



Better Turf for Better Golf

# TURF MANAGEMENT

from the USGA Green Section

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## REDUCED MAINTENANCE UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROLS

Considering the possibilities of controls of materials and manpower which would be imposed if the United States should find it necessary to mobilize completely, golf clubs should begin to study methods of reducing course maintenance.

Each golf course and each area will be confronted with different problems. Therefore, no general rules can be set forth which will fit all conditions. It is not too early for greenkeeping superintendents to take stock of their own situations, however, and to formulate some concrete ideas which can be suggested to their green committees for operation of the course with a minimum of labor and materials.

Some lessons in golf-course maintenance under wartime conditions were learned during World War II. For instance, livestock grazing should not be undertaken before consulting your state experiment station. Cattle would starve on some golf courses. Neither should fairways be plowed up to make space for gardens until the need for such land is found to be urgent.

Cooperation and the mutual exchange of ideas, equipment and labor will be helpful to all the clubs within an area. The problems of each area should be discussed at your local greenkeepers'

meetings. A little constructive thought now may help a great deal later.

Nurseries of the grasses which require a minimum of water, fertilizer, disease-control materials and mowing would pay big dividends during a period of curtailed maintenance. Many such grasses are available, and they have been studied for long periods of time.

Economy of maintenance and conservation of natural resources have been the central themes of USGA Green Section research and activities for years. Through our system of maintaining putting greens *without artificial watering* and *without application of fungicides*, we have learned how to have an acceptable putting green even under extreme restrictions, if necessary, and we can furnish information on the subject.

Through our insistence on *water conservation*, we have learned how to grow some combinations of drought-tolerant grasses under minimum maintenance for tees and fairways. Planting stocks of several new grasses have been increased to the point where our supply can be shared with Member Clubs and Green Section Service Subscribers.

Your Green Section is in a position to serve you. Your suggestions on ways to conserve during critical times would be appreciated.