

TURF TWISTERS

IRRIGATION

Question: Do you know of any golf courses where the greens have been watered by sub-irrigation similar to the method used for some crops? (TEXAS)

Answer: We do not know of any courses that are using the sub-irrigation method of watering their greens. Much work needs to be done on this, however, before any recommendation can be made.

DRY SPOTS

Question: We have been troubled with dry spots in putting greens. What can we do about it? (KANSAS)

Answer: Localized dry spots appear during hot weather for no apparent reason. Fork the spots with a tubular tined fork and make sure water gets down into the holes. When the soil is re-wetted you should have no more trouble getting it to take water. Several commercial wetting agents are available. These have given good results when used according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

SALT DAMAGE

Question: What amount of sodium chloride, in parts per million, can be in irrigation water before it will damage the soil on a putting green? (TEXAS)

Answer: Your question cannot be answered directly. Much depends upon the kind of turf and the drainage or percolation that you have.

Water that is high in soluble salts of any kind can be used if drainage is good. If drainage is poor, however, salt will accumulate and cause the grass to die after a number of years.

A course is known where irrigation water which contained as much as three thousand parts per million of soluble salts was used successfully.