

taking four-fifths thereof to determine the handicaps. One of the members of our committee insists that a person winning a tournament (we have local monthly tournaments) should have her handicap cut. I contend that the handicap is based solely on the cards and that unless a person plays down or below the handicap it shall remain where it was before winning. Kindly let me have a ruling in this matter.

(Opinion) It is our opinion, this not being a question under the Rules, that inasmuch as your district has adopted the Calkins system of handicapping, it is obvious that to cut the handicap of a player solely because of running a tournament would be a departure from the regulations of the Calkins system and inconsistent with the object of that system.

Under Rule 15, has a player at any time and under any circumstances the right to move, bend, or break branches of a bush or tree with his hands in taking his stance in addressing the ball?

(Decision) A player has not such right.

Is a player permitted to sole his club in a trap when the ball is lying not on the sand but on grass?

(Decision) Grass within the confines of a hazard is part of the hazard, and therefore a club may not be soled if the ball is lying on the green.

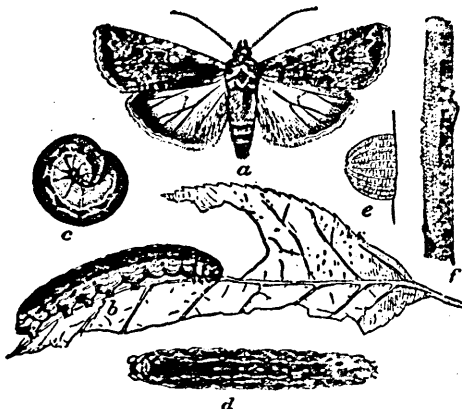
Injury to Turf from Cutworms

Reports were received in the late summer of 1924 of injury to putting green turf from cutworms in Pennsylvania and some of the New England states. Although damage to cutworms is confined mostly to cultivated crops, yet serious injury to putting greens is not uncommon.

Injury from cutworms occurs in the spring and continues more or less through the summer. The worms feed at night and remain concealed during the day beneath debris or in the soil at a depth of from one-half to one inch. Their activity causes brown patches in the turf, and their presence can be detected by spading the killed turf and carefully examining the soil.

The worms may be killed by spraying or sprinkling the infested turf with a solution of two pounds of powdered arsenate of lead in 50 gallons of water, or by the spreading of poisoned baits prepared in the following manner:

Wheat bran	50 pounds
Paris green or crude arsenic	2 pounds
Blackstrap molasses	2 quarts
Water	2 to 4 gallons or more as needed.



Variegated cutworm (*Peridroma margaritosa*): (a) moth; (b) normal form of caterpillar, side view; (c) same in curved position; (d) dark form, view of back; (e) greatly enlarged egg, seen from side; (f) egg mass on twig.

Mix the poison and the bran thoroughly together, in a dry state, add the diluted molasses, and stir vigorously until thoroughly mixed. Distribute this bait over the infested area broadcast. In case bran can not readily be obtained, middlings or alfalfa meal may be successfully substituted.

Where bran or other fillers for poison baits are prohibitively expensive or difficult to obtain in sufficient quantities, they may be diluted with equal parts of fresh hardwood sawdust. The formula for poison bait prepared in this manner is as follows:

Paris green or white arsenic.....	2 pounds
Fresh hardwood sawdust	25 pounds
Wheat bran	25 pounds
Molasses	2 quarts
Water	4 to 8 quarts
	or more as needed.

This mixture is not quite as efficient as the poison bait containing the entire amount of bran, but it has shown good results and may be used to advantage when necessary. Pine sawdust should not be used, as this seems to repel the insects.

Where only a small quantity of poison bait is required the following formula will be found most convenient:

White arsenic or Paris green.....	1 pound
Dry bran	1 peck
Molasses	1 pint
Water	2 to 4 quarts
	or more as needed.

It is often advantageous to allow the mash thus obtained to stand for several hours before using; this seems to result in greater effectiveness.

In areas known to be infested the distribution of this bait should be started early in the season so that the cutworms may be eliminated as quickly as possible. During the warm spring months cutworms do most of their feeding at night and burrow into the soil to the depth of an inch or two during the day; the bait will, therefore, usually be more effective if applied during the late afternoon or early evening hours.

Caution.—Poison bait should be distributed thinly. Prevent domestic animals, including fowls, from eating it. Arsenic and Paris green are poisonous to animals.

How to Use Manure

In seeding turf grasses a firm seed bed is first essential. In our opinion you can make much better use of your manure by composting it with top soil in the proportion of one-fifth manure and four-fifths top soil, and applying this compost as top-dressing to your greens after the turf has become established. All the fertilizer necessary in growing fine turf can be applied on the surface, and often more harm than good results from incorporating manure in the soil before seeding, especially since if manure is incorporated into soil in considerable quantities it will attract grubs and other insects injurious to turf. We would advise you to depend entirely for your fertilizing on later applications of top-dressings and ammonium sulfate.