TURFLINE SECURES VIBRATORY PATENT

ST. CHARLES, Mo. — Turfline, Inc., the manufacturer of the True-Surface (r) Greens Rolling System, has been awarded a patent for the company's vibratory greens roller by the U.S. Patent Office. The patent was issued in 1992 and the rollers can now be found on courses in the U.S. and overseas. The True-Surface (r) system incorporates an unbalanced center shaft with an eccentric flyweight to create the needed movement of the outer roller, designed to result in a truer, faster putting surface. For more information, contact the firm at 1-800-443-8506.

BRIEFS

TURFLINE SECURES VIBRATORY PATENT

BY HAL PHILLIPS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It's called MCS, short for multiple chemical sensitivity. No one is sure what causes MCS, how to prevent it, or whether there's actually anything to prevent. However, the specialty chemical industry is shoring up its scientific flanks in anticipation of a public relations struggle.

The phenomenon of MCS, a condition of ill health allegedly induced by reactions to household and workplace chemicals — has prompted an upcoming conference, "Multiple Chemical Sensitivities: State of the Science Symposium," scheduled for Oct. 30 to Nov. 1 in Baltimore. The event is co-sponsored by the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology & Pharmacology, the Johns Hopkins University Educational Resource Center and the National Medical Advisory Service, Inc.

MCS also commanded a great deal of attention at the RISE Annual Meeting, held here in September. RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) — a trade association and lobbying group representing more than 120 members of the specialty chemical industry — has taken a position consistent with the nation's mainstream medical community. That MCS is essentially a psychological affliction.

Nevertheless, RISE devoted an entire morning's education session to MCS, a disorder not recognized by mainstream toxicologists but one that has garnered increased public exposure in the courts, in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) facilities, even in the nation's movie theaters. RISE members also heard from representatives of the Environmental Sensitivities Research Institute (ESRI), a group trying to inject more science into the debate.

"The broader issue of MCS affects the mental market." - Mike Bowler

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HCC wins patent suit for Dig-it knockoff

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Spancrete Machinery Corp. of Milwaukee, Wis., has been awarded an undisclosed sum in financial damages from RH&M Machinery Corp. of Milwaukee, Wis., and RohMid L.L.C., a marketing and sales joint venture to develop, register and manufacture a granular product and can be applied with most commercially available spreaders. It will be marketed under the trade name, Dig-it.

The ruling, issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, also orders RH&M and a number of concept machines.

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American Cyanamid, Rohm & Haas join forces on insecticide

American Cyanamid Co. and Rohm and Haas Co. have announced the formation of RohMid L.L.C., a marketing and sales joint venture to develop, register and commercialize a new insecticide, RH-0345, for the U.S. turf and ornamental market.

According to Janet Giesselman, Turf and Ornamental products manager for Rohm and Haas, and Tom Perkins, Ph.D., business manager, Turf, Ornamental and Pest Control Products at American Cyanamid, both firms have expertise in developing molting accelerator compounds (MACs) for the 2.2 million acre U.S. turf market. The formation of RohMid allows the companies to share the costs of developing a new insecticide and to expedite the development of data needed to register the product with regulatory authorities.

RohMid hopes that the Environmental Protection Agency will grant a
Gill acquired by Woods Equipment

OREGON, III. — Woods Equipment Co. has acquired the assets of Gill Manufacturing Co., L.P. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Based in Charlotte, N.C., Gill is a manufacturer and marketer of landscaping products to dealers primarily located in the Eastern and Southeastern regions of the U.S. Core products include pulverizers, turf renovators, seeders, core plug aerators, landscape rakes, and spreaders. The integration of these products broadens the spectrum of Woods’ Turf and Grounds Care Business.

Netlon secures Minn. distributor

BLAINE, Minn. — The Glen Rehbein Companies, headquartered here, have joined the Netlon Limited North America distributor network. The network centers on providing the patented Netlon Advanced Turf system, which incorporates small, interlocking polypropylene mesh elements with a free-draining rootzone medium covered by natural grass. The system is designed to relieve surface pressure.

The addition of Alloway Manufacturing in November 1994 reinforced the commitment to provide agricultural dealers with a brand of specialty agricultural attachments.

MCS campaign

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entire pesticide industry, including golf courses, because the ultimate solution in terms of believers of MCS is non-use of the offending pesticide,” explained RISE Executive Director Allen James.

“There’s a harassment factor here,” James explained. “Many proponents of MCS will simply harass the users of a chemical for the sake of harassment, and groups like RISEand ESRI fear the stampede of public opinion may legitimize the mysterious disorder.

For more information on “Multiple Chemical Sensitivities: State of the Science Symposium,” contact the symposium coordinator at 301-230-6553. For more information on the ESRI, call 301-984-8933.

Insecticide coop

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For more details, contact your Toro Distributor.

1-800-803-8676, ext. 152

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