New Dimension label approved by EPA

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Monsanto Co. has obtained approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for an updated label for Dimension turf herbicide. The revisions further define and expand application procedure information and precautions.

"Ninety-seven percent of customers who responded to our survey were satisfied with Dimension, but we want 100 percent satisfaction," explained Jim DeMatteo, Diptiop product director for Monsanto's New Products Division. "It is clear that more detailed use instructions, particularly on greens under stressed conditions, may help increase product satisfaction among users."

The updated label includes recommendations that Dimension not be applied to golf greens that are stressed from factors such as: temperature extremes, lack of moisture, improper fertilization, soil pH imbalance, use of other chemicals, insects, disease, or mechanical operations. Best results are obtained when Dimension is applied to turf that has a well-developed rooting system using conventional liquid application equipment with flat-fan nozzles.

Dimension herbicide can be applied to 'Cobra', 'Emerald', 'National', 'Pennlinks', 'Penncross', 'Penntrio', 'Providence', 'Putter', 'SR-1020', and 'Southshore' varieties of creeping bentgrass greens under favorable environmental conditions. However, the new label includes a warning for application to older varieties of creeping bentgrass such as 'Carmen', 'Cohassey', and 'Seaside', colonial and browntop bentgrasses, and 'Tifgreen' or 328 hybrid bermudagrass due to potential for turfgrass injury.

Dimension is a preemergence and early postemergence herbicide designed to control crabgrass, along with a variety of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds.

"Dimension® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company.

Lofts expands golf course service division

BOUND BROOK, N.J. — Five years ago, Lofts Seed Inc. established a company division using Lofts' growing expertise in golf course agronomics to allow developers, architects and superintendents to tap years of combined experience in the marketplace. Lofts' Golf Course Service and Support Division is now expanding. It will still be directed by Dr. Richard Hurley, Lofts director of research, assisted by John DeMatteo, turfgrass agronomist. However, John Farrell and Kevin Driscoll, both of whom have served in sales capacities with Lofts for seven and eight years respectively, will now join this division to offer expanded services to the market. They will continue to service their sales territories, but will extend their efforts to cover the golf course construction market.

"We've had a great demand for our Guide to Turfgrass Selection for Golf Course Professionals," said Hurley, "and have met with much success in working with golf course developers, architects, contractors and superintendents. "We saw the need to expand this separate division within our company. It's a growing market and we feel our position in the marketplace allows us to provide service unlike any available from other seed companies. We can offer guidance in the selection of turfgrass varieties, help in the establishment procedures and follow through with developing a maintenance program with the superintendent."

For more information on this free service, call DeMatteo at 908-360-1590.

Shortstop earns USDA plant protection

TANGENT, Ore. — Pickseed West Inc. has announced that the United States Drug Administration has issued Plant Variety Protection (certificate no. 8900298) on Shortstop turf-type tall fescue.

According to Dr. G.W. "Jerry" Pepin, Pickseed West executive vice president, Shortstop is a slower-growing, uniform variety with very dark green color and medium fine leaf texture.

Pepin indicated Shortstop performed well in the recent N.T.E.P. National Tall Festive Test, ranking first overall among 65 entries for lowest vertical growth rating. It also ranked in the top five for turf quality, genetic color, leaf texture and brown patch resistance in the 1991 results of this test.