Identify and Supply
First Tee Executive Director Tod Leiweke delivers State of the Program Address to the industry. ... 11

Irrigation & Pump Stations
The key to a solid agronomic program is great irrigation. Here's the latest news and product info... 27

Medallist, Troon launch Australia operations
By PETER BLAIS
SYDNEY, Australia—An Australian development company has joined forces with an American-based management firm to form an international course development and management company that will also call on the expertise of famed professional golfer Greg Norman.

Thronson has designs on architecture
Eagle Crest Resort superintendent John Thronson moonlights as a golf course designer. His latest project was as construction supervisor at Running Y Ranch in Oregon, a Palmer Golf Design Co. layout. See story page 19.

COURSE MAINTENANCE
Michigan pilots self-audit program 15
Heat, drought drub the South 23
Birdwatching Open shows course diversity 24

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Q&A with Hall-of-Famer Gary Player 31
Weiskopf eyes Michigan opening 35
International report: from Ireland to China 38-40

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Reebok’s Fireman buys mgt./brokerage firm 41
AG-UK takes St. Mellion 41
Management firm telephone listings 45

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
Toro partners with Carnoustie 47
St. Andrews links up with Barenbrug 47
Griffin ready with global team 48

Abbott jumps into market with organic nematicide
By M. LEVANS
NORTH CHICAGO, Ill. — Abbott Laboratories’ Chemical and Agricultural Products Division has officially entered the golf course market with the recent release of its new biological nematicide, DiTera WDG.

PGF Development Track: Get the balance right
By M. LEVANS
PALM SPRINGS, Calif.—If you’re ready to break ground on a new public course or put a new spin on a faithful old layout, this year’s Development Track at Public Golf Forum was designed to help you save time and money in the process.

Fla. fires: Golf escapes catastrophe
By MARK LESLIE
DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — With a wildfire leaping across LPGA Boulevard here and licking at his doorstep, LPGA International Golf Course superintendent Scott Besette turned the irrigation heads on his new course toward the rough and flipped on the water.

On Whistling Straits (#16 above): “In my lifetime I’ve never seen anything like this. Anyplace. Period.” — Pete Dye (see pg. 31)
Simplot
Continued from page 47

"dustries," said Jacklin. "We believe this merger will strengthen both product lines and make us more attractive and responsive to our customers."

Jacklin Seed, acquired by Simplot in September, 1997, is a national and global marketer of grass seeds with production and conditioning facilities in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Arizona and Georgia.

The professional turf and horticultural products business was formerly a component of the Simplot Minerals and Chemical Group. Under the BEST and APEX brands, this business markets products for golf courses, landscapers, parks, schools and commercial nurseries.

Simplot President Steve Beebe said the new organization positions the company to take advantage of the natural synergies that exist between these two product lines. "From a marketing standpoint, Jacklin has extensive distribution in North and South America, Europe and Asia, while BEST products command a dominant position in the western United States professional turf industry," he said.

Through the BEST business, this new organization has marketing rights for polymer-coated fertilizers produced by Pursell Technologies Inc., Sylacauga, Ala., in the western United States, Pacific Rim and Asia.

Beebe said the merger will not affect the brands, labels or production facilities for the products involved. "The immediate focus will be on coordinating our marketing efforts," he said.

Abbott Labs
Continued from page 1

"ating factor," said Joe Maliekal, product manager of biofungicides at Abbott. "DiTera is a biological. It's naturally occurring, so it controls nematodes without all the restrictions of traditional chemicals. Studies have shown that it doesn't have any adverse effects on mammals, environment or other beneficial nematodes."

Aside from killing adult and juvenile nematodes in the soil, the company said that depending on the concentration, DiTera can also inhibit hatching and development of nematode eggs, modify the behavioral orientation of nematodes to plant roots and alter the plant's rhizosphere microbiology.

"There are no restrictions on the amount that can be applied or the number of applications per year, unlike the chemical nematicides," said Maliekal.

For superintendents, Maliekal said that DiTera can be worked into an existing IPM program with little problem. "The only recommendation we have is that superintendents use DiTera as a stand-alone," he said. "Right now, we're not recommending that it be tank-mixed with other insecticides or fertilizers."

Abbott's research has found that DiTera is effective against root-knot, cyst, lesion, stubby root and sting.

Although this marks Abbott's first official move into the golf market, the company's DiPel product has seen some limited use on golf courses for the control of army worms.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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