(10) Cutting and Rolling:

Mowing is required in order to keep the lawn attractive and to assist in the maintenance of a sward of dense turf. Lawns should not be cut extremely close, more especially the first few cuttings, as leaves are essential to the vital processes connected with the food supplies, and constant close cuttings reduce the vitality of the plants. Frequent close cuttings are responsible also for a reduction in root development, thus rendering the lawn more sensitive to the effects of dry weather.

Very close cutting following a period during which the growth has been allowed to attain a height of 3 or 4 inches must be avoided. The sudden exposure to the sun will injure the grass under such circumstances.

The disposal of lawn cuttings is a vexed question to many householders. Where cutting is frequent and regular there is no need to use a grass box, but long growths should not be allowed to remain on the surface.

The use of a roller is not required in the maintenance of a home lawn, and the results of continued rolling may be harmful. However, in cricket wicket areas, lawn tennis courts and bowling greens the roller is required in obtaining a true surface, but this treatment is quite unnecessary under home lawn conditions.

(11) Neglected Lawns:

Thin and unhealthy appearance in many lawns and greens is almost entirely due to the failure to use fertilisers, or to use them intelligently. In most cases they could be rejuvenated by the use of fertilisers, together with adequate watering. So pay attention to feeding, watering and weeding, and have a lawn you’re proud to call your own. It’s the perfect setting for your home.

Clarice Newman, of Karuah.