Audubon, courses team up to save wildlife

More than 100 courses already signed onto program

By Mark Leslie and Kit Bradshaw

Golf courses and the Audubon Society wildlife sanctuary program "are a perfect match," according to an environmental specialist with the U.S. Golf Association. By July, more than 100 courses in 26 states had shown interest in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, administered by the New York Audubon Society and USGA.

"More important than the money, however, is our pledge to take the knowledge gained from this research and disseminate it to those responsible for the management of America's turfgrasses has received $50,000 in grants from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The grants to the U.S. Golf Association will help fund the work of the USGA/GCSAA Turfgrass Research Committee in the coming year.

"We're extremely pleased to once again offer our financial support to the committee," said GCSA President Stephen G. Cadenell. "Most important than the money, however, is our pledge to take the knowledge gained from this research and disseminate it to those responsible for the management of America's golf courses.

CADMIUM REVIEW TERMINATED

The Environmental Protection Agency has terminated a special review on the fungicide cadmium chloride (Caddy, Liquid Cadmium Turf Fungicide) due to the voluntary cancellation by the only remaining cadmium chloride pesticide registration by its producer, W.A. Cleary Corp.

According to EPA Fact Sheet #220, "... no cadmium chloride product may be sold, distributed or released for shipment by the registrant after July 31, and no cadmium chloride product may be sold or distributed by a retailer, dealer or any person after Dec. 31.

Golf courses or endusers may not obtain or purchase cadmium chloride product after Dec. 31. Supplies in their possession as of Dec. 31 may be used until exhausted.

ARTIZANE-LADEN FERTILIZER DEADLY

LAKES CITY, Minn. — Lake City Country Club fairways suffered excessive damage when a fertilizer mistakenly containing atrazine was applied.

About 47,000 square yards of turfgrass were killed from an application April 27. Fertilizer supplier Farmers Elevator Co.'s insurance will pay to repair the damage, estimated at up to $200,000, said company manager Greg Schwambeck.

Course superintendent Cliff Reynolds said: "It's never a good feeling, seeing a road grader going up the middle of a fairway pulling sod away."

Drought information network established in California

After being drought-parched for more than five years, California is fighting back with a new way to get the latest word on the state's water supply.

A computer system called Advanced Technology Information Network (ATI-Net) lets users tap into comprehensive drought information gleaned by the California Department of Water Resources.

According to ATI-Net General Manager Jeff Ennen, those with menu-driven information such as farms, Ennen suggested that golf course superintendents review the listings, to see if any aid programs would apply to the golf industry. Such aid could include grants, loans, cost sharing, or technical assistance. ATI-Net also includes an analysis of state water supplies by region, assessing both the current and potential impact of the drought on those water supplies. A list of publications that provide drought information is also available to ATI-Net users, Ennen said.

For more information on ATI-Net call 209-278-4872.