

News

FERTILIZER

Canadian firm to raise urea output

Canadian Industries Ltd., London, Ontario-based manufacturer of CIL sulphur-coated urea, reported recently that it will spend \$18 million (Canadian) to double the production of urea at its Lambton Works plant. The new facility is scheduled to be in operation early in 1980 in order to meet projected demand for high-nitrogen fertilizer.

TURFGRASS SEED

Figures updated for record ryegrass year

Poundage of ryegrass seed on which assessments were collected set a record in fiscal year 1977-78, as reported in GOLF BUSINESS last month. Last-minute additions to the tabulations, however, made after we went to press, have now brought the record total up to 268,772,086 pounds.

Assessments of 7¢ per 100 pounds of cleaned seed are collected on ryegrass as the seed moves from the grower to the first handler of the seed. These funds pay for advertising and promotional programs designed to increase markets and usage of ryegrass. According to Oregon Ryegrass Commission Promotional and Advertising Director Wally Hunter, "While [assessment collection] is not an exact measurement of usage, it does fairly represent the amount of seed which entered the marketplace during the year."

RESEARCH

Golf courses surveyed on pesticide use

Drs. Philip O. Larsen, David P. Martin, and Richard L. Miller from the departments of plant pathology, agronomy, and entomology (respectively) at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center have initiated a program to assess pesticide use

on Ohio golf courses.

The project is funded by the federal government through the Pesticide Impact Assessment Program. Questionnaires were sent in early August to all golf courses in Ohio, asking pertinent questions to determine the type and quantity of pesticides used. Budgetary information was also requested, in order to determine how financial restrictions influence pesticide use.

Dr. Martin told GOLF BUSINESS in mid-September that the researchers had received almost 100 completed questionnaires at that point, and that final tabulations would probably be done sometime this month.

The tabulated information will be summarized and submitted to the federal Environmental Protection Agency to express the importance or need of various pesticides being scrutinized through the Rebuttable Presumption Against Registration process.

EPA's RPAR program is supposed to weigh the benefits of using currently registered pesticides against possible environmental damage that may occur through their application, but EPA emphasis is usually on the latter. According to Martin, pesticides used in Ohio and now being investigated include Tersan 1991, Tersan LSR, Fore, Sevin, and Nemagon. If use of these products is important to you, it is vital to let EPA know, through this survey and the Pesticide Impact Assessment Program.

When the EPA has finished reviewing the pesticides, one of several things may happen to them:

1. The pesticide would be returned to registration.
2. It would be registered, but have some restricted uses.
3. It would be severely restricted in its uses.
4. It would be taken off the market and all its uses cancelled.

SEED PRODUCTION

Fine fescue crop down in Oregon, Canada

Rain at the wrong time and hot weather at the wrong time combined to reduce the fine fescue crop in Oregon this summer, according to the Oregon Fine Fescue Commission.

Fred Kaser, chairman of the commission, said weather conditions in Canada have also diminished the crop of Canadian red fescue. He said the shortage in the two production areas could bring on higher prices for the 1978 crop and encouraged buyers to order now if they plan to have fine fescue for their mixes or for straight plantings.

Kaser said this is the first time in his memory that the fine fescue production areas were hit so hard by weather conditions. Ordinarily if one production area is down, the other has a fair crop.

This year production in Oregon's Willamette Valley, where much of the fine fescue is grown, is in the area of a half crop. Oregon production — which ordinarily runs about 14 million pounds — is being estimated at 6 to 8 million pounds. Canadian production, which has reached as much as 20 million pounds in recent years, is also estimated at 6 to 8 million pounds.

FOUNDATIONS

OTF donates \$16,500 for turf research

President John Fitzgerald of the Ohio Turf Foundation recently announced the 1978 donation of \$16,500 to fund turfgrass research in agronomy, entomology, and plant pathology at Ohio State

University and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center.

Most of the funds will be channeled to research projects directed by Drs. Keith Karnok, Philip Larsen, and Harry Niemczyk. Results will be shared with the turfgrass industry.

This marks the ninth consecutive year that OTF donations have exceeded \$13,000 and brings total research donations to more than \$170,000 since 1968.

TURFGRASS VARIETIES

Penn State releases seeded bentgrass

After 20 years of development work, Dr. Joseph M. Duich of Penn State University has released a new creeping bentgrass which can be planted on golf greens from seed rather than vegetatively.

Designated as PBCB during development (see "New grasses for golf courses," GOLF BUSINESS, March 1978), the new creeping



Duich: 20 years' work

bent has been named Penneagle. It is being grown by the Penncross Bentgrass Growers Association and will be marketed by Tee-2-Green Corp.

Penneagle's attributes are listed as a tighter, more upright growing

NATIONAL GOLF FOUNDATION BOX SCORE					
January-August 1978		REGULATION COURSES	EXECUTIVE COURSES	PAR 3 COURSES	TOTAL
OPENED FOR PLAY	New	30	8	2	74
	Additions	28	6	0	
STARTED CONSTRUCTION	New	31	3	2	63
	Additions	23	2	2	
PROSPECTIVE		64	8	4	76