

"If the advertisements of some new and wonderful thing in regard to grass excite your interest, try it by all means, but only in a small experiment.

"It is unfortunate that many greenkeepers incline to be secretive. Greenkeeping, like everything else, will advance with the spread of knowledge and not by keeping 'the light under a bushel.'

"If you are going to build a new golf course in the North, plan the work so the seeding can be done between August 15 and September 15.

"A hazard that is too severe is apt to defeat its object. The players purposely avoid taking the chance.

"It is well to be suspicious of the seedsmen who advise spring seeding of turf grasses in the North. The conditions are exceptional where spring seeding is justifiable.

"Before you try anything new in the way of greenkeeping except as a small experiment, better get the opinion of the Green Section. It may save you some money that might better be used otherwise."

## COMMENTS ON THE APRIL, 1923, NUMBER OF THE BULLETIN

IT should be obvious to every golf club that uses vegetated creeping bent-grass that the golfing world owes an undying debt of gratitude to the men who developed the principles of the vegetative planting of bent. What has been done in 25 years since the historical dates cited are merely refinements; the basic principles still stand. New member clubs of the USGA should strive to borrow old copies of the BULLETIN in order to develop an appreciation of information available today. The supply of this number of the BULLETIN is exhausted so please do not write to the Green Section asking for this number.

Another fact is so glaring that one actually blushes. The information published 25 years ago on vegetative planting has been reprinted almost on an annual basis and the Green Section still gets letters asking the question, "We have heard of your new creeping bent. Where can we get seed and how much does it cost?" It is obvious that *education* actually is needed more than research. The Green Section staff would answer fewer letters

if all green committee chairmen would first consult with their course superintendents before writing for technical information.

In 1923, golf clubs could hold separate memberships in the Green Section and the USGA. On November 30, 1923, the Green Section membership was 643 and the USGA membership was 645. The majority but not all of these clubs were members of both the Green Section and the USGA.

Actually little has changed in 25 years—principally the people and some of the grasses. As personnel changes the same lessons have to be taught to a new group of people. The more frequent the change, the more difficult becomes the job of disseminating information. It is safe to say that, in the past 25 years, there has been *less* change among the course superintendents than among club management, especially green committees. It is hoped that suitable recognition ultimately will be given to the stabilizing influence of course superintendents on golf clubs through the one thing that makes the game of golf possible—*good turf on the course*.

### CENTIPEDE GRASS FROM SEED

Lack of seed has discouraged the planting of Centipede grass for many years. Test plots of Centipede grass at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga., have produced yields as high as 200 pounds of seed to the acre. The use of proper management practices may encourage seed

production sufficiently to make it commercially profitable. Dr. G. W. Burton, of the Tifton Station, has a limited quantity of seed for trial purposes. Anyone who is interested in obtaining a small packet of seed for testing may request it of Dr. Burton.

The Northern limit of the range of Centipede grass is not clearly known. One of the objects of distribution of seed is to

determine this limit. It is possible that some of the seedlings may possess qualities that make them more cold resistant than the ordinary Centipede grass.

Centipede grass makes a very desirable turf on poor, sandy, acid soils. It is tough, forms a dense turf, is low growing, has a pleasing color, withstands close cutting and heavy use, and the fertility requirements are low. The low-growing habit of Centipede grass contributes to its desirability for roadsides, airfields and similar areas. It is being used as a desirable grass in golf course roughs as far north as Greensboro, N. C.

### PEST CONTROL SUPPLIES

Attention is invited to the Seventh Edition of "Entoma," a directory of insect and plant pest control, published by the Eastern Branch of the American Association of Economic Entomologists. This directory will be extremely valuable as a guide to sources of pest control materials and as an informational handbook. "Entoma" can be procured from Dr. G. S. Langford, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., at a cost of \$1.

### RESULTS OF LEAD ARSENATE SURVEY

The November, 1947, number of *TIMELY TURF TOPICS* contained a questionnaire relative to the use of lead arsenate. This survey was made for the purpose of procuring information regarding the effectiveness of lead arsenate in the control of insect pests and turf weeds.

The response was disappointing. It is felt, however, that the information derived from the returned questionnaires is indicative of the results usually obtained from the use of lead arsenate.

In general, good results have been obtained in controlling insects with lead arsenate. Some of the data are obscured because other materials were used for control or because of a lack of infestation of various insects.

Of the reports received, 44 per cent indicated that crabgrass had been controlled by lead arsenate; 35 per cent reported that it had controlled chickweed; 17 per cent

reported that it had controlled *Poa annua*. Few reported control of pearlwort, clover, and other weeds. Only 22 per cent stated definitely that lead arsenate had not controlled weeds. Fifteen per cent stated that they were unable to determine whether lead arsenate had contributed to the control of weeds. There was no correlation between the soil type and the extent of weed control accomplished by the use of lead arsenate.

Amounts of lead arsenate applied were variable and many clubs did not have figures available regarding the amount or rate of application. It is felt that much of the success in weed control effected by the use of lead arsenate may be ascribed to controlling the insects that would weaken turf and allow weeds to come into the plant population. Weeds are inhibited by a vigorous turf but when the turf is weakened they are quick to take over.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LEAD ARSENATE LITERATURE

- GRAU, FRED V.—Control of Crabgrass and Other Turf Weeds with Chemicals. USGA Green Section, *BULLETIN*, Vol. 13, No. 3, p. 47. 1933.
- WELTON, F. A., AND CARROLL, J. C.—Crabgrass in Relation to Arsenicals—*Journal American Society of Agronomy*, Vol. 30, No. 10:816-826. 1938.
- VANDECAVEYE, S. C., HORNER, G. M., AND KEATON, C. M.—Unproductiveness of Certain Orchard Soils as Related to Lead Arsenate Spray Accumulations. *Soil Sci.*, Vol. 42, No. 3:203-213. 1936.
- WELTON, F. A., AND CARROLL, J. C.—Lead Arsenate for the Control of Crabgrass. *Journ. American Society of Agronomy*. Vol. 39, No. 6:513-521. 1947.

### CONFERENCE DATES

February 21-24, 1949      Pennsylvania  
H. B. Musser, Pennsylvania State  
College, State College, Pa.

### TURF FIELD DAYS

September 20-21, 1948      Pennsylvania  
H. B. Musser, Pennsylvania State  
College, State College, Pa.