

# TURF TWISTERS

## CHARCOAL DUST

**Question:** Will the application of charcoal dust on ice help melt ice on greens? (New Jersey)

**Answer:** Any dark material applied to ice on greens will help attract the warmth of the sun's rays, penetrate and melt ice in winter; however, materials that create layers should be avoided. Therefore, top-dressing soil or organic fertilizers suit the purpose far better than charcoal.

## PROVIDES THE GREEN

**Question:** Where does the USGA get its money for research? (Connecticut)

**Answer:** From several sources as follows:

- 1) Five dollars per USGA Member Club is allocated, which amounts to approximately \$20,000 annually.
- 2) The National Golf Fund allocates an amount from its National Golf Day Tournament proceeds. This has been one of the most consistent sources of research revenue over the years. Funds in the area of \$20,000 were made available to the USGA Green Section Research and Education Fund, Inc. for golf turfgrass research projects in 1971. ENCOURAGE ALL YOUR MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL GOLF DAY'S TOURNAMENT and you will help solve golf related turfgrass problems sooner.
- 3) The New England Golf Association contributes annually. Funds from golf associations throughout the nation would be welcome.
- 4) Professional-Amateur events occasionally contribute to our Research and Education Fund.
- 5) Individuals and commercial firms who are interested in better playing conditions contribute also.

Write to any of our offices (see inside front cover of this publication) for our USGA Green Section Research and Education Fund, Inc. brochure. All contributions are tax deductible in accordance with Internal Revenue Code 501 C(3).

## FOR BLUEGRASS SEED

**Question:** I have a strain of native bluegrass growing in various places on my course which seems very heat tolerant and is virtually disease free the year round. We have tried to produce seed from this grass but as yet have been unsuccessful. Can you explain why this grass bears no seed? (Georgia)

**Answer:** A possible explanation of the lack of seed production could be an insufficient period of cold induction at your location. Bluegrass varieties all require a period of cold temperatures and short days to induce seed production. The amount of cold required differs greatly between different bluegrass varieties.