Gary's Green carries Grigg name

By TERRY BUCHEN

BURLEY, Idaho — Gary T. Grigg, past president of the GCSAA, and his brother Mark have continued on with the success of The Grigg Brothers Co., a firm their father and uncle founded when they ventured into real estate, farming and later sold their produce business in the 1960s after it became Ore-Ida Foods.

Three years ago, Mark approached Gary about branching out his fertilizer business to include high-tech liquid fertilizers for golf courses with four other partners, including Timothy D. Long, a superintendent in Austin, Texas. The rest is history.

Bio Turf Gro, a division of The Grigg Brothers, started working with Dr. Gene Miller, an agronomist and formulator for the company and professor emeritus at Utah State University, a plant physiologist, plant nutritionist and plant biochemistry expert.

What makes Bio Turf Gro’s products unique is chelating the nutrients with natural organics for foliar feeding, which makes the nutrients go into the plant quicker and makes those nutrients more readily available.

Miller pioneered using multiple chelating agents in Bio Turf Gro’s products, instead of a single chelating agent that is used in other products. Miller also recognized using a blend of all organic chelating agents, instead of synthetic agents, which are a blend of organic acids, amino acids and carbohydrates. Formulation change from product to product, so each of the company’s products has the strongest chelating effectiveness and he uses enough chelating agents, regardless of cost, to chelate 100 percent of all of their products.

Bio Turf Gro’s liquid fertilizers are completely balanced, for foliar or root feeding, and their No.-1 seller is Gary’s Green.

Named for Gary Grigg, Gary’s Green is 18-3-4 + Iron, which has all three nitrogen sources for spoon-feeding organics and chelates. Gary recommends regular tissue testing and using a foliar feeding rate of between 2 and 7 ounces per 1,000 square feet.

“Using a foliar feeding of our products,” he said, “has a distinct advantage as it is quick-acting, does not have to be watered in, does not need good root development for uptake, does not leave granules on the putting surface, is highly effective and fertilization is not affected by rainfall.”

The Griggs’ number-two seller is Nutra-Green 5-10-5 + Iron. Not all of their products are liquid. 9-3-5 Bio Turf I is a totally organic granular product made of fish waste, which has the highest nutrient availability in any organic product, and is a California-certified all-organic product.

“We go to great lengths to have high-quality products, regardless of the cost, as we feel it is truly worth it as our client base will also pay good money for good products,” Grigg said.


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PR: In sandy soils, like USGA greens, you need to introduce more phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen, because the soils simply can’t hold those materials.

GCN: Where will the greatest changes occur for superintendents over the next five to 10 years?

PR: Water will become an increasingly important issue, especially delivery systems and uniform application.

There will be continuing efforts to increase green speeds. That will put additional pressure on superintendents, who are already working on the edge with these low mowing heights.

Finally, there will be increased pressure to use organic and biological controls. But golfers have to understand that these materials make it difficult to have perfect turf all the time.