

## Shrubbery About Golf Courses

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The word *about* in the above title is used advisedly, for shrubbery *on* golf courses, at least on all parts of it where balls are in play, is, of course, wholly undesirable. The rough is cruel enough to most of us as it is. But in odd unplayed nooks and corners, as where a circuit of holes encloses a tract of unused land, and in all territory out-of-bounds, shrubbery can be used with benefit both to the appearance and upkeep of the course. There is no argument about shrubbery being an embellishment; and the benefits we have in mind are the destruction of pests of the greens by birds which will be attracted by carefully selected and properly planted shrubs.

Some birds nest among the limbs or in cavities in trees, others on the ground, while many prefer to nest in shrubs and thickets. Methods of attracting birds in general have been discussed in previous articles in THE BULLETIN of the Green Section; the needs of the shrub-frequenters will be particularly dealt with in the present paper. However, it must not be forgotten that practically all small birds feed more or less upon the grasshoppers, leafhoppers, caterpillars, white grubs, and earthworms that constitute an army of pests so injurious to fairways and greens. Most of these birds relish also to some extent the fruits of shrubs, and by increasing the quantity of these we can certainly increase the numbers of our bird friends.

Most shrubs need full light, hence do best when planted in the open or about the edges of clumps of trees. They are most attractive to birds when massed in imitation of natural thickets. Considered as ornamentals, the shrubs bearing fruit eaten by birds are far superior to the showy-flowered but often sterile growths so commonly used in decorative planting, for their fruit, changing color with the progress of the season, in many cases finally attaining most gorgeous hues, makes them objects of beauty and interest through a much longer period. The only objection we can think of to the use of fruiting shrubs in the proper places about golf courses is that they may prove another of the so numerous diversions that tempt caddies from the path of duty.

The particular kinds of shrubs to use depend to some extent, of course, upon the geographical location of the golf course to be planted. Bulletins containing full lists for the Northeastern, the Middle Atlantic, the East Central and Northwestern States, and special lists for other regions can be obtained on application to the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Here only a few plants for each region and for special situations can be mentioned. In general it is best to use shrubs native to the region concerned thus doing away with the experimental element in planting. Nursemymen specializing in such plants are accessible to most sections of the country.

Among the best bird-feeding shrubs and small trees are: Bayberry, hackberry, mulberry, juneberry, wild cherries, wild raspberries and blackberries, sumach, Virginia creeper, wild grapes, dogwood, hawthorn, blueberries and elder. Different species of these must be selected for the various geographic provinces of the United States, and there are some specialties

to be recommended for certain regions. In the northern plains country Russian olive, silver-berry, buffalo-berry, and snowberry are useful supplements to native species of the fruit-bearers listed above. In the north-western coast region the numerous wild species of currants are of value as well as some of the manzanitas; here also and across the Northern States in general, mountain-ashes provide much good bird food. In Southern California the introduced pepper-tree, the manzanitas again, the madrone, and California holly are favorites with birds. From Arizona to Western Texas such fruits as the knockaway (*Ehretia*) and ironwoods (*Condalia* and *Forestiera*) are available. From Texas east through what is popularly spoken of as The South, the china-tree, pepper-vine, Mexican mulberry and inkberry produce valuable bird foods. For sandy land along the coasts bayberry, sea buckthorn, sand cherries and the beach plum are especially adapted. For covering rocks nothing excels Virginia Creeper, but wild grapes can well be mixed in such a planting. Some of the best bird feeding plants are small trees like juneberry, mulberry, flowering apples and wild cherries, and usually these can be placed wherever there is room for shrubbery. A few herbaceous plants like pokeweed and Mexican mulberry also have a value equal to that of many shrubs.

In conclusion we would again urge that when shrubs are to be planted let them be of fruit-bearing kinds that will benefit the birds. They are quite as ornamental as the others, and the birds they attract are not only pleasing to the ear and eye, but are beneficial as destroyers of the insect and other foes of the links.

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### "Service." Who Is Responsible?

By J. S. CLAPPER

The word "service" has been handled in a very careless manner, both by the manufacturer and selling agent, and abused equally as badly by most of the owners of every kind of equipment, so that it is really a fifty-fifty proposition when the whole thing is boiled down. The question of service, of course, necessarily starts with the manufacturer, but it should follow right down the line, including the ultimate purchaser of his product. The manufacturer can not always control the methods employed by salesmen and the different agencies who indulge in extravagant and unwarranted statements to influence the purchaser, but there is no excuse on the part of any manufacturer for failure to place directly in the purchaser's hands a clean-cut and conservative statement of his product and the service he may expect with the proper care and usage, and this should be supported by a warranty which means good design, good materials, and good workmanship to insure efficient performance. The purchaser should be furnished with full detailed information of the product, with complete instructions as to its operation and its care, and suggestions for the operator's guarding against possible trouble and unnecessary expense.

I have maintained that every manufacturer of a complicated product should have a greater interest in his product after it reaches the user's hands than before the sale was consummated, and he should assume his share of the responsibility in having his product perform efficient and dependable work. The manufacturer who acknowledges and accepts such