EPA-friendly
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DBR. DUICH EARNS ROSSI AWARD
 Builders association President Jim Kirchdorfer (left) presents Dr. Joe Duich the Don Rossi Award during the builders' banquet in San Francisco. For story on Duich and a complete GCSAA Show Wrap-up, see pages 33-39.

FAR HILLS, N.J. — A chemist and turf industry liaison with the EPA, Leslie said that in the division's first three months, three new active ingredients were registered and registration actions had been completed on three others. Historically, it has taken three to five years to approve an active ingredient for use, she said.

The EPA is committed to expediting registration of safer pesticide products," Leslie told an audience at the International Golf Course Conference and Show in San Francisco. She explained that for chemical pesticides, the EPA has initiated a priority set of procedures to hasten approval, while the new division was created to deal with biological pesticides.

In the case of chemical pesticides, "registrants can make an argument as to why the EPA should take a different view, while the challenges of golf course architecture are certainly significant," the new division was created to deal with biological pesticides.

What have the top architects met those challenges been?

Jeffrey Brauer: Historically, if you look at the '40s, there wasn't any challenge on the 50th anniversary theme. In my view, while the challenges of golf course architecture are certainly significant today, with the environment and the financing, I think the challenges have always been there throughout the 50 years of the society. I think the top architects have met those challenges in the past and I'm certain will meet them in the future.

Golf Course News: What have those challenges been?

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Brauer to assume ASGCA presidency

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Drake and Ferguson promoted at Ransomes America

LINCOLN, Neb. — Ransomes America Corporation has announced the appointment of Kirk Drake to the position of marketing coordinator.

In his new position, Drake will assist in the development of print and audiovisual materials for advertising and dealer training. He will work with each of the company's three divisions: Turf, Professional Lawn Care, and Industrial & Commercial.

EPA fast track

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their pesticide should be considered safer. If we [EPA scientists] agree, we put the pesticide at the front of the queue," Leslie said. "This year, we probably won't look at anything other than viruses, or other micro-organisms.

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EPA fast track

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Their responsibilities also include coordinating trade shows.

In other Ransomes news, Dave Ferguson has been named training coordinator for Ransomes America Corp.

The EPA's fast track registration of new biopesticides was created particularly to demonstrate how streamlining will speed up registration naturally. Yet the timing is fortuitous since so many of the new ingredients being tested are biologicals.

"We have seen a big change," Leslie said. "In the last two years, about 50 percent of new registrations have been biologicals. Before then, maybe two or three of the 30 pesticides registered a year were biologicals."

According to an EPA report, its Office of Pollution Prevention registered 31 new pesticide active ingredients in 1994, more than half of which are considered "reduced-risk pesticides." Reflecting the recent trend, 15, or nearly half, were biological pesticides, according to the report.

Biologicals include microbial pesticides, which are bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms. Biochemical pesticides include pheromones, insect or plant growth regulators and hormones.

Creation of the Biopesticides and Pollution Prevention Division is a major change among several upcoming at the EPA. A comprehensive reorganization plan was expected to be submitted by end of March and to be implemented in 1996, Leslie said.

Meanwhile, the federal EPA hopes to sign formal agreements with their state colleagues similar to the one they signed with the California EPA's Department of Pestcide Regulation "to harmonize federal and state pesticide registration activities."

The agreement will "fast-track" registration of new biological pesticides. The first fruit of the California pact is registration of the pesticide Bio-Save, marking the first anniversary of the agreement to harmonize federal and state pesticide registration activities.

Golf Course News

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Ransomes’ Florida dealer expands

Golf Ventures, a Lakeland, Florida-based dealer of Ransomes America Corporation's line of turf maintenance equipment, has expanded its sales and service territory in the state. Golf Ventures' new territory will encompass Ft. Myers, Jacksonville, Naples, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Tampa and Tallahassee.

Founded more than eight years ago, Golf Ventures has grown to be one of Florida's leading turf grass equipment and supply dealers. According to Jim Sartain, chief executive officer of Golf Ventures, the expanded sales territory means that the firm will distribute Ransomes America Corporation's entire line of Cushman, Ransomes and Ryan turf maintenance equipment to nearly 75 percent of the state. Golf Ventures serves approximately 600 golf courses in Florida.

Sartain added that the firm plans to build a new sales and service office in the Jacksonville area to accommodate the increased sales volume.

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