News

Lawsuit filed against Calif. pesticide regs

A suit filed in U.S District Court in Sacramento, California earlier this year claims that California's new pesticide regulations conflict with federal law. Filed by the National Association of Chemical Applicators (NACA), and joined by the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association, the five-count suit challenges CDGA's authority to:

— Require pesticide manufacturers to register pesticides with California when the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has already approved and registered the products under FIFRA;

— Regulate the labeling of pesticides, which the plaintiffs contend is controlled by EPA under FIFRA;

— Delegate to the State's county commissioners the responsibility for issuance of permits for the possession and use of restricted-use and non-exempted agricultural pesticides, action which the suit contends is contrary to the intent of Congress;

— Establish lower tolerances for residues of pesticides in or on raw agricultural commodities than EPA sets under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act; and

— Release to the public or allow competitors to use trade secret data submitted by the plaintiffs in support of pesticide registrations.

McLoughlin named as Executive Director of GCSAA

James E. McLoughlin will begin his duties as the Executive Director of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in September, according to an announcement made by GCSAA President Melvin B. Lucas Jr., CGCS. In making the announcement, Lucas said, "GCSAA recognizes there are many new challenges facing the golf club industry in 1980's and the Association's continued goal is to be a responsible contributor within this forum. The future welfare of the golf, club, and turf industries will require greater communications among all golf related organizations in the years ahead, and, often, a common effort. Jim McLoughlin's diversified background will facilitate GCSAA's support of this concept."

McLoughlin has served as Executive Director of the Metropolitan Golf Association (MGA) since 1986. MGA is the nation's oldest and largest district association and serves more than 225 private and public clubs within the tri-state metropolitan New York area. The services provided include a computerized handicapping service, a course rating and measuring program, an active tournament program, rules service and tournament counseling, junior golf program, and numerous programs designed to help individual clubs in areas of taxation, finance, management and liaison among club officials.

In accepting the position, McLoughlin stated, "It is important to recognize that the superintendent works within a challenging club environment where the game of golf is intended to be played in a very special way. Accordingly, the superintendent will be faced with new responsibility and abundant opportunity in the years ahead. It is the GCSAA's role to prepare its members for these eventualities and to support the game of golf and the industry within which it exists."

McLoughlin is a graduate of Holy Cross College and holds a law degree from Fordham University and a Master's in physics from Syracuse University. He was a high school physics teacher and coach for six years before taking the Executive Director position at MGA. He and Mary Ellen have been married for 20 years. They have three children and currently reside in Pleasantville, New York.

Electrostatic sprayer cuts chemical use in half

A prototype 12-row sprayer, built by FMC Corporation, was scheduled to be demonstrated in late June at a Tifton, Georgia 'field day', sponsored by EPA, USDA and the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station. The sprayer is capable of reducing water to the extent that only half the amount of pesticide is needed per acre, compared with the amount used by a conventional sprayer. The concept is that particles with an opposite charge to that of the plants being sprayed will be attracted to the leaves and adhere. Most of the chemical will then be directed to the plant foliage with very little passing completely through the canopy.

The University of Georgia has licensed patent rights to develop the sprayer for commercial use to FMC Corporation.

Ault, Martin elected new regular members of ASGCA

Brian Ault of Wheaton, Md., and Jerry Marin of Costa Mesa, Calif., were elected Regular Members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects at the group's recent annual meeting in Scotland.

A graduate of Charlotte Hall Military Academy and the University of Maryland, where he received an associate degree in civil engineering, Ault is an associate architect with the firm of Edmund B. Ault, Ltd., in Wheaton, Md.

A graduate of the University of Arizona with a degree in area development, Martin is now a member of the firm of Jack G. Raub in Costa Mesa.

The ASGCA is comprised of leading golf course architects from Canada, Mexico and the United States.