

that are less prone to puffy greens surfaces.

Suggestions for greens troubled with puffiness are:

- Use minimal amounts of nitrogen, particularly just before and during cool, ideal growing weather.

- Practice frequent, light vertical mowing during the "puffy season."

Light vertical mowing is emphasized — just a touch to the grass blade.

- Light topdressings (and perhaps cultivation) to rejuvenate the turf. This will reduce puffiness and produce better putting conditions. Furthermore, the use of minimal nitrogen complements our recommendations for reducing injury from disease and temperature extremes.

News Notes For Early Summer

Bill Bengeyfield Named Green Section National Director

William H. Bengeyfield, who joined the USGA Staff in 1954, was named National Director for the Green Section on February 1, 1982. He served for 26 years as Western Director and 15 years of that as Editor of the GREEN SECTION RECORD. He replaces Alexander M. Radko, who retired November 30, 1981, after 35 years of service.

In his new duties, Bengeyfield will supervise the USGA's 12-man Green Section staff, continue to serve as Editor of the RECORD and have overall responsibilities for course preparations at USGA Championships. He will also participate in the activities of the new USGA Turfgrass Research Advisory Committee.

Bengeyfield returns to Green Section work after an absence of four years. In 1978, he became Director of Golf Course and Grounds Maintenance at the 36-hole golf and recreation complex at Industry Hills, California. He retains his affiliation at Industry Hills.

Bill Brewer Resigns

Since 1976, William S. Brewer, Jr., has been a Green Section senior agronomist for the Northeastern Region. He announced his resignation in early February. In following new pursuits, the entire staff wishes him well.

A New Agronomist and New Green Section Office in Florida

Steve M. Batten, master's degree graduate of Oklahoma State University, joined the USGA Green Section staff in February, 1982. Prior to his Green Section assignment, Steve worked at Texas A&M University as research associate for Dr. James B. Beard. Not only did his work include extensive turfgrass weed research and cultivar evaluation, but he was also project leader for turfgrass research for the state of Texas. An excellent artist, Steve has been illustrator of three turfgrass books, including the latest one sponsored by the USGA. He has been involved in golf course maintenance or turf research for the past 20 years.

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TABLE 1.
Effect of Nitrogen Rate on Puffiness and
Mower Scalping of Bentgrass Turf

Nitrogen Source	Season of Application (1)	Nitrogen Rate lbs/M/year	Average of Five Ratings from 1964 thru 1969 (%)	Mower Scalping 9th year (2) (%)
urea	steady	8	18	16
urea	steady	4	8	4
urea	cool	8	22	19
urea	cool	4	7	8
activated sludge	steady	8	9	11
activated sludge	steady	4	3	1
activated sludge	warm	8	6	4
activated sludge	warm	4	2	2

(1) Repeat applications in the respective seasons.

(2) Average of 2 ratings with accumulated mower damage in the 9th year.

TABLE 2.
Effect of Nitrogen Source on Puffiness and
Mower Scalping of Bentgrass

Nitrogen Source	Season of Application (1)	Average of Five Puffiness Ratings (%)	Mower Scalping (%)
activated sludge	steady	9	11
activated sludge	warm	6	4
urea	steady	18	16
urea	cool	22	19
ureaform	steady	7	14
ureaform	cool	13	15
ureaform	warm	9	12
ureaform	March	13	11
ureaform	September	6	13

(1) Repeat applications totaled 8 lbs. N/M/year — except the March and September ureaform treatments, which were single application.

graphic potential. Because golf will traverse virgin territory here, very positive results are expected that will constructively and immediately feed the industry's education and management programs. The guesswork will, literally, be taken out of golf marketing.

4. The Task Force on Coordinated Education: Many organizations in golf are developing new educational programs to meet the obvious challenges of the 1980s. Excitement surrounds these efforts. So does duplication! Golf cannot afford to waste and dissipate its most precious commodity — education. This Task Force will monitor the industry's educational process and encourage cooperative effort where appropriate.

