

Meditations of a Peripatetic Golfer

In the springtime one itches to worry the soil and plant the seed. So far as grass seed is concerned, see if you can't restrain the itch and plant the seed at the best time—that is, in late summer.

Corrosive sublimate is a perfectly reliable worm killer. It DOES NOT injure the soil unless used excessively and is much cheaper than any commercially advertised worm killer.

“Clipped grass, if allowed to rot on the green, will cause a toxic condition.” The fellow who wrote this gives an example of pure “rot” or, if you prefer, “bunk.”

Don't hesitate to mow old putting greens in spring as soon as necessary. It is folly to let the grass grow two inches high before mowing.

The ideal tee is a large area of turf on the ground level but well drained. On such the turf is much more easily maintained; besides, if the area is large enough the plates can be moved every day. A raised tee is never defensible except to secure visibility.

Buy your supply of bent seed now. You may not be able to get it later in time to sow between August 15 and September 15.

Now is a good time to observe grass sown last fall, to see how much of a start it already has over that sown this spring.

The idea that a banker must be a hole in the ground is an illusion. It may just as well be an area of loose sand on top of the ground level or even a patch of rough grass. Where sand is expensive and drainage poor, the rough grass patches are very effective.

If the advertisements of some new and wonderful thing in regard to grass excite your interest, try it by all means, but only in a small experiment.

It is unfortunate that many greenkeepers incline to be secretive. Greenkeeping, like everything else, will advance with the spread of knowledge and not by keeping “the light under a bushel.”

If you are going to build a new golf course in the north, plan the work so the seeding can be done between August 15 and September 15.

A hazard that is too severe is apt to defeat its object. The players purposely avoid taking the chance.

It is well to be suspicious of the seedsmen who advise spring seeding of turf grasses in the north. The conditions are exceptional where spring seeding is justifiable.

Before you try anything new in the way of greenkeeping except as a small experiment, better get the opinion of the Green Section. It may save you some money that might better be used otherwise.