A MODERATE CROP OF KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS SEED IS REPORTED

The stripping of the seed was uninterrupted by rain anywhere this year and the seed was cured quickly under almost ideal conditions, and therefore should be brighter than usual. Unless there is too much lightweight seed, the germination of the seed in the Western District is expected to average better than last year, which was reported below average for that year.

New crop 21-pound seed was being quoted on June 27 by a few dealers at about $18 per 100 pounds, compared with $12 last year, $22.50 in 1934 and $12.50 in 1933 on corresponding dates.

A number of the wholesale seedsmen reported that the spring demands, both domestic and export, for Kentucky bluegrass were unusually good, but doubtless some of this seed was bought for speculation because of the relatively low prices.

In Kentucky the production of rough cured seed was much below average in 1935, while in the Western District including Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Wisconsin and a few other States the yield may be about twice the ten-year average and two-thirds of that in 1935. Some of the data on rough cured seed reported is shown for the two sections as follows:

**SEASONAL REMINDERS**

**Extra Jobs**: July and August are, as a rule, the busiest months for the greenkeeping staffs of northern golf courses. Weather conditions are usually unfavorable for growth of turf grasses. Extra work is required for watering, controlling insects and diseases, and for many other jobs incident to nursing grass through these trying months. Club officials can greatly help the cause of better turf maintenance during these months if they will withhold orders for extra jobs which are not absolutely necessary. Individually these odd jobs may appear insignificant but collectively they may divert altogether too much labor and attention from the main task of greenkeeping. It is far better to simply make record of these additional jobs and lock them away until the fall months when grass naturally gets along with little coaxing.

**Reduce Fungicide Rate**: During hot, sultry periods it is important to reduce the amount of chemicals used on turf in order to avoid burning. In such periods brownpatch is often active and fungicides are required at frequent intervals to preserve the turf. Rates of application to these fungicides should be reduced, however, to 1/3 or 1/6 the normal rates. Reduced quantities applied frequently are more effective in controlling disease and are much less likely to injure the grass than the infrequent heavier rates.

**Water Shortage**: Drought in certain sections of the country has greatly curtailed the use of water on many golf courses. Even though there has been rain in the affected areas there has not been an appreciable increase in the reserve supplies of water. Therefore it is likely that watering operations will have to be curtailed on some courses during the remainder of the summer.

When the water supply is threatened it is well to raise the mowers higher to provide for additional shading of the ground and prevention of excessive evaporation. It is also better to gradually reduce the amount of water that is used than to stop watering operations suddenly. Grass that has been watered in excess, as is so often the case on putting greens, will have a shallow root system and is likely to suffer severely if the watering is suddenly stopped. A gradual reduction in the amount of water will give an opportunity to the plant to adjust itself slowly to changing conditions and it will be able to recover more rapidly in the fall when rains are adequate.

**Poison Ivy**: During recent years poison ivy has been neglected along with other weeds on many golf courses. It now has become too generally distributed and troublesome. A comparatively cheap but effective way of killing this pest is with the use of sodium chlorate. The best time to use this chemical is in August.

A method found to be effective is to spray the foliage of poison ivy with a solution of sodium chlorate in the proportion of 1 1/2 pounds of the chemical to 1 gallon of water. The best results are obtained when the spray is used during a period of hot, sultry weather following a few cloudy days and occasional showers, as shown often in August. Enough of the liquid should be used to thoroughly wet the foliage without causing dripping from the leaves. This spray can be used for killing poison ivy around the trunks of trees provided the material is not applied so heavily that there is a large amount of dripping from the leaves. If there is any excess dripping there may be some injury to the trees.

In using sodium chlorate care should be taken to avoid getting the material on clothing or any other material that will burn.

** Pest or Muck**: On some golf courses there are deposits of peat or muck which form excellent material for mixing in topdressing. This material can be more easily and quickly moved during periods of drought than at other seasons.

**Summer Fertilizing**: Turf that is not forced too vigorously with fertilizer during the summer months will present less maintenance difficulties than turf that