

NORTHWEST TURFGRASS TOPICS

VOLUME 9, No. 2

PUYALLUP, WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER, 1967



From The President's Corner

By Dick Malpass

As this is written at about 7:30 P.M. on a Friday evening, 70 couples are playing in the weekly 4 ball 8-some. At least 100 youngsters played this morning and nearly that many older members played throughout the day. Total golfers today, at least 340. This was a quiet day, many days we have more. These past 10 days, we have combatted the greatest sod webworm outbreak this writer has ever seen. We are not alone with this infestation, as a number of fellow superintendents in the immediate area are also having the same problem. As if this were not enough trouble, we are rationing water on the course after the warmest June in many, many years and we are within three days of equalling the second longest dry spell without rain on record (37 days). The summer of 1931, with 67 days without measurable rainfall is the all time record.

Perhaps this is an example of what makes the job of a professional turf manager an interesting one. Your knowledge and managerial ability is pitted against the elements of nature and, seemingly, all the efforts of man

to destroy that which you are trying to develop and maintain.

Had we but to rely on our own ability to recognize and treat problems as they arise without the benefit of previous research and the experience of those who have gone on before us, we would, indeed, be in a different position. However, in the past comparatively few years, much has been accomplished in the fields of turf disease identification and control, insect control, soil compaction, water application, varietal development, and many others. This all has made it much easier to maintain our fine turfgrasses.

It is now our responsibility as turf managers to keep up-to-date on the latest research and other developments in our field. To this end, our individual membership and participation in local, regional, and national superintendent groups is important. These organizations have helped, immeasurably, in instigating and forwarding research in the turf management field. Research first proposed by our own Northwest Turfgrass Association has resulted in much valuable information regarding control of such diseases as Fusarium Patch, Red Thread, Ophiobolus Patch, and others common to our area. The aggregate value of this research in savings to golf courses alone in our area would be enormous. Soils studies have helped greatly, in the proper construction of athletic fields and golf greens. Insect control has been advanced by research in chemical control methods.

Among publications which contain a wealth of material for turf managers are our own Northwest Turfgrass Proceedings; Parks and Recreation; Turfgrass Times; The Golf Superintendent; USGA Green Section Record; Golfdom; Weeds, Trees, and Turf; Grounds Maintenance, and many others. Sure, it takes time to attend meetings and conferences and to read technical articles. But, if you aspire

for excellence in your field, if you hope for professional recognition, then you had better take the time.

In conclusion, I would like to call to your attention a few lines from an address by H. W. Prentis, Jr., Chairman of the Board, Armstrong Cork Company.

"----If you are working, give the best that is in you, remembering that in the last analysis the real satisfactions in life come not from money and things, but from the realization of a job well done. There lies the difference between the journeyman worker and a real craftsman.

From compromise and things half done
Keep me, though all the world deride,
And when at last my job is done,
God keep me still unsatisfied."

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

By ROY L. GOSS

In this issue of Turfgrass Topics you will find the final and complete program for this year's Conference. We have rounded up a good slate of speakers covering a wide variety of subjects for this year's Conference.

Harrison Hot Springs, as most of you know, is a noted resort area and should prove to be an excellent location for our Conference. It has the assets of being somewhat isolated to prevent outside distractions, also has room enough to accommodate as large a group as we will want to get together. It is our understanding that the facilities are complete in all regards, and it is our hope that nothing will be lacking to prevent this from being our best Turfgrass Conference.

In order to make your reservations at the Harrison Hotel, in case you haven't done so already, here is what you do. If you live in the Portland, Oregon area, call Glen W. Fawcett in Seattle, on a toll-free line from Portland, and they will make your reservations at the Harrison Hotel. Otherwise, you should write directly to the Harrison Hotel

at Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, Canada. If you wish to call, you may phone 604 796 2244 at Agassiz or in Vancouver you can call 604 521 8888. The Convention Manager is Mr. T. Acton Kilby.

Once again, the dates of the Conference will be September 20, 21, and 22. A Golf Tournament will be held for all persons wanting to play golf, from 7 A.M. until noon, and registration will be going on at the same time. If you are going to play golf, you should register early so that you don't have to be doing this at the time the Conference is going on. The Conference proper, will be kicked off at 1:15 P.M. and will be a full schedule thereafter.

