

With just a little sense and no more money, some grass, and in time turf, could be put under the players' feet.

The great aim of the Green Section is to be helpful to the courses that must be maintained for little or nothing; but it is hard to help those who know too much to learn.

Uniform Grass on All the Greens

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Is it well to have the grass uniform on all the putting-greens of a course; or is it better to have one quality of grass on one green and other qualities on other greens, some grass being fast, some slow, some very slow? These diverse effects could easily be secured. One green might have a rich admixture of clover, making a very slow green. The coarsest strains of creeping bent are much slower than the finest-leaved strains, and there are all degrees of intergradation, and there are other good greens grasses of various degrees of fineness, making greens of various degrees of speed.

Putting-greens of varying quality (very slow, slow, fast, very fast) add decidedly to the difficulty of a course, each type of green calling for its own kind of putting. Half or more of the strokes are taken on or onto the greens, and diversifying the quality of the grass on the greens adds immensely to the difficulty of the game. Is it an advantage to have greens of diverse grass qualities?

There is chance here for difference of opinion, but the writer believes that uniformity in the quality of the grass upon all the greens of any one course is a great desideratum. Putting is perhaps the most ticklish part of golf, and in this department of the game confidence is perhaps a little more important than in any other. With uniform greens through the course one gets the feel of the greens and putts with confidence. On the other hand, diverse conditions on the greens turf worries a man badly in his putting, and all the more because the degrees of difference in the turf are hard to estimate by the eye and are even harder to carry accurately in mind when one is familiar with the several greens. Diversity of quality in the greens adds a most tricky element of hazard and, it seems to the writer, an undesirable one.

If it be admitted that uniform greens are an advantage, then emphasis is placed upon the stolon method of planting greens, for one can plant his greens nursery with stolons of a single strain of creeping bent, even all from a single plant, thus securing uniform quality in the greens planted with stolons from this nursery. The greenkeeper can select carefully for his nursery the strain which seems all around the best, and can know in advance just the quality of green he will ultimately have.

Betterment of heavy clay fairways.—The best way to improve fairways on heavy clay soil is to top-dress frequently with sand. The sandy layer helps absorb water quickly and prevents the clay from puddling and baking. Every addition of sand until one inch is secured will help.