FMC, Cactus merge, form Seeds West

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Farmers Marketing Corp. and Cactus Seed Co. have joined forces, forming a new entity known as Seeds West, Inc.

"Seeds West will be the largest bermudagrass seed company in the world," said Sheldon Richardson, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Farmers Marketing Corp. "The merger allows us to provide our combined networks of international distribution with common bermudagrass seed from the best growers in the production area, and the newest improved varieties from our warm-season turfgrass research program with state-of-the-art seed conditioning, coating and packaging facilities."

New Seeds West officers include Richardson as president and CEO; Jim Edwards, vice president and chief financial officer; Ernie Millner — the former vice president and general manager of Cactus Seed Co. — will serve as vice president and chief operating officer; and Helen Lucas as vice president, sales and general manager.

Seeds West corporate headquarters are now located at 4445 North 24th Street, Phoenix, Ariz., USA 85016. The firm can be reached by phone at 602-437-4058, or fax at 602-437-0245.

Century Rain Aid acquires Aqua-Flo

DETOUR — Century Rain Aid has acquired Aqua-Flo Inc., and the major turf branch of Trickleez Co., doubling Century's branches in the Washington, D.C., area and opening the southern New Jersey/Philadelphia market to them.

Aqua-Flo has been a leading distributor for Legacy Golf irrigation systems for many years in Maryland, Virginia, eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Adding Aqua-Flo's territory will extend Century Rain Aid's Legacy Golf distribution area to cover most or all of 11 states and the Province of Ontario.

Aqua-Flo, Inc. has two branches, the headquarters in Hammonton, N.J., and a branch in Chantilly, Va.

The Chantilly branch is near Dulles International Airport at 1-50, reachable at 703-968-7081. The Trickleez branch is located in Savage, Md., reachable at 301-488-3884. Trickleez retains its other two branches, which specialize in agricultural irrigation.

These acquisitions increase the number of Century branches to 42, with four now in the D.C. area, where Century already has branches at Sterling, Va., and Crotton, Md.

"We consider the metro D.C. market to be of prime importance and one in which we plan continued growth," said Century's president, Wayne Miller.

Century will retain most of the employees of the newly-acquired branches, including key people like Rod Pinion and Gene Ostrander at Savage, Maryland, and Aqua-Flo's golf team, including Phil DeMarco, who will continue to head the successful Legacy Golf program.

"Having the Aqua-Flo team aboard will strengthen our ability and reinforce our commitment for continued growth in our golf irrigation sales," said Miller.

A DIVISION OF GRIFFIN INDUSTRIES, INC.
COLD SPRING, KY 41076
FOR A DISTRIBUTOR NEAR YOU CALL (800)252-4727
CIRCLE #147