

## WHAT OTHERS WRITE ON TURF

In this department will be given the substance of research in the various fields of scientific investigation which seems to have a definite bearing on turf improvement. The articles will summarize results of recent investigations made in various parts of the world. They are not published here as recommendations but simply as information for our readers and as suggestions which may have practical applications in many situations. Where the Green Section's tests or the information it has obtained from other reliable sources in this country substantiates or contradicts the results obtained by other investigators, comments to that effect may be included as a guide for our readers. In all other cases the reader will receive in brief the results and conclusions as given in the original papers.

---

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STANDARD  
AND FAIRWAY STRAINS OF  
CRESTED WHEATGRASS

The Fairway strain of crested wheatgrass is frequently used for turf purposes in the dry areas of the Northwest. Where watering is possible, the Fairway strain is not so satisfactory as Kentucky bluegrass, but in areas where dependence must be placed on the limited rainfall, it is the best grass available for turf purposes.

As mentioned in the second issue of *TURF CULTURE*, the Fairway strain makes a better low-cut turf than does the ordinary crested wheatgrass. W. D. Hay of Montana has studied seeds, seedlings, and mature plants of two selected strains of crested wheatgrass, Standard and Fairway, and has described the differences between them in the *Journal*

of the American Society of Agronomy.

The seed of the Fairway strain tends to be shorter and narrower than that of the Standard strain, and the awns tend to be longer. The best means for distinguishing between the seed of the two strains, however, lies in the 1,000-grain weight. The weight of 1,000 seeds of the Fairway strain was 1.38 grams, while 1,000 seeds of the Standard strain weighed 2.41 grams. The heaviest seed of the Fairway strain is lighter than the lightest seed of the Standard strain.

The seedlings of the Fairway strain can be distinguished from those of the Standard strain by the presence of fine hairs on the upper leaf surface. In the Standard strain there are sometimes a few scattered hairs, but as a rule the leaf is smooth. There are also some differences which

are less readily seen, such as the spines on the leaf sheath, which are present in most plants in the Standard strain, but absent in the Fairway strain.

In the field the two strains are distinguished by the more conspicuous variations in characteristics of the spikes, height and color of the plants of the Standard strain, as contrasted with the greater uniformity among the plants of the Fairway strain. These variations are most conspicuous just before blooming, after which it becomes increasingly difficult to distinguish between the two strains.

---

#### "PRACTICAL LAWN CRAFT"

A new book on grass growing has recently been written by R. B. Dawson, Director of the St. Ives Research Station, Bingley, England. The book is entitled "Practical Lawn Craft" and is published by Crosby, Lockwood & Son, Ltd., London. Although the title indicates only an interest in lawns it, to a large extent, also covers the field for turf maintenance on golf courses and sports fields as well.

The book is written primarily for English conditions and therefore the turf under consideration is composed chiefly of bent and fescue. A mixture of these two grasses is said to

produce the best lawn turf in England.

The whole range of turf maintenance is thoroughly covered in chapters on grasses, construction and drainage, the purchase of grass seed, seeding, mowing, fertilizing, weeds, diseases, and many other topics. Extensive references are given to scientific work in this field but unfortunately the author has apparently not carefully checked his references to give full credit to original sources.

The book is well prepared and is a definite contribution to the literature on turf culture. Even though it is written for conditions that are not generally common in the United States, it no doubt would be found to contain much useful information for those who maintain turf in this country.

---

#### NAME OF THE FUNGUS RESPONSIBLE FOR DOLLARSPOT

The fungus responsible for the dollarspot disease of turf grasses was first recognized and isolated in the United States. A description of the symptoms of the disease and of the organism was published in the Bulletin of the United States Golf Association Green Section. On the basis of the appearance of the mycelium or hair-like vegetative growth of the