5. The Task Force on Technical Research: The objectives here are several and demanding: to improve turfgrass varieties, to improve water utilization practices and to establish better controls in insect, disease and weed areas. Recognizing that golf primarily waters itself today from the increasingly precious

1 percent potable world water supply and does not yet utilize effectively the 99 percent effluent/waste water supply — golf has been labeled one of the “bad guys.” One of the early goals of this Task Force is to effect this transfer, to make golf a part of the solution and not part of the problem in the water consumption area.

Funding these five Task Force projects might seem to be an insurmountable problem. Not really. Because golf has never asked for financial help on its own behalf before, a sizeable untapped reservoir sits and waits for the energetic and committed supporters of the game to dive into. Never before in its history has golf's potential for fund raising been so right. Nothing will come easily. But with hard work, it is possible.

TO THIS POINT, everything I have said would seem to be encouraging. This is true. There is, however, a small but very real “hooker” caught within golf's constructive planning. In one word, the hooker is “competition”;

competition between and among the allied golf associations themselves to deliver individual programs. To a large extent, this is a natural process that should not be condemned. However, the strong urge by any national golf association to dominate the scene is a real threat to the continued effectiveness of the allied group and the building of golf's collective clout. Unless concern for the welfare for the game of golf is kept uppermost within the thinking and planning of each golf association, all the potential referred to within this commentary will be lost.

Golf, therefore, is also facing its first character test and truest moment. If sport is supposed to test the character of man, golf is now testing the character of its own leadership. The allied group must seek and find that delicate balance where it can serve itself and golf. It would be nice to say that we can presume this will happen. The situation is not automatic. Rather, it is one where character will be tested. If golf has taught its true lessons through the years, we will surely pass this test.

MORE NEWS NOTES
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The new Green Section subregional office for the Southeastern Region will be located at 5579 Adair Way, Lake Worth, Florida 33463. The telephone is (305) 968-8146. Steve Batten is highly experienced and ideally located to serve TAS Green Section subscribers in southern Florida. He has settled in and is ready to be of assistance.

A New Green Section Office in Boston

Brian M. Silva, Northeastern Region Agronomist, opened a new subregional Green Section office in April to serve TAS subscribers in the New England area. Turf Advisory Service subscribers in New England may now contact Silva at 236 Goldthwaite Road, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01855. Telephone (617) 234-6889. The new office is ideally located to serve the large number of USGA Member Clubs in this important section of the Northeast. He would be delighted to hear from you.

Brian Silva is a native of Framingham, Mass., and holds a master's degree in

agronomy and turfgrass management from the University of Massachusetts. His father has designed and built golf courses throughout the region. Silva joined the Green Section staff in July, 1981, after serving four years as an instructor at the School of Golf Course Operations, Lake City College, Lake City, Florida.

For Better Golfing Turf There's Nothing Like the Green Section Turfgrass Advisory Service

For over 30 years, the Green Section Turfgrass Advisory Service program has been of tremendous and direct benefit to golf course superintendents and green committees of USGA Member Clubs. In untold cases, one small bit of information given by the visiting Green Section agronomist has saved clubs many times the actual cost of the Service. More important, however, is the significant improvement in golfing turf and playing conditions which results from the consultation of the Green Section's representatives. No small part of this is the authoritative backing he provides to turf management operations.

For 1982, the fee for the Turf Advisory Service visit is \$500. This is less than 1/4 of 1 percent of most golf course maintenance budgets today. For this small expenditure, the club receives a full half-day visit and tour of the course followed by a written report of all recommendations. The fee also covers full travel expenses for the agronomist (except in certain unusual circumstances). In addition, emergency consultations and other information pertaining to turfgrass management may be obtained at Regional Meetings or by telephone calls to the Regional Green Section offices.

As in the past, the Green Section services are offered for the benefit of golf by the USGA, a non-profit organization. It has no axes to grind and has played a leading role in turfgrass management and research since 1923.

If your club is not already a Turf Advisory Service subscriber, we believe we can be of real service to you in 1982. Contact your nearest Green Section Regional office (please see inside front cover) for full details. Your club can have better turf!