

# TURF TWISTERS

## BEST CONSTRUCTION

**Question:** Is the USGA now recommending more than one method of putting green construction? (Virginia)

**Answer:** No. The Green Section Specifications—released in 1961—are still the best method of putting green construction known today. When properly followed, greens built to the Specifications have performed exceedingly well over the past 10 years. A study is being supported by the Green Section this year (at Texas A & M) to review the Specifications in light of new ideas, improved techniques and field experience of the past decade. The results and any recommended changes will be brought to the attention of our readers in 1972.

## WORTH A TRY

**Question:** Each summer we overseed common hulled bermudagrass onto our fairways. Invariably, much of it dies of winterkill and several areas are left weak and open to weeds. Our native bermuda survives very well. Why does this problem happen so consistently? (New Mexico)

**Answer:** Common bermudagrass contains many strains and varieties. Your native strain has adapted quite well to winter conditions. You should try to establish new seedling bermuda as early as temperatures will permit in the late spring. This will allow the new turf to become better established and harden off prior to cooler weather. Desiccation may also be a problem in higher altitudes and it may become necessary to irrigate during the winter if cold, dry conditions exist. If this fails to produce good turf, then sprigging or sodding with your native cold-tolerant bermuda should be worth a try.

## FOR NATURAL LOOKING GREENS

**Question:** When greens are patched the new sod remains prominent seemingly forever. Is there any way to mask the fact that greens have been sodded? (Conn.)

**Answer:** Yes. Follow nature's example and try to make the sod appear to be one strain growing in a circular pattern. In other words, lay the sod in the usual square or rectangular pattern and then round off and match up the outside strips in order that the new patch appears to be one continuous circular patch growing naturally. Grasses never grow in a sharp square or rectangular pattern and so this is always a dead giveaway that the green has been patched.