

GIVE US YOUR 1924 EXPERIENCE WITH BROWN-PATCH.

We are anxious to learn of your 1924 experience with brown-patch, both the large and small kind.

Please write us fully, giving us (1) the date or dates of appearance, (2) severity of attack, (3) measures used to combat, and particularly (4) the results you have gotten from any of the new fungicides.

It is planned to publish a full report on all the brown-patch data for 1924. Your cooperation is wanted in gathering information on which to base our report.

The Greenkeeper and His Green Committee

Broadly speaking, there are two sorts of greenkeepers. In the first group is the one that is devoid of initiative and enterprise, who never offers a suggestion and who rarely does anything except on the express instructions of his green committee chairman. In the other group is the one who can meet most problems or difficulties as they arise and who has the confidence and skill to go ahead, even if his chairman is traveling in Europe or fishing in Canada.

Which kind do you want at your club—the timid employee or the competent and capable assistant? In a very large measure the green committee make the greenkeeper efficient or incompetent, regardless of his actual ability. If you want a timid, cringing greenkeeper afraid of his soul, bark at him every time anything is wrong. Make him the “goat,” regardless of circumstances. Give him a lot of orders to carry out; if several of them are conflicting, so much the better. Do not for a moment let him think he has any brains of his own. But do not overlook the likelihood that no matter how stupid he may be, he will at least soon know that you promptly forget most of the instructions you have given him. Furthermore, an intimidated man becomes secretive and resentful—indeed, may be tempted to do things which he knows are harmful.

It is safe to say that ninety-nine out of every one hundred men who have really learned anything about the upkeep of a golf course, especially the turf, are modest as regards their knowledge. Nature in one of her unfathomable moods is sure to humble the pride of the fellow who thinks he knows it all. Something or another will cause trouble, which all the doctors will fail to diagnose. It is this type of fellow who kids himself that he knows all about greenkeeping, that develops the timid, cringing type of greenkeeper.

In sharp contrast is the green committee or its chairman who takes the greenkeeper into partnership. It is their joint work to make the course as good as possible and to keep it in the best of condition. This is no easy task, but it is rendered much less difficult if the greenkeeper is given proper responsibility so that he takes pride in doing his best. He will doubtless make some mistakes, but if these are thoroughly discussed he will probably never make the same error twice. A considerate committee can train a young man of farm experience to become a first-class greenkeeper. An inconsiderate or carping committee will never be able to do this.