TURF TWISTERS

FLOODING

Question: We have a periodic problem with flooding from a small stream which runs through our golf course. As land becomes developed around the area, this problem is getting more severe. Any suggestions? (New Jersey)

Answer: Although you might ask a private consulting engineer for his analysis, an individual landowner can single-handedly accomplish very little beyond insuring that developers comply with any applicable regulations with regard to run-off and sediment control. Your best bet is to apply for U.S. Department of Agriculture assistance. Through your local Soil and Water Conservation District, it may be possible to obtain both technical and financial aid from the Soil Conservation Service for accomplishing community size projects. You might also investigate the possibility of obtaining disaster assistance through local USDA agencies, such as the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

CLOGGING

Question: We are having a problem of nozzle clogging when using some wettable powders. Our screens are properly sized. What can we try? (New York)

Answer: This can be a problem, particularly when using small volumes of water for a carrier. Aerial applicators have found that certain types of surfactants used as spray additives virtually eliminate clogging difficulties. Ask your local supplier which of these materials he carries will work for you.

AND THE RULES OF GOLF

Question: What would prevent golfers from using the USGA's new Stimpmeter to test greens prior to putting? I foresee a great problem here and if this happens, what can be done about it? (Texas)

Answer: We wish our every opponent would attempt this . . . because no match would ever reach the 11th hole! Rule 35-1f reads as follows: TESTING SURFACE — During the play of a hole, a player shall not test the surface of the putting green by rolling a ball or roughening or scraping the surface.

TEN AND EIGHT ... NEXT MATCH!