



SOIL and WATER CONSULTING

Corey M. Angelo
Consultant

April 6, 2021

Re: Spring Sample Collection

Summary of lab data:

- *There are no deficiencies in the fairway soils and your wall-to wall Polyon application will help with the extra traffic.*
 - *The greens have a very slight Potassium deficiency and that will only get larger without an application. Apply 2 pounds of product of 0-0-50 per 1,000 square feet every other month until we check greens again.*
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Dear Zac,

Except for the excessive cart traffic which leads to highly compacted areas, the nutrient levels throughout the course are very good. The grass rarely shows signs of nutrient deficiencies. When I think of Los Robles Greens GC, I think of the number of rounds that are played and how that effects the turf. Many of the issues we look at or talk about are on areas of the course that are either tree lined, usual cart trails or a combination of both.

Aerification of those areas will be the most helpful. Even though your organic matter percentages are high in the fairways it is mainly a function of the grass type and how much thatch it produces. Which, by the way, is perfect for your course because that grass can be like a cushion. If you can aerify the hard to grow spots and add in a clean organic material source, such as a Wonder Soil, NatureSafe or Earthworks product, it will help to heal the holes faster and give those areas a fighting chance against another year of high golf rounds. I am sure there is a chance that around the trees, the turf just doesn't get a fair share of water. By adding something that will hold a little water, things should improve.

Overall, the course looked good, but I think taking the time to aerify high traffic areas will keep those areas from having to be sodded year after year.

When you have some time, let's talk and more on how the course is doing since my visit.

Sincerely,
Corey Angelo
Soil and Water Consulting





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Re: Summer Sample Collection (cont.)

Your concern at the time of my visit was the bermudagrass. It doesn't fill in as quickly as you may be used to. This is another area where the sodium dominant soil hurts that process. However, in my 2 years at Rams Hill, I have seen huge increases in the bermudagrass population. The seeding in the fairways and now having a great new aerifier to use whenever you can, will help as well. Be patient. You mentioned not getting the usual response from applications of Nitrogen. Based on these test results, the soil has plenty of Nitrogen and no more needs to be applied at this time. I often see that when a Superintendent gets little to no response, it is because more isn't always better. Meaning, the plant can only consume so much. It is my opinion at this time, there is plenty on the plate and it has eaten all it can for now. So, if you focus on the 2 products I have recommended for tees and fairways, we can address the deficiencies leading into overseeding time.

Finally, I was very impressed with the amount of work the crew was producing. As I rode around by myself to collect samples, it seemed as if the crew had doubled in size from my last visit. From working on #13 drainage to finishing up #1 drainage to edging the bunkers. You have also figured out ways to maintain the bunkers more consistently when you are open, and the greens have improved with added practices such as brushing and routine verti-cutting and topdressing. Sometimes it seems as if you aren't improving fast enough for your high standards, but when someone like me sees the course every 3 months and not every day, the improvements seem obvious.

When you have time to go over the report in more detail, please call me.

Sincerely,
Corey Angelo
Soil and Water Consulting



Drone views from 2018

