NC TURFGRASS GROUP HONORS KOCHER

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has joined the Coalition for Sensible Pesticide Policy.

"The coalition exists to 'secure sensible, uniform federal/state regulation of pesticides by passing proactive legislation,' while allowing local input into the federal/state regulatory process." The GCSAA board of directors voted to join the coalition, President William R. Roberts saying it is crucial that pesticides be regulated in a consistent manner.

"Our GCSAA, through our state organizations, for compliance make it imperative that these regulations be consistent—at least on a state-level basis," Roberts said.

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has joined the Coalition for Sensible Pesticide Policy. The coalition is made up of public health and environmental organizations, farmers, sod producers, and the Department of Transportation.

According to the 1990 Census, April is when the lawn care season begins. People all across the country begin tending more than 25 million acres, using more than 61 million power mowers, and spending about $61,000 in 1990 and more than $36,000 in 1991. Kocher is chairman again this year.

The purpose of Golf Day is to raise money for turfgrass research. Money is raised by asking golfers to make a $1 per person contribution.

According to the 1990 Census, April is when the lawn care season begins. People all across the country begin tending more than 25 million acres, using more than 61 million power mowers, and spending about a billion hours a year mowing the nation's lawns, parks and sports turf areas.

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Envirotron given $350G for research

The Florida Turfgrass Foundation has received $350,000 in matching funds from the state for its new Envirotron research facility.

"The money, approved by the state of Florida's Capital Facilities Trust, along with $350,000 raised by the foundation through private donations, will be used to build a laboratory dedicated to developing methods to preserve and improve the environment. The University of Florida campus in Gainesville will be the home of the Envirotron. Construction should begin later this year."

"We envision the Envirotron as the state's first Environmental Research Unit. Top scientists will be retained to investigate and study the effects of pollutants in ground water; the effects of herbicides, fungicide and pesticide on the environment; the effects of new grasses requiring less water; and the furthering of biological control methods for turfgrass pests."

Water conservation strategies and the use of recycled water for irrigation also will be studied. "The initial funding of $350,000 needed for the FTGA to qualify for federal matching funds was made possible by a unified funding campaign throughout the effort of FTGA members, Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association and many other private organizations, clubs and individuals," said Bob Yount, executive director of The Florida Turfgrass Association.

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A major element of the survey will be its measurement of the economic impact turfgrass plays in the state of Florida. An industry survey is anticipated to produce concrete data elevating turfgrass as a most valued resource in the state of Florida.

The contribution comes from the PGA Tour Florida facilities, including TPC at Sawgrass, TPC at Eagle Trace, TPC at Prestancia, TPC of Tampa Bay, Golf Club of Miami and Golf Club of Jacksonville.

Pursell Industries, involved in manufacturing turf care products, also contributed to the facility to promote the ongoing research advancements of the industry.

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'An IPM is only limited by our imagination. It's not cheap. It's not easy. The best way it will work is if superintendents share ideas.' Tim Hiers

John's Island West

"If you have a weed, it's going to produce weed heads. Then you're going to have more weeds. Don't let anybody make you think that one or two weeds is a healthy golf course. It's better for the environment. A healthy golf course is going to produce more oxygen, use more carbon dioxide... There's no substitute for a healthy golf course."

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Florida association co-sponsors turfgrass industry survey

"Accurate scientific data will now be available to all Floridians who want a 'Green Florida' but not at the expense or risk of damaging our environment." PGA, Pursell chip in

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"When we apply a pesticide that's strong, we make sure we have the capability to water the area simultaneously with two revolutions on the flyway, so you have a new tennis net on the ground immediately. That does a lot of things. It protects wildlife. And, if you do have a rain, you've got it in the ground."

FLORIDA—The University of Florida and Florida Turfgrass Association and Research Foundation have pledged $350,000 to a project touted as the most comprehensive turf industry survey in the nation. This study will complete the second half of a major prospective study by the Florida Turfgrass Research Laboratory.

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Record number at show

NEW ORLEANS — A record 505 exhibitors plied their wares at the 1992 International Golf Course Conference and Show, held here in New Orleans.

More than 15,000 superintendents, turfgrass professionals and suppliers to the golf course industry attended the show, hosted by the GCSAA.