RISE Annual Meeting goes south; set for Sept. 8-11

By Hal Phillips

APLES, Fla. — The last 12 months of legislative action and the 12 to come will dominate proceedings at the fourth Annual Meeting of RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment). After three years in the nation's capital, RISE will hold its yearly membership conference here at the Ritz-Carlton, Sept. 8-11. While RISE has routinely enjoyed solid attendance at past get-togethers, this year's venue on the Gulf of Mexico should be popular with members of the specialty chemical trade association.

"We certainly want to encourage a strong participation from our members," said RISE Executive Director Allen James, "and I anticipate this year's site won't keep anyone away."

The theme is, "Informed, Involved and Unified for Progress," and the three-day speaking program features Charles Cook, editor of Cook's Political Report, who will comment on "Current Washington Political Analysis."

For more information on the Annual Meeting and its weekend events, contact the RISE offices at 202-872-3860.

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GCSAA unveils new show policies

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The board of directors of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) will implement several new policies for the association's International Golf Course Conference and Show.

Before being presented to the board for approval, the policies were reviewed by GCSAA's Industrial Advisory Council (IAC). GCSAA's 66th International Golf Course Conference and Show is scheduled for Feb. 26-27, 1995, in San Francisco.

The new policies are:
- Prior approval is now required for exhibitors planning guest appearances, promotional giveaways and contests to ensure these events are appropriate for all attendees.
- All exhibitors at GCSAA's trade show must have goods and services that relate to the golf course management industry.
- Guest hall vouchers have been eliminated, but a more attractive trade show-only pass will be offered.
- Spouses of attendees, directors and exhibitors will be allowed on the trade show floor at no charge.

Members of the IAC include GCSAA Secretary/Treasurer and IAC Chairman Bruce R. Williams, GCSC; Michael Alexander, director of marketing, Club Car Inc.; Carla Barebo, vice president market- ing, Otterbine-Barebo; Dennis Brown, manager marketing services, The Toro Co.; Jim Byrnes, advertising manager, Jacobsen Division of Textron; Jeff Cook, business manager specialty products, Sandoz; Steve Garske, president, Par-Aide Products; Emil Gram, general manager, Flootmower PSI Ltd.; Sandi Gridley, advertising manager, Ransomes America; Dave Beegard, vice president, The Scots Company; Bill Kenney, vice president, Smithco; Bill Liles, director, Ciba Turf & Ornamental Products; Clair Peterson, advertising manager, Deere & Co.; Gary Shampany, vice president sales and marketing, Bunkton Co.; Doug Toews, director marketing and Latin America operations, International Seeds; and Roger Underwood, president, Becker-Underwood.

Southwest Horticulture Show set for Sept. 8-9

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The Arizona Nursery Association has chosen "Best of the Green" as its theme for the 1994 Southwest Horticultural Trade Show, scheduled for Sept. 8 and 9, at the Civic Center here.

The 350-booth trade show will include two seminars conducted by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) on Sept. 9. A one-day GCSAA equipment will be held Sept. 8, while a two-day seminar covering environmental considerations will be held both days.

"This year the show will feature a new products area for plants, equipment and hard goods," said Ralph Kitchell, general manager. "Exhibitors will be able to premier their new products in this area as well as their booth space." Pre-show activities include a golf tournament on Sept. 6, and a "Picnic at Heritage Square" the evening of Sept. 7.

Mid-Am Show moves to Navy Pier for '96

CHICAGO — The city's newest exposition facility, Navy Pier, is slated to become the new home of the Mid-Am Trade Show, beginning in 1996.

The unanimous relocation decision by the Mid-Am Board followed an analysis of an extensive survey which indicated that more than half the show's present exhibitors were "very" or "somewhat" interested in seeing the move occur.

The Hyatt, just off Michigan Avenue, will continue as the show's headquarters, with free shuttle service to Navy Pier, an eight-minute ride away. The show's evening social activities, sponsored by various industry associations, will still be based at the Hyatt.

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RISE director foresees FIGF vote come '95

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What does food safety have to do with golf course maintenance? "If the situation is not corrected," said James, "products which are registered for agricultural uses will be lost. Unfortunately, there may not be a sufficient non-agricultural market for these same products. We must continue registration, especially in light of many new fees called for in this legislation."

Though James said it isn't likely that FIGF will be amended in 1994, he testified in July before the Committee on Agriculture's Subcommittee on Department Operations and Nutrition, chaired by Congressman Charles W. Stenholm (D-Texas).

"The challenge that presents itself is that 1995 is also the year the Farm Bill is under consideration," said James. "So there is the risk that compromises may be made with regard to both bills in the Agriculture Committee."

"The Stenholm hearings will be the basis of action next year. Whatever he proposes, whatever comes out of his subcommittee, will be the starting point for any consideration of FIGF legislation in 1995."

When the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) released its mortality study in January, the entire golf course industry held its breath anticipating a flood of negative publicity. More than any other group, RSE — as the national trade association for chemical manufacturers, formulators and distributors — stood firmly, hoping to stem the tide.

However, the anxiety level exceeded reality. "Actually there has been less negative fallout than we expected, to some degree because it was carefully handled by GCSAA," James explained. "We have been working very closely with GCSAA to keep their members apprised of any questions we've received.

"Overall, there's been very little negative reaction in the press. It has been cited a couple of times, along with other studies about applicator safety. But we've been well pleased with how it's been received."

Dien Aon/dithiopyr purchase finalized

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Rohm and Haas Company has formally acquired three agriculural products and related assets from Monsanto Company.

The acquisition of Dimension (dithiopyr) herbicide, used by golf course superinten-dents, lawn care and landscaping profes-sionals to control crabgrass and other problem weeds, was announced in February but finalized only recently.

The deal also included Visor (thiazopyr) herbicide and a developmental fungicide (thifluzamide), both of which have no golf course applications.

The transaction includes the worldwide rights to the pyridine chemistry behind Dimension and Visor.

Rohm & Haas also purchased the state-of-the-art facility that makes the key inter-mediate product for the herbicides. Monsanto will continue to operate this plant for Rohm and Haas as part of its larger manufacturing operations in Muscatine, Iowa.

Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

Turfline names dealers for Vibratory rollers

ST. CHARLES, Mo. — Turfline Inc. has announced the following dealers for its patented vibrating greens rolling system.

• Western Distributing of Sacramento, Calif., serving northern California and Nevada. Call 916-635-3322.
• American Turf Services of Anaheim, Calif., serving southern California and Arizona. Call 714-538-1055.
• Far West Turf of Portland, Ore., serving the state of Oregon. Call 1-800-727- 8858.
• Colorado Golf Turf of Denver, Colo., serving the state of Colorado. Call 303-781- 3372.
• Stuff Equipment Co. of Pottstown, Pa., serving eastern Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. Call 215-492-7441.
• Wilfred Macdonald, Inc. of Clifton, N.J.; serving northern New Jersey. Call 201-471-0244.
• J.W. Ralson Enterprises of Akron, Ohio, serving northeastern Ohio. Call 216-774- 2932.
• Turfline, Inc. of Jacksonville, Fla., serving northern Florida. Call 904-346-0566.
• Tomen America of Charlotte, N.C., serving Japan. Call 704-357-0050.