet bent on the Arlington turf garden in 1928, when the grass was covered with a heavy dew after the dew had accumulated on the turf. Cutworms and earthworms moving across it rubbed off the dew and left the dark, irregular streaks shown in the photograph.



Tracks of earthworms and cutworms on dew-covered turf

The rabbit tracks running vertically across the picture and the dog tracks running horizontally about two-thirds up the picture serve to bring out the size of the area included in the photograph. The long distances which many of these turf pests travel during the night, as is evidenced in this photograph, emphasize the need for protecting the borders of putting greens with poisoned treatments in order to make effective any remedies which are used on the putting greens themselves. At certain seasons these pests travel much farther than at others. Frequently an apparent reinfestation of a putting green which is sometimes blamed on the sudden ineffectiveness of chemical remedies may in reality simply indicate that the earthworms or cutworms have moved in from turf surrounding the putting area and as yet they have not been exposed to the poisons long enough to be injured.