N.Y. AG attacks industry's chemical use

By Peter Blais

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has labeled as "unsupported by fact, inaccurate and misleading" a report that golf course pesticides are jeopardizing ground water on New York's Long Island.

But state Attorney General Robert Abrams' office stands by his office's report.

Spokeswoman Leslie Gersing said the study is not meant as an attack on the golf industry. Instead it should be viewed as a way to begin reducing pesticide use on golf courses, which use far more of the chemicals than lawn care companies or agriculture, she added.

"We found that golf courses used chemicals with the greatest ability to leach into ground water," she said. "There are ways to use healthier pesticides that are less harmful to ground water."

Information for the report, titled Toxic Fairways: Risking Groundwater Contamination From Pesticides on Long Island Golf Courses, was voluntarily supplied by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Director of Communications Pat Jones has been appointed director of development for the department, which will attempt to raise $1 million to permanently capitalize the association's scholarship programs and additional funds to finance research projects complementing the U.S. Golf Course Maintenance

International gets perfect match for greens

Dramatic improvements reported in ryegrass

Andy Brennan uses ingenuity at Opryland

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Non-traditional funding sources take spotlight

'Sure-fire' methods have passed away

Blisses banter and barter to get course built

COURSE MANAGEMENT

Florida Golf Council fights new sales tax

Marietta CC — a private-to-muni conversion

NCA expands conference schedule

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Idaho resort-newspaper owner targets burning

Lightning warning technology in forefront

Marketing conference deadline nears

GCSAA starts development department

By Peter Blais

Funding new research and scholarship programs will be the focus of a new department created by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Director of Communications Pat Jones has been appointed director of development for the department, which will attempt to raise $1 million to permanently capitalize the association's scholarship programs and additional funds to finance research projects complementing the U.S. Golf Course Management.

Continued on page 42

Oregon extinguishing seed growers' burns

By Bob Spiwak

Field burning of turfgrass in Oregon will be a thing of the past by the turn of the century.

On Aug. 7, on a hill overlooking Willamette Valley, Gov. Barbara Roberts signed into law a measure that will gradually decrease the number of acres of fields that can be burned.

The bill also increases fees growers will pay to burn, and provides $500,000 a year from state coffers to finance research into alternatives to setting the fields afire.

Burning has long been done to remove straw and thatch from turf fields, with an added benefit of limiting diseases. With more than 400,000 acres of turf seed in cultivation in the valley, the smoke produced has long been a source of controversy.

Two decades ago, a move was made to eliminate the fires, but never came to pass. In 1978, a limit of 520,000 acres allowed to be burned was established.

The new law decreased field burning to 160,000 acres this year, down to 40,000 by 1998 and an ultimate ban two years later.

Propane flaming was restricted to 75,000 acres, with a ban on that method after 1998 unless federal and state pollution standards are met.

According to Dave Nelson, executive director of the Oregon Seed Council, burning with propane produces a smaller volume of smoke than open burning, while riddling the fields of crown stubble and disease.

There is a tradeoff. Whereas a hundred acres can be purged in a half hour

Continued on page 35

Mobay appeals $4.75M EPA fine

PHILADELPHIA — A $4.75 million penalty, the largest ever for a new chemical violation, has been assessed against Mobay Corp. of Pittsburgh, for violations of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued administrative complaints against Mobay and fellow major chemical company Allied Colloids, Inc. of Suffolk, Va. The Allied Colloids fine was $2 million.

A Mobay spokesman said the firm contends that it had complied with the law, and plans to appeal.

Penalties against Mobay and Allied Colloids were determined by applying an en-
Mobay Corp. fined record amount by EPA

Continued from page 1

... enforcement response policy which takes into account the nature, circumstances and extent of each violation.

EPA's complaint against Mobay, containing more than 400 counts, alleges that Mobay:

• imported chemical substances for chemical purposes that were not on EPA's TSCA inventory;
• falsely certified that the import shipments were in compliance with TSCA;
• filed incomplete PMNS that failed to include all known trade names and all intended uses for the specified chemical substances;
• provided false information to EPA regarding the dates certain substances were first imported;
• improperly reported certain substances to the TSCA inventory during the initial reporting period; and
• submitted inaccurate or unsupported information in required reports.

Under TSCA, companies may not manufacture or import chemical substances unless they are reported to and listed on an inventory of chemical substances compiled by EPA. New chemical substances must be reported to EPA 90 days prior to manufacture of import through a pre-manufacture notice which includes information on the intended use of the substance, as well as test data related to human health and environmental effects.

Edwin B. Erickson, regional administrator for EPA Region III, said: "In seeking large penalties for these violations, EPA is sending a message to all chemical manufacturers to abide by the law. When a company violates TSCA rules, it risks exposure of the community and the environment to hazards associated with potentially harmful chemicals."

Lightning plagues golf courses

Continued from page 35

... for theory or futile safeguards at Hazeltine. It struck in full fury, and tragedy resulted as the group huddled under a lone willow tree close to the 11th tee.

Is there a lesson to be learned? Not really. Man's most sophisticated warning weaponry won't alter the outcome precipitating the volatile mix of compacted crowds and wide-open courses against Nature.

The lightning detector is a valuable tool in determining suspension of play and clearing players from the course. As Brian Henning, Senior PGA Tour director, wrote to Markson: "The lightning detector was giving us a warning even though we could not see lightning. We decided to suspend play and call players off the course. Fifteen minutes later the sky opened. Not only did it rain very hard, but there was cloud-to-ground lightning. Fortunately, everybody was safely under shelter."

