

TURF TWISTERS

DEVELOPING AN INTEREST IN

Question: How can I develop greater interest in my problems by my green committee? (Arkansas)

Answer: A superintendent in Texas had a great idea! Instead of the usual meeting in the clubhouse, green committee meetings were held in the maintenance facility. This allowed committee members to see equipment and facility needs.

LOOKING FOR POA ANNUA

Question: I understand the USGA/GCSAA Research Program is looking for samples of perennial type *Poa annua*. I have some and would like to include it in the research effort. What do I do? (Pennsylvania)

Answer: Dr. Donald White, University of Minnesota, is collecting samples of perennial *Poa annua* from across the country. He is looking for darker green varieties, definitely perennial, and hopefully creepers. The samples can be collected during a Green Section Turf Advisory visit, or you can send them directly to Dr. Donald White, Department of Horticulture Science, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Send them via regular first class mail with a letter identifying the sample. DO NOT tightly enclose the sample in a wet plastic bag. Rather, send it with a moist root zone, open to the air and cupcutter size if possible. Dr. White will then do his thing!

WITH A SHEEPS-FOOT ROLLER

Question: In "Golf Shoes and Turf Wear" (July/August, 1985 RECORD), no mention is made of the regular type golf shoes having countersunk spike shoulders; i.e., only the metal spike protrudes from the sole of the shoe — not the base or shoulder of each spike. Surely more damage is done by spiked golf shoes where the shoulders protrude than by spiked shoes without exposed shoulders. Have you given up on this type of shoe? (West Virginia)

Answer: Not at all! In fact, if metal spiked shoes must be worn (for whatever reason), the countersunk or recessed shoulder type is preferred. They are less damaging and wearing to the turf. Shoes with exposed spike shoulders act very much like miniature sheeps-foot rollers and increase soil compaction. Equally important, shoes with countersunk shoulders generally have shorter spikes, and this also makes an important difference in lessening turfgrass wear.