The banquet, again, will be held on the first night of the Conference--the same as it was last year, since this proved to be very satisfactory.

Since many people often say they heard nothing about the Conference or received no information on this, will you please make it a point to contact your commercial representatives, golf course superintendents, commercial spray applicators, cemetery superintendents, school custodians and anyone else interested in Turfgrass Management, and advise them of this Conference. The Harrison Hotel assures us they have plenty of rooms for all, so let's turn out a good crowd.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Harrison Hotel at Harrison Hot Springs, British Columbia, is holding a number of rooms for persons who intend to participate in the 21st Northwest Turfgrass Conference on September 20-22. Portland, Oregon area residents can make their reservations locally by phoning Commerce 9899 and Seattle people can make their reservations by phoning Glen W. Fawcett at MU 2-1981.

There Is No Substance To The Rumor That There Are No Rooms Available At Harrison

Mr. T. Acton Kilby, Convention Manager, has indicated that they still have plenty of room and that, if there is an overflow, he

will be happy to make reservations at local motels and hotels in that area. It is important when you write for your reservations in the future to identify yourself with this Conference. They may possibly be out of rooms for other people, but they will have sufficient rooms for Conference attendants.

POSSIBLY A NEW FUNGICIDE FOR THE FUTURE

By ROY L. GOSS

Du Pont experimental fungicide 1991 represents an entirely new class of fungicides. This fungicide has been shown to be highly effective in disease control and possesses residual curative and systemic quality against a wide spectrum of fungus pathogens. A high level of mite ovicide activity has also been observed.

Foliar applications of fungicide 1991 have provided outstanding disease control at very low rates and with extended treatment intervals on a wide variety of plants with an exceptional degree of safety. Curative disease control has been demonstrated with treatments delayed for several days after infection.

Fungicide 1991 is not volatile, has low water solubility, and acts as a direct fungicide in the soil, as well as indirect action through the uptake and movement within the host plant.

Toxicity studies now in progress indicate fungicide 1991 to be among the less toxic fungicides to animals.

These are some excerpts from Du Pont's Information Bulletin. Due to shortages of mercury and some specificity of some of the fungicides, this comes as good news to turfgrass managers in the field. Of particularly good news is the fact that this material can work as a systemic fungicide and prolong the effectiveness of the treatment.

This fungicide will be included in the fall trials at the Western Washington Research and Extension Center in its effect on the control of Fusarium Patch disease.



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21st NORTHWEST TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

Tentative Program September 20 - 21 - 22, 1967

HARRISON HOT SPRINGS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Wednesday, September 20

MORNING:

7:00 - 1:00 Golf Tournament and Conference Registration

AFTERNOON:

1:15 - 1:30 Welcome

1:30 - 2:05 Topic of Choice

--Mr. Walter Boysen, President, GCSAA, Oakland, California.

2:05 - 2:50 Low Temperature Organisms and Soil Heating

--Dr. J. B. Lebeau, Canada Department of Agriculture, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

2:50 - 3:00 Short Break

3:00 - 3:45 We Are Going to be Challenged

--Mr. W. H. Bengueyfield, Western Director, USGA, Green Section, Garden Grove, California.

3:45 - 4:00 Question and Answer Session

4:00 - 6:30 Leisure or Golf

6:30 Social Hour

7:30 Banquet

Thursday, September 21

MORNING:

8:45 - 10:00 Designing, Building, and Maintaining Public Parks

--Panel Discussion. Mr. Paul Beistel, Lane County Parks, Eugene, Oregon; Mr. John Sandusky, Seattle Parks Department, Seattle, Washington.

10:00 - 10:15 Coffee

10:15 - 11:00 New Concepts in Turfgrass Fertilizers

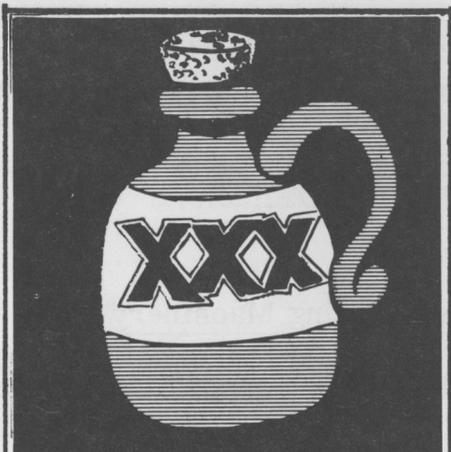
--Dr. Jim Beaton, Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co., Trail, British Columbia, Canada.

