

Estimated Value of Golf Course Property in the United States

18-hole courses. 80,000 acres, at \$1,500 per acre.....	\$120,000,000
9-hole courses. 50,000 acres, at \$500 per acre.....	25,000,000
Total.....	\$145,000,000
<i>Annual Maintenance Expenditures</i>	
18-hole courses. 690, at \$10,000 each.....	\$6,900,000
9-hole courses. 1,140, at \$3,500 each.....	3,990,000
Probable additional courses. 250, at \$2,800 each.....	700,000
Total.....	\$11,590,000

Experiences With Untested Seed

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In the original seeding of a couple of fairways on one northern Michigan course a recommended seed mixture was used, but without testing the character of the seed. It proved to have contained a good deal of sheep's fescue and gave a wretched cuppy turf on these fairways. Four years ago several hundred pounds of what was claimed to be Chewings fescue seed was purchased from a reliable dealer recommended by one of the ablest agronomists in the government service and was used in heavily top-seeding the fairway turf short of the greens. It was well on in the fall before the decision to use the seed was made, and, to save time, a sample was not sent to Washington to be examined before purchasing and using. When the grass appeared no Chewings fescue was found, but there was a heavy catch of sheep's fescue.

For two years the course was played with its wretched cuppy turf on the most important portions of the fairways, just short of the greens, with serious effects upon the dispositions of the players. Last year \$1,200 was spent for labor in taking away every root of sheep's fescue from the whole course (9 holes), fairways, rough, and all, and reseeding with good tested seed. The two mistakes in using untested seed thus cost the club \$1,200 in labor, about \$200 for seed, and a great deal of irritation—the whole thing a needless waste, for the Department of Agriculture at Washington will examine seed samples free of cost and tell if they are as represented and are free from weed seeds, and one can readily himself test their viability. All that is necessary is to be forehanded in making plans so as to allow time for the testing before purchasing the seed.

Inquiry of greenkeepers on two of the best eastern Massachusetts courses develops the fact that sheep's fescue observed on their fairways came in seed purchased as red fescue; so the contamination of fescue seed of desirable varieties by sheep's fescue seems not to be exceptional.

Fall burning of the rough.—It is good general practice to mow the rough, all weeds, etc., and burn this material every fall. It may save much injury from insects the next year.