

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

All questions sent to the Green Section 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. If your experience leads you to disagree with any answer here given it is your privilege and duty to write to the Green Section. While most of the answers are of general application, it must be borne in mind that each recommendation is intended specifically for the locality designated at the end of the question.

Slime mold fungus on turf.—I am sending you a piece of sod on which is fungus growth which I have never seen before. Any information on it will be appreciated. (Oregon)

ANSWER.—This is one of the slime mold fungi which frequently occur on grass. Ordinarily they do not do any damage beyond temporarily disfiguring the turf. Usually they turn black when they become old enough to produce spores and then can be readily washed from the grass and no damage is apparent. In some cases there is a slight injury. There are different species of this type of fungus and some variation of species under different conditions.

Sulphur water for irrigation purposes.—In drilling for water on our course we struck sulphur water. Would this be suitable for use on putting greens? (Ohio)

ANSWER.—Sulphur water is frequently used on golf courses without any apparent harmful effects. However, in most cases it is aerated by spraying it into the air, which removes the sulphur fumes. It depends upon the concentration of the sulphur as to whether it is safe to use on golf courses or not. We suggest that you have the water analysed. If you send us a report on the analysis we shall be glad to give you further advice on the subject.

Creeping bent nursery going to seed.—This season all the grass in our creeping bent nursery seems to be going to seed. Can this tendency be discouraged? If not, does it harm the stolons? (Ohio)

ANSWER.—We do not know of any way in which the tendency of creeping bent stolons to produce seed in a nursery can be discouraged except by cutting them with a mower. However, this does not always work, because so much of the seed is produced so close to the ground that it is difficult to reach the seed heads with a mower under nursery conditions without injuring the grass. We have found that stolons or plants which have produced seed are just as satisfactory for planting, but the growth of the stolons is somewhat checked during the time the seed is being produced. If nurseries are left for a long time in the same area, seed production is objectionable since the seed does not produce plants identical with the parent. Grass planted from stolons produced from seed formed in the nursery might be undesirable.



Anyone who hopes to achieve success, even the average, must know more, or at least as much, about some one thing as any other one, and not only know, but know how to do—and how to utilize his experience and knowledge for the benefit of others.

—Theodore N. Vail.