- 11:00 - 11:40 The Uses of Stolons for Turf Establishment - Advantages and Dis-
advantages
- Mr. Toby Grether, Cal-Turf Nurseries, Camarillo, California.
- 11:40 - 12:20 Annual Northwest Turfgrass Association Business Meeting
- 12:20 - 1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 - 2:15 Preventative Maintenance of Grass-Cutting Machinery
- Mr. Babe Brinkworth, Toro Manufacturing Corporation, Cupertino,
 California.
- 2:15 - 3:00 Irrigation is Your Most Costly Maintenance Practice
- Mr. R. H. Turley, Turfgrass Research, Canada Department of
 Agriculture, Saanichton, British Columbia, Canada.
- 3:00 - 3:15 Short Break
- 3:15 - 4:00 Open
- 4:00 - 4:30 Questions and Answers

Friday, September 22

MORNING:

- 8:45 - 9:30 Turfgrass Texture
- Dr. V. C. Brink, University of British Columbia, Vancouver,
 British Columbia, Canada.
- 9:30 - 10:10 Advanced Training for Future Turfgrass Managers
- Professor Alvin G. Law, Washington State University, Pullman,
 Washington.
- 10:10 - 10:25 Short Break
- 10:25 - 11:15 Developing Specifications and Plans for Constructing Turfgrass
Areas
- Dr. Roy L. Goss, Western Washington Research and Extension
 Center, Puyallup, Washington.
- 11:15 - 12:00 Research Report - Questions and Answers - General Roundup
- 12:00 Adjourn



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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WITH BANVEL - D

By ROY L. GOSS

Research at the Western Washington Research and Extension Center over the past six years has shown that Banvel-D is highly effective against such weeds as English lawn daisy, mouse-eared chickweed, white clover, yarrow, and several other species of weeds. The effect of Banvel-D can be enhanced by the addition of 2,4-D amine for complete removal of such plants as plantain, dandelion, and other easier-to-kill weeds. When Banvel-D is used at the rate of 1/2 to 1 pound per acre, and 2,4-D at 1 to 1-1/2 pounds per acre, a broad spectrum of weeds can be removed.

A Report By Velsicol Chemical Co.

The present label caution statement calls for avoiding drift of spray mist onto vegetables, flowers, ornamental shrubs, trees, and other desirable crop plants, and the

caution statement "Do not apply within the drip line of trees or shrubs". Experience resulting from extensive commercial use on golf courses since 1962 would indicate a very good safety record when applied as directed, since no complaints have been received of injuries to trees or ornamental shrubs in these areas.

Turfgrasses have quite a good tolerance for Banvel-D if they are well established. Banvel-D is registered for use on golf course fairways, aprons, tees and roughs at 1/2 to 1 pound acid equivalent per acre, and at 1/4 to 1/2 pound per acre on close-cut bentgrass greens. At these rates it is safe to most cool and warm season grasses, such as bluegrass (Kentucky, Merion, and Annual) fescues, bentgrass, perennial rye grass, red top, Bermuda grass, Zoysia, common Centipede, St. Augustine's grass, and others. Most of these grasses will tolerate several times the rate of Banvel-D necessary for effective weed control. In our area, the bluegrasses will tolerate from 2 to 4 pounds per acre, while the fescues, bentgrasses and annual bluegrass will tolerate 1 to 2 pounds per acre. Close-cut bentgrass will tolerate 1/2 to 1 pound per acre.

Grass injury from excessive rates of Banvel-D causes browning of the grass which normally recovers later in the season. However, some thinning may be evident.

When Banvel-D is used in combination with 2,4-D, the product should not be used on grasses that will not tolerate 2,4-D. The manufacturer of Banvel-D cautions against the use of 2,4-D on bentgrasses and Dicon-

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dra, however, 2,4-D has long been recommended on bentgrasses in this area, hence any recommendations are not those of the company but from local research stations.

New Seedings

In new seedings of turfgrasses, it is safe to apply up to 1 pound of Banvel-D acid equivalent per acre six weeks after seeding or after the second mowing. When an area has been treated with Banvel-D, seeding should be delayed at least two weeks.

