“TURF MANAGEMENT” BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

A handbook on development and upkeep of turf for golf courses, parks, sports fields and large lawn areas, entitled “Turf Management,” by H. Burton Musser, was to be published November 10 by McGraw-Hill.

The book was prepared under the sponsorship of the United States Golf Association. It embodies the fruits of experimental work by the USGA Green Section since its formation nearly 30 years ago and by other turf research agencies.

The book is designed to be a standard guide and reference volume. It treats of turf management in all its phases, including propagation of turf grasses, maintenance of turf, fertilizers, drainage and irrigation, weed control, insect control, disease control, and agricultural tools.

There are also data on practical engineering and landscape architecture, golf course site selection, preparation of layout plans, and the essentials of design and construction of tees, fairways and putting greens.

“Turf Management” contains 63 illustrations. The price is $6. The book is available at all bookstores.

The author, H. Burton Musser, is Professor of Agronomy in the School of Agriculture at Pennsylvania State College. He was assisted in preparation of “Turf Management” by experts from all over the country.

GLEANINGS FROM WIDESPREAD TURF FIELD DAYS

CALIFORNIA (Graul)

The Green Section’s U-3 strain of Bermudagrass, tested since 1938 in the Washington, D. C., area, has found high favor in California wherever Bermuda is grown. It stays green longer than any other strain, and it is fine-bladed and vigorous.

The Green Section’s finest selections of creeping bentgrasses for greens are finding favor also. Arlington (C-1) and Congressional (C-19) are tops in performance and bid fair to replace Seaside, which gets ugly purple splotches in cool weather.

Various porous minerals found in California’s rich abundance look good as soil amendments. Expanded mica is promising as a peat substitute.

Proper use of water alone can result in vast turf improvement.

Merion bluegrass is outstanding under close (under one-inch) mowing.

Zoysia appears to have definite promise.

OREGON (Graul)

The fescues (Alta, Chewings, Creeping Red and Meadow) and the bents (Seaside, Highland Colonial and Astoria Colonial) in proper mixture produce ideal lawn and fairway turf under nearly every condition. Carloads of the common pasture Kentucky bluegrass have failed completely to produce a turf in most cases observed, yet it is added to most seed mixtures.

This was one of the outstanding lawn and fairway seed mixtures in the Penn State Trials. Merion bluegrass 40%, Penn State Chewings fescue 50%, and Colonial bent 10%. Please note: No Nurse Grass!

Overwatering and underfeeding characterized most sick turf.

Sodium arsenite successfully whipped Poa annua, weeds and insects on the excellent bent greens at one 9-hole course (small amounts, often!).

MONTANA (Graul)

Common bluegrass produces “good”