

should practice the habit of scientific thinking, which avoids generalities, except as they come through the proper steps of hypothesis, theory, and finally law. We should understand that reasoning by analogy does not necessarily end with license to generalize. Furthermore, we should practice the strict definition and use of terms. Where possible, relative terms should be avoided. Too frequently they confuse rather than enlighten. If we do not have exact expressions to convey our thoughts we should start at once to develop them so that those who hear or read our words of wisdom may know just what we mean.

Early Morning Watering As An Aid to Brown-Patch Control

By O. B. Fitts

There is much to be said on the subject of watering putting greens. There is investigational work still to be conducted before the practice of watering can be put on a thoroughly sound basis. But what it is desired to do at this time is only to offer some suggestions regarding the relation of watering to the control of brown-patch. By brown-patch, in this article, is meant specifically the large brown-patch. The suggestions here made may also apply to the control of the small brown-patch, but the evidence accumulated is not so definite on this point.

In 1923 experiments were conducted at Arlington Farm on the effect of early morning watering on the control of brown-patch. While the experiments are still in progress it can scarcely be said that they are of sufficiently long duration or sufficiently extensive to do more than offer a hopeful suggestion. To be brief and to the point, the results at Arlington and on the greens of the East Potomac Park Public Golf Course, Washington, indicate that, in the latitude of Washington, D. C., watering in the morning before 7:30 o'clock is very helpful in the control of the large brown-patch. It does not prevent the disease, but it seems to lessen its effect appreciably, so that recovery after an attack is relatively rapid when the usual good treatment is given.

In the tests at Arlington no attempt has been made to measure the quantity of water applied, but the application may be regarded as liberal. The use of an adjustable nozzle, which will give considerably more force to the spray than the rose nozzle, is regarded as more effective. Care should be taken, however, not to apply sufficient force to disturb the surface of the green appreciably or wash the soil from around the crowns of the plants. It is suggested that this method of watering be followed, especially at times when brown-patch is likely to be active. While it is not recommended as a sure means of control under all conditions, no harm can come from giving it a thorough test, and it is thought that very beneficial results will follow.

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