Banvel-D (Dicamba) effective on these weeds:

A 1 to 2 ratio of Banvel-D (Dicamba) plus 2,4-D is registered for use on lawns, turf, golf fairways, aprons, tees and roughs, for the control of dandelion, plantain, curly dock, chickweed, dog fennel, knotweed, sheep sorrel, clover, Knawel, chickory, henbit, ragweed, pigweed, burdock, poison oak, poison ivy, ground ivy (creeping Charlie), wild garlic, wild onion and certain other broad-leaf weeds, at the rate range of from .34 pounds Dicamba plus .68 pounds of 2,4-D to .51 pounds Dicamba plus 1.02 2,4-D per acre. The label directions call for making the application as a foliar when weeds are actively growing.

In making applications of any herbicide to turfgrass areas, always remember to apply the herbicide when the weeds are actively growing, which is generally during the cooler portions of the year. Do not apply any of the phenoxy herbicides in combination with any other herbicide when temperatures are as high as 85 degrees or more.

VERONICA (SPEEDWELL) PROGRESS REPORT

By ROY L. GOSS

Previous issues of Turfgrass Topics have carried articles pertaining to difficulties in achieving control of Veronica (Speedwell) in turfgrass areas. It was also pointed out that Zytron had produced one-hundred percent results in tests at the Western Washington Research and Extension

Center, but the material has since been removed from the market and is not being manufactured. This left us without a control about one year ago. Many publications still carry reports of the use of Zytron for various things, but this does not imply that the material is available.

Indoor Tests

Tests were conducted in our air-supported plastic house during the late winter and early spring of 1967, where most of the pre-emergence herbicides and several of the phenoxy herbicides and new materials were tested for activity on Veronica. The results of these tests showed that the only materials to be effective in the control of Veronica, which are registered on the market for use in turfgrass areas, are Dacthal and Glenvar. Dacthal is manufactured by the Diamond Alkali Co. and Glenvar is manufactured by Velsicol Chemical Corporation. Dacthal was effective at rates of 9, 12, and 15 pounds of active ingredients per acre, with 12 pounds being about optimum. This same material, of course, will produce excellent results in the control of crabgrass at the same rate. Glenvar, at the rate of 4 pounds active ingredient per acre, gave reasonably good control but less than Dacthal. Another Velsicol material, OCS 21693, at the rate of 6 pounds per acre, also gave good results.

Field Trials

Field trials are currently being conducted with no final summaries being prepared at this time. Preliminary trials in the field on demonstration-type testing have shown Dacthal to be highly effective and to warrant complete eradication measures in areas of heavy infestation. Small tests at Hayden Lake Golf & Country Club, and Overlake Golf & Country Club have shown the material to be very satisfactory for this purpose.

Warning

It must be pointed out that none of the materials mentioned in this article are labeled for the control of Veronica. The manufacturer, therefore, cannot be liable

for any problems arising due to application of this material on this particular plant. In fact, Washington State University has not made this an official recommendation at this time, since research testing is in progress currently. The major reason for releasing this information is that quite a number of people are aware of the preliminary results and it was decided to extend this information to the most people.

Other pre-emergent materials have been brought to the writer's attention as having affect on Veronica control. These materials will be tested in the program in due time, and reports forthcoming. Let's hope that we can get two or three materials that will be effective so that we will have protection in case one of them should be discontinued in manufacture.

OREGON COMPOST HEAP

By BYRON REED



After a fine rest, this column not appearing in the last issue of the Northwest Turfgrass Topics, and some insistance on the part of our most able Executive Secretary, this column is again appearing. There have been some setbacks during this period of rest. Namely, this fine group of golf course superintendents, here in Oregon, were all set to host the Northwest Turfgrass Conference in 1969, only to find that John Harrison had done some "politicking" and swung enough votes to push us into 1970. I don't understand how John finds time enough to be political, carry out his duties at Hayden

Lake Country Club, and supervise his large investments.

