

## Aquatrols creates Robert A. Moore Fund

NEW ORLEANS — Aquatrols has established the Aquatrols Robert A. Moore Endowment Fund within the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's Foundation. The fund will support research for growing golf course turf in environmentally sound ways.

Aquatrols established the fund with money obtained from the corporation and various family members. Aquatrols has made a commitment to maintain the contribution level of this fund through proceeds from the sales of Aquatrols turf-management products.

More than 45 years ago, the founder of Aquatrols, Robert Moore, recognized the value of improving water penetration into the soil and reducing the unnecessary waste of water. He developed and patented the first soil wetting agent technology and founded Aquatrols.

Since applied research

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## Tyler establishes Purdue scholarship

ELWOOD, Ill.— Bruce Jasurda, chief operating officer of Tyler Enterprises, Inc. has announced the formation of the Mentor Scholarship, a \$5,000 annual award to qualified students enrolled in Purdue University's turfgrass science option in the Department of Agronomy.

"This scholarship recognizes and honors those people in our industry who have made a positive impact on the lives of others by sharing their time and knowledge. It is also meant to encourage each scholarship recipient to become a mentor in their own right, as their career in turfgrass management evolves," said Jasurda.

Nick Strehle, a senior enrolled in the Purdue University turfgrass science option in the Department of Agronomy, was awarded the \$5,000 Mentor Scholarship at the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation luncheon in Indianapolis.

Strehle was awarded the schol-

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BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — The Toro Co. has provided a \$150,000 leadership grant through the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Foundation for the development of a turf studies program in high schools around the nation designed to address growing labor shortages in turf, landscape and golf course management. The program will be developed and conducted by the National Council for Agricultural Educators.

## Toro establishes grant for high school turf studies program

"Our customers tell us that one of the biggest operational problems today is finding trained professionals to handle the growth in the landscape and turf maintenance industry," said Kendrick Melrose, chairman and chief executive officer of Toro.

"The FFA program will help provide an excellent training academy to develop professional turf managers."

As a major sponsor of the First Tee program, Toro has created a link between the First Tee and the FFA to designate the courses as training labs for FFA turf

management studies. Utilizing its network of distributors and dealers in the landscape and maintenance business, Toro will arrange career fairs, guest speeches and demonstrations for agricultural education students and FFA chapters.

"Through our network of customer relationships and industry partnerships, we can help put students in a position to succeed," said Melrose.



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By A. OVERBECK

**S**YLACAUGA, Ala. — Pursell Technologies Inc. (PTI) has entered into a long-term agreement with J.R. Simplot Co. to pursue the marketing of POLYON fertilizers and other PTI products to the professional turfgrass markets in the Northeastern, Mid-Western, and Southwestern states. Simplot and PTI currently have a joint-venture

## PTI, Simplot pursue Polyon marketing agreement

arrangement to market fertilizer products to the professional turf and horticulture markets in the Western United States as well as Pacific Rim countries.

The newly expanded business arrangement combines Pursell's state-of-the-art coating and research expertise with Simplot's manufacturing and marketing ca-

pabilities.

"Simplot has wholly owned distribution and manufacturing points, but they don't have any technology," said David Pursell, president and chief executive officer of PTI. "We have the technology, but no distribution, so it makes for a perfect fit. I couldn't draw it up on a dry-erase board

any better than that."

The agreement is another in a series of strategic moves that Simplot is making in order to position itself as a global leader in branded turfgrass fertilizers and seed.

"We are fully confident that Simplot has the right plan in place as well as the staying power, to

become a dominant global leader," said Pursell. Doyle Jacklin, president of Simplot Turf and Horticulture, confirmed that this agreement will be in fact a significant factor enabling Simplot to achieve its strategic position. Simplot may also market future PTI technologies such as controlled-release pesticide products currently under development.

## Aquatrols Fund

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and development has been of key importance to Aquatrols, the company has established the research endowment fund as a way to give back to the industry and recognize the contributions made by Moore.

The purpose of the program is to support applied research for optimizing the growing environment for golf course turf, with specific goals for increasing the effectiveness of applied water, fertilizers and pesticides and thereby reducing the total requirements. The goal is to develop maintenance practices that result in beautiful golf courses with minimal impact on the environment and consumption of resources.

Any research proposal meeting the above purpose and the foundation's research submission and funding requirements is eligible for consideration as a grant recipient. ▶

## Tyler/Purdue

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arship based upon his academic performance, his leadership in the student chapter of the GCSAA and his work experience in the industry. Strehle most recently worked as an intern with the golf course groundskeeping crew at the Wolf Run Golf Club in Zionsville, Ind. His previous two summers were spent as an intern at Miami Valley Golf Club in Dayton, Ohio, and as an assistant in the construction of the Kampen Golf Course at Purdue University.

The Mentor Scholarship is an annual award presented to students with high potential in the field of turfgrass management. The scholarship is intended to recognize the importance of those people who serve as trusted advisors during a person's lifetime and to encourage the recipients to become mentors as their career in the turf industry evolves. ▶



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