Ken Lindsay, PGA of America director, noted that in a tourney at Jackson, Miss., "Airborne equipment helped us to determine the right time to suspend play and evacuate the golfers. Eighteen minutes later, everyone was off the course. Twenty-five minutes later, the lightning began and it started to rain very hard."

While this Airborne-linked action takes care of the players, 40,000 watchers face a dilemma. How and where do you flee to safety?

Castle Pines GC in Castle Rock, Colo., bought French-made "Prevektor S6" conductors as added lightning safeguards for its mid-August International tournament. Used mainly on tall buildings and nuclear power plants, each is said to shield a 200-yard radius of a designated safety zone.

These terminals, about the size of a football and costing $500 each, have a self-contained electrical device that generates ions under storm conditions, creating a path for the lightning to follow and thus directing it away from sensitive areas.

Lightning claimed 106 lives in the United States last year. Now, if the M-01, the Probe and the S6 work as well as the Patriot missile, mankind may have taken a small step to combat, or at least deflect, unforgiving and capricious Nature.

Ore, burning

Continued from page 35

... is your best protection against costly winter kill damage.

Warren's TerraShield also helps stimulate healthy root growth and get spring green-up started sooner so your course is ready for play weeks earlier.

Photo courtesy of Nat Bines, golf course superintendent, Lakewood Country Club, Rockville, Maryland. (unretouched photo)

Actual side-by-side comparisons prove...

TerraShield® is your best protection against costly winter kill damage.

Warren's TerraShield also helps stimulate healthy root growth and get spring green-up started sooner so your course is ready for play weeks earlier.

Best for winter protection... TerraShield gives you up to 3 times more blanket material than thin plastic films, light-weight fabrics or sheets of material resembling rows of ribbons sewn loosely together.

Best for wind protection... because it's a non-woven polyester blanket and not a film or sheet, TerraShield does a superior job protecting against desiccation kill by keeping cold, dry, windy winds away from grass crowns.

Best for extra strength... because it's 100% polyester continuous filament needlepunched fabric, TerraShield resists ballooning and fights ripping and tearing that can destroy thin films, sheets, or lighter-weight fabrics. (And, there is no chance for crosswires to keep TerraShield in place in very high winds.)

Best for healthy turf... because it 'breathes', TerraShield lets oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water vapor pass through freely and easily. It also helps retain needed soil moisture.

Protected by
TerraShield
100% Polyester Greens Blanket

Covered by "Another"
Leading Brand

You can have TerraShield Greens Blankets ready for your course in plenty of time for installation this fall if you act now.

To order, just phone
Davenport Seed Corporation
at 1 800 828-8873

Davenport Seed Corporation
1404 Fourth Street, Davenport, Washington 99122-0187
A Subsidiary of
Warren's Turf Professionals

Lightning detector once again was the deciding factor in suspending play at the recent Senior Farmer Classic in Cincinnati.

The local weather service had told officialsof expectedrain but no electricity for Wednesday's Pro-Am. "We had just started in the afternoon rain and it suddenly became very dark," said Henning.

The lightening detector was giving us a warning even though we could not see lightning. We decided to suspend play and call players off the course. Fifteen minutes later the sky opened. Not only did it rain very hard, but there was cloud-to-ground lightning. Fortunately, everybody was safely under shelter."

Ken Lindsay, PGA of America director, noted that in a tourney at Jackson, Miss., "Airborne equipment helped us to determine the right time to suspend play and evacuate the golfers. Eighteen minutes later, everyone was off the course. Twenty-five minutes later, the lightning began and it started to rain very hard."

While this Airborne-linked action takes care of the players, 40,000 watchers face a dilemma. How and where do you flee to safety?

Castle Pines GC in Castle Rock, Colo., bought French-made "Prevektor S6" conductors as added lightning safeguards for its mid-August International tournament. Used mainly on tall buildings and nuclear power plants, each is said to shield a 200-yard radius of a designated safety zone.

These terminals, about the size of a football and costing $500 each, have a self-contained electrical device that generates ions under storm conditions, creating a path for the lighting to follow and thus directing it away from sensitive areas.

Lightning claimed 106 lives in the United States last year. Now, if the M-01, the Probe and the S6 work as well as the Patriot missile, mankind may have taken a small step to combat, or at least deflect, unforgiving and capricious Nature.

Ore, burning

Continued from page 35

... is your best protection against costly winter kill damage.

Warren's TerraShield also helps stimulate healthy root growth and get spring green-up started sooner so your course is ready for play weeks earlier.

Best for winter protection... TerraShield gives you up to 3 times more blanket material than thin plastic films, light-weight fabrics or sheets of material resembling rows of ribbons sewn loosely together.

Best for wind protection... because it's a non-woven polyester blanket and not a film or sheet, TerraShield does a superior job protecting against desiccation kill by keeping cold, dry, windy winds away from grass crowns.

Best for extra strength... because it's 100% polyester continuous filament needlepunched fabric, TerraShield resists ballooning and fights ripping and tearing that can destroy thin films, sheets, or lighter-weight fabrics. (And, there is no chance for crosswires to keep TerraShield in place in very high winds.)

Best for healthy turf... because it 'breathes', TerraShield lets oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water vapor pass through freely and easily. It also helps retain needed soil moisture.

You can have TerraShield Greens Blankets ready for your course in plenty of time for installation this fall if you act now.

To order, just phone
Davenport Seed Corporation
at 1 800 828-8873

Davenport Seed Corporation
1404 Fourth Street, Davenport, Washington 99122-0187
A Subsidiary of
Warren's Turf Professionals

GOLF COURSE NEWS