Some changes in superintendent positions have also occurred since this column last appeared. George Schafer has taken the superintendent's position at Mr. Bowman's Mt. Hood Golf Club, leaving the Santiam Golf Club after some 10 years of service. Roscoe Baptist has accepted the superintendent's position at Santiam Golf Club, leaving Michelbook Country Club, McMinnville, Oregon. Bill Schafer is busy building a short course at "Salem Towne" near Salem, Oregon. This is a real estate, senior citizens, development. Eugene Country Club is progressing nicely with the rebuilding of its Golf Club. The new design consists of new tees, new greens, a new water system, and the back nine becomes the front nine. The architect is Robert Trent Jones.

Hope to see all of you at the forthcoming conference at Harrison Hot Springs.

STRANGE THINGS DO HAPPEN

By ROY L. GOSS

This summer has been one of the driest and hottest on record for quite a number of years in the Pacific Northwest. Certainly, we need not remind you of this. This, however, is the type of summer that we always expect but rarely get. The Pacific Northwest, with its cool, moist climate, is never prepared for a summer such as this and many problems ensue.

This summer has been a good one for testing wetting agents, transpiration reducers, the effectiveness of syringing the

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grass, how well your irrigation system is working, and your skill at holding Poa annua.

One of the biggest problems this summer, no doubt, has been due to dry spots. Strange as it may seem, many people, even experienced ones, would like to blame a lot of this on diseases, insects, or plain sabotage. Poa annua, as all of you know, can fade out in spite of ample moisture conditions in the soil. This is due to excessive heat and perhaps poor oxygen relationships. Even though many managers think they have applied sufficient water, it is possible that certain areas dried out for even a brief period on certain hot days. This period, even though only a few minutes in duration, would be enough to result in death of Poa annua.

I recently investigated a lawn area that was supposed to be in the last gasping stages of dying from diseases and other pestilence, but was not surprised to find that it was due to neither. The person in question insisted that it could not possibly be dry because they watered it even as much as 10 to 12 hours at a time. This was probably an over-exaggeration because upon close examination, the soil was extremely dry and the patches dying or browning beneath a deep matted thatch. Most people are fooled to find dry spots when the lawn is on flat or gently sloping terrain. This, however, is the first thing people should check. Much time could be saved in investigating this problem if they would only check first.

Some Problems Are Funny

A superintendent recently told me of an amusing happening in his location. The golf fairways had been fertilized and watered just prior to the ladies' golfing day. Several of the ladies reported later to have come down with rashes, blisters, and various other maladies, which they attributed to the fertilizer that had been applied recently. The superintendent was reminded that in the future he should post notice that fertilizer had been applied and to caution the ladies to bathe or shower after their golf match. The puzzling part to the superintendent was that he thought that most people always did have a bath after playing 18 holes of golf on a hot summer day, whether fertilizer had been applied or not!

HELICOPTER SPRAYING IN TURFGRASS AREAS

By ROY L. GOSS

The July 1967 issue of "The Golf Superintendent" carried an article regarding golf course chemical warfare takes to the air. In this article it discusses the versatility and adaptability of helicopters in specialized spraying in areas where vehicular traffic cannot be allowed.

Many turfgrass areas become diffi-

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cult to manage from time to time, due to soft ground or excessive water conditions in the spring, or almost at any time of the year, due to bad weather. Large tree spraying is particularly simple by helicopter, but in this case they even sprayed golf course putting greens for disease control.

In the summary, it was indicated that helicopter spraying costs up to 50 percent more than other spray techniques, but it can free several men on the crew to do other duties.

There are a few dangers involved, however, of which drift of herbicides to sensitive trees or other plants nearby, must be considered. It is more critical, also, to do a better job of mixing the correct volume of pesticide, since improper application can result in ineffective control.

*We hope to see
all of you at the*

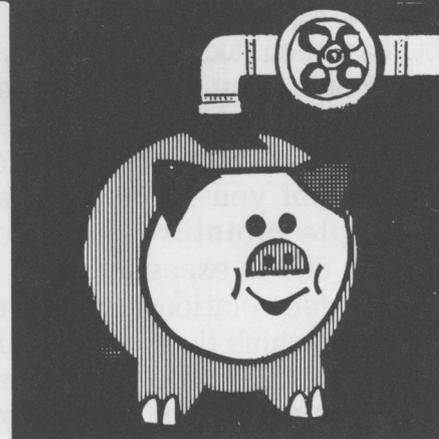
TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

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Harrison Hot Springs

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September 20-22



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