Mike Donoghue

RAIN BIRD NAMES DONOGHUE DIRECTOR FOR GOLF

AZUSA, Calif. — Rain Bird has promoted Mike Donoghue to the position of division director for golf irrigation. Beginning his career with Rain Bird in 1990, Donoghue served as manager of quality assurance for Rain Bird consumer products SBU. From 1992 to 1996, he was responsible for plant management at Rain Bird's Prerioe manufacturing facility in Tijuana, Baja California. Most recently, he was engineering manager for Rain Bird Golf.

AMERICAN CYANAMID AUGMENTS STAFF PARIS, N.J. — American Cyanamid Company, manufacturers of specialty products for professional markets, announced that Blair Morgan has been promoted to territory representative in Florida for the company's turf and ornamental products group. The company has also announced that Roger Bechle has been named team leader for the engineering manager for Rain Bird Sprinkler Mfg. Corp. in Chandler, Arizona. Mike Sherman has announced the promotion of Ed Shoemaker, Inc. developer, manufacturer and marketer of colorants, has promoted Yvonne Clarke to vice president of sales & marketing. Clarke has been with the company for eight years and is a 1987 graduate of Iowa State University. The company has undertaken the reorganization, which will result in a special charge of between $4.0 million and $5.0 million in the fourth quarter of 1998, to consolidate its acquired businesses, strengthen its distribution and technical sales support and reduce operating expenses.

BECKER-UNDERWOOD ANNOUNCES SEVERAL CHANGES

AMES, Iowa — Becker-Underwood Inc. developer, manufacturer and marketer of colorants, has promoted Yvonne Clarke to vice president of sales & marketing. Clarke has been with the company for eight years and is a 1987 graduate of Iowa State University. The company has announced several new hires. Dan Four has been appointed western sales territory manager, based in Chandler, Arizona. Mike Sherman has assumed responsibility for sales in 11 northeast states and Eastern Canada as northeast sales territory manager. Kurt Winkler has taken responsibility for the seven mid-south states as mid-south sales territory manager.

LEYEMCO PROMOTES SHOEMAKER

CORONA, Calif. — Leemco Inc. has announced the promotion of Ed Shoemaker to executive vice president. In this new position he will be in charge of all operations. Shoemaker joined Leemco in April 1998 as a part time consultant after a 41-year career with the Rain Bird Sprinkler Mfg. Corp.

UK's SISIS takes it up a notch in US

BRIEFS

RANCHO BERNARDO, Calif. — Eco Soil Systems Inc. announced that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved the use and distribution of the company's proprietary biopesticide, Spot-Less, though its patented Bioject biological distribution.

In addition, Eco Soil has reorganized into two divisions, Turf Partners and Ag Supply. The company undertook the reorganization, which will result in a special charge of between $4.0 million and $5.0 million in the fourth quarter of 1998, to consolidate its acquired businesses, strengthen its distribution and technical sales support and reduce operating expenses.

The EPA has registered its microbial product, Spot-Less (Pseudomonas aureofaciens TX-1) as a biopesticide for use against turfgrass diseases and its proprietary Bioject system as the distribution system for Spot-Less. Eco Soil successfully completed all the toxicological tests required by the EPA. Although the EPA has requested that the company perform certain additional routine ecotoxicology tests over the next two years, the EPA approval permits the Eco Soil to begin immediately using and distributing Spot-Less through the Bioject system.

Eco Soil gets EPA nod

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Waterman enters liquidation

By TREVOR LEDGER

ALDERSHOT, England — Waterman, one of Europe's largest irrigation firms, went into voluntary liquidation on January 19. Andy Burbage, sales director of the Hampshire-based firm, suggested that there may be the possibility of a "small management buyout by 10 [as yet unnamed] individuals, but this would be subject to the agreement of the creditors who are met in February."

Waterman has been trading for over thirty years yet, despite this experience, could not avoid liquidation. Burbage explains the market situation faced by the company recently: "The irrigation industry is really cut-throat now. We believe..."

NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH: MILTONA HEXAGON TURF PLUGGER

MILTONA, Minn. — The Hexagon Turf Plugger from Miltona repairs damaged areas by forming a solid honeycomb pattern without gaps or overlap. The hexagon shaped plugs mesh together instantly restoring an area’s natural appearance. This pattern also promotes rapid turf recovery. The Hex Plugger is adjustable, varying the depth of the soil plugs from 2 to 6 inches. The cutting head attaches to a lever ejection handle. The ejection system removes soil plugs from the cutting head. Stand on the plugger’s footpad to force the cutting head into the soil. Activate the ejection handle to remove soil plug from plugger. Extract plugs of damaged turf and replace with plugs from a nursery area. This process will instantly restore an area’s natural beauty. Use on golf courses, athletic fields or any grounds area. For more information, contact 800-456-4351.

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BRIEFS