CENTURY RAIN, BANKS SUPPLY MERGE

Two of Florida's largest irrigation suppliers, Century Rain Aid and the irrigation division of Banks Supply have merged their Florida operations, creating a network of 10 branches across the west coast of Florida. The newly merged Banks outlets, now called Century Rain Aid (Banks Irrigation Division). Century operates 22 branches in seven states, supplying irrigation equipment, pumps, landscape lighting, fountains, and drainage products to the golf market.

NAME CHANGE FOR BLOCK SYSTEMS

MINNEAPOLIS — Block Systems, Inc., created the addition of the Conrep, Windsor Stone, Artect and Sahara Stone retaining wall systems, has officially changed its name to Anchor Wall Systems, Inc.

In addition, American Masonry Products, the current Minneapolis office, has merged with Anchor Wall Systems, thus joining the corporate headquarters. The merger means a comprehensive base of services offered to Anchor's customers nationwide. National divisions will include licensing, commercial, DIY/retail, specifying, research and development, and marketing.

WHEELER JOINS ROOTSINC

Bruce Wheeler has been hired as the western region sales manager for ROOTSinc, a division of LISA Product Corporation. Wheeler is responsible for the distribution and sales of the company's ROOTS, ironROOTS and Norbutrin brand products in California, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Idaho and New Mexico. Wheeler comes to LISA from the Camaron Company in Palm Springs, where he spent two years servicing the desert golf and landscape markets. He's a licensed pest control advisor and qualified applicator.

PARKWAY ADDS CONSAN LINE

Parkway Research Corporation has announced the addition of the Conson product line to its operations. Acquired by Parkway in November of 1991, the Conson line includes Triple Action 20, the triple quaternary amine formula, EPA-approved for greenhouse disinfecting applications and for direct application to ornamental plants, grasses and trees. For more information on Houston-based Parkway Research Corporation and the complete Conson product line, call 1-800-256-3668.

BRIEFS

After the bunkers at Scioto Country Club were totally renovated, The Placer installed sand at an initial six-inch depth on the bottoms and two to three inches on the slopes with minimal handwork.

The Placer: Bunker work made easy

By TERRY BUCHEN

Bunker sand replenishing or replacement is now less daunting a task for superintendents in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states as an innovative dump truck has been built by the Kurtz Brothers of Cleveland.

The Placer is a material placement system designed and patented to help use time/motion efficiency and to greatly reduce labor costs during bunker renovation. Mark A. Yoher of Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio, just renovated all of his greenside sand bunkers with The Placer. It was done while the regulation greens were closed for renovation from last August to April 30.

Yoher had the new greenside bunker sand stockpiled in a remote corner of the member/guest parking lot, and the sand was delivered to the bunkers in two to three inch layers. The conveyor rotates back and forth up to 180 degrees. The dump truck holds 14 cubic yards of material. The system reportedly worked fast and efficiently.

The Placer can also be used to backfill drainage or irrigation trenches; top dress washouts on newly built golf course projects; place critical materials during USGA greens construction such as pea gravel, choker layer, sand/peat rootzone mix, and any other bulk materials used in course maintenance/construction.

Kurtz Brothers, Inc., is located at 4700 East 49th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44125; 1-800-223-7645 or 216-641-9999.

Toro puts safety tips on video

MINNEAPOLIS — The Toro Company and the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company have developed the nation's first comprehensive operator safety education program for the commercial turf maintenance industry.

Specifically designed for golf course employees, the three-pronged program includes: video, audio and written — responds to the significant number of injuries related to turf maintenance activities. In 1989, for example, more than 75,000 turf maintenance-related accidents were admitted to hospital emergency rooms.

In addition to human injury, the economic loss can be devastating, said Mike Billings, vice president of the St. Paul Fire and Marine's Risk Management Services Division. More than 25 percent of workers' compensation claims by golf course maintenance employees are mower related, said Billings, who noted this results in an average cost of $3,600 per claim.

"We're addressing the need for an easy-to-understand yet thorough safety program that stresses how critical it is to routinely follow safety measures when operating turf equipment," said Billings.

Added Jim Selbert, senior attorney for Toro: "The ultimate goal for both companies is to see a drop in the number of accidents associated with cutting equipment. We want to correct the 'it-can't-happen-to-me' attitude."

The Turf Maintenance Equipment Safety Education Program addresses 28 different safety areas related to commercial cutting equipment. Covered are procedures to follow before and during operation, as well as when merely working around operating equipment.

The information is delivered in a simple-language, multiple-format style which incorporates a video tape, audio tape, written

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EPA considering emission controls for maintenance equipment—mowers included

By PETER BLAIS

The Environmental Protection Agency could recommend emission control regulations for construction equipment this September and smaller motorized golf course maintenance equipment next spring, according to an EPA official.

