No need, no desire to regulate biostimulant manufacturers

To the Editor:
We have noted Dr. Eliot Roberts’ comments in Golf Course News relative to biostimulants (February 1991 issue). We understand his recommendations and we feel compelled to answer.

Have you ever bought a can of paint, an automobile tire, or dishwashing soap? Well, then, you must know that there is NO disclosure about their specific contents, for each manufacturer insists on keeping such information as his secret.

We really cannot see any reason for disclosing product makeup, so that competitors can simply copy the product.

Sorry, Eliot, but we don't need any regulations or policemen. It is still America, the land of the free, and it should stay that way—even though we are losing our freedoms little by little every day.

Sincerely,
James O. King
president
Regal Chemical Co.
Alpharetta, Ga.

Useful tool to industry
To the Editor:
I thoroughly enjoy reading Golf Course News. It is a useful tool, as well as keeping me aware of the happenings in the industry.

Keep up the good work.
Wilfred S. Hall, president
Hall & Lindsay, Inc.
Old Forge, N.Y.

A steroid saponin (sarsaponin schidigera) plant extract.

Steroids saponins are nature’s wetting agents, improving percolation and increasing the movement of water through hydrophobic soils, improving water penetration and retention.

Unlike other wetting agents, NoburN* is not a quick fix product. By flocculating soil particles, it has a positive long-term effect on soil structure, improving percolation and the soil’s ability to hold water. NoburN is the perfect carrier and penetrant for fungicides, insecticides and fertilizers.

Since steroid saponins are natural plant fluids that are extracted only by pressure (not chemically), there is no danger of burning on any crop, and no danger of ground water contamination. NoburN is recommended for situations where there is any worry about injury or burn (such as before a tournament), and in programs where chemical use is undesirable. It is biodegradable in the soil and presents no residue problem. NoburN mixes with all liquid fertilizers and is sprayed on soil/foliage or metered into irrigation water.

In a University of Georgia comparison study on a hydrophobic putting green, 11 commercially available wetting agents were tested; NoburN achieved parity in reducing hydrophobic conditions and increasing water penetration. While the leading chemical brand resulted in ‘significantly lower color ratings than the check,’ NoburN did not cause any turf discoloration.

In another University of Georgia test, NoburN was applied in combination with pesticides and fungicides at four times the recommended rate and was shown to be completely safe and non-phytotoxic to the turf. The test showed NoburN to be completely compatible with pesticides, resulting in no discoloration of the turf.

NoburN IS SAFE EVEN WHEN IT IS NOT WATERED IN.

* NoburN is a trademark of LISA Products Corporation

A super’s request
To try to run a golf course, is not an easy task. Here are some little things, that we would like to ask.

That ball mark you make on the green should always be repaired, and maybe fix another one, would show you really cared.

If the ball ends up in the trap, then why not use the rake? Smooth out those ugly footprints, for the next golfer’s sake.

Two people in a golf cart, is all there ought to be. So why when I look out there, I sometimes can count three?

Why keep someone waiting, if you are playing slow? Just step aside and wave them on.

Saying, “Okay now, you go.”

Replace that great big divot, don’t simply step aside. Then that little bitty golf ball, can’t find a place to hide.

We do our best to make this course, one you really like to play. So do your part, keep it nice, and have a HAPPY DAY.

— Celia Jo Clark
Palmyra Golf Course
Palmyra, Maine

Sprinkler program readied by Cal State
FRESNO, Calif. — The California State University’s Center for Irrigation Technology’s SPACE (Sprinkler Profile and Coverage Evaluation) sprinkler overlap program now is available with an option to accept and display sprinkler data using metric measurements.

New spacing options allow readers to analyze sprinkler performance for single row spacings on golf course fairways and/or staggered offset spacing designs typical of under-tree solidsets.

For further information, contact CIT at (209) 278-2066.

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