The federal agency will decide by September whether to propose regulations for tractors and bulldozers, according to Michael Scott, public liaison officer for golf course issues. No such regulations presently exist.

The EPA is testing equipment at its Ann Arbor, Mich., facility to determine if such regulations are necessary. If the agency believes they are, the EPA will invite public comments 45 days before making any final recommendations, Scott said.

Manufacturers could be greatly

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Government grant backs AgriDyne on pyrethrin study

SALT LAKE CITY — The United States Department of Commerce has approved a $1.2 million grant for AgriDyne Technologies Inc. to research an innovative new process for developing pyrethrin, a botanical insecticide.

AgriDyne will match the Advanced Technology Program grant, spending more than $3 million over the next three years to formulate a method to increase domestic pyrethrin supplies.

Pyrethrin, an insecticide found in chrysanthemum, domestic pyrethrin supplies.

Utah-based AgriDyne proposes to use genetic engineering to develop a key component of the pyrethrin product normally generated in the flower. This intermediate product — which would then be converted to yield an almost unlimited supply of pyrethrin — is also important in the manufacturing of synthetic pyrethroid.

"Being selected... represents outside confirmation of our pyrethrin technology,' said Eric Hale. president and chief executive officer at AgriDyne. The grant shows that our molecular biology techniques for producing the active ingredient in a natural insecticide — pyrethrin

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Harness the wind

FRESNO — Because most superintendents don't have access to helicopters, Tempest Technology Corp., recently introduced a new gasoline-powered blower for golf courses.

Tempest offers four different models ranging from the 24-inch, blade-size unit — available in five-horsepower Tecumseh or nine-horsepower Honda engine — to a 27-inch unit, available in a 10-horsepower Tecumseh or 13-horsepower Honda.

The blower features a dependable shroud with front and rear grills to ensure safety. For more information and a free demonstration, golf course personnel may call 800-346-2143.

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AgriDyne receives government grant

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extract — is a unique and viable technology.

"That's good news for AgriDyne and for the U.S. in becoming self sufficient in the supply of an environmentally-friendly pesticide."

Because the current supply of natural pyrethrin extract is concentrated in eastern Africa, supplies are variable and production is not increasing. AgriDyne representatives believe the current worldwide demand for pyrethrin is four times the supply.

The AgriDyne grant was one of 27 doled out by the Department of Commerce. Of the recipients, AgriDyne represents the only agricultural firm.

The Advanced Technology Program is a new effort of the commerce Department's Technology Administration and executed by its National Institute of Standards and Technology. The program is designed to assist business in carrying out research and development on pre-competitive, generic technologies.

Toro safety video

Continued from page 44

manual and follow-up tests. The package is offered in English and Spanish.

Though program information was distributed at the '92 GCSAA Show in New Orleans, it is also available through Toro distributors. St. Paul Fire and Marine will also provide the program through its independent agents.

The Toro Commerical Products Division has produced several operator videos for its own customers. The tapes, which vary from 11 to 30 minutes in length, cover safety procedures, general product familiarization, pre-operational checks, correct operating instructions, how-to cutting techniques, and proper care/cleaning. The information is provided in English, followed by a shorter Spanish version.

Toro operator videos are available for the Groundsman 220, Greensmaster 3000 and 3000-D, Greensmaster 1000, and Reelmaster models 450-D, 335-D, 223-D and 216.

For more information on the Toro/St. Paul Fire and Marine safety education program, contact the Toro Company, Commercial Marketing Services Dept., 8111 Lyndale Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn. 55420-1196, or the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Eagle 3, RMSD, 385 Washington St., St. Paul, Minn. 55102.

CIRCLE 144

THE TERRA TOPPER

A New Concept in Topdressing

Look At These Advantages

• • • •

The Terra T320

For brushing in topdressing or windowing aerating cores: Do it with the Terra Soft Tender Rotary Broom.

One pass over — 4 or 5 passes is not necessary as with a dragmat or barn brooms.

THE TERRA T320

Get the job done before the golfer knows you've started. Designed for fairways and large turf areas, the Terra 320 can aerate 3 acres per hour with 3 1/2" X 4" hole spacing.

Get the work done when the ground is ready to aerate and end up with a clean quality job.

CIRCLE 213

CIRCLE 214

CIRCLE 214

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One-hand mower control

Excel introduced the dual-path, hydrostatic steering mower in 1965. Twenty-seven years later, the one-hand, twin-lever control — which has become a recognizable feature of all Hustler commercial mowers — has been replaced by a new, single-lever control called Trim Steering.

The Trim Steering bar features a molded grip that can be operated with either hand. Turning requires only a slight twist of the wrist.

In tight quarters, the system automatically counter-rotates the drive tires, avoiding turf damage.

Contact Excel at 316-327-4911 for more details.

CIRCLE 213

CIRCLE 214

TERRACARE PRODUCTS CO. INC.

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