Seashore paspalum

Turf-Seed will soon release Sea Spray, a viable alternative to bermuda grass, which has long been seen as a high tolerance to heat and salt, but the high costs of time and money to sprig and establish the variety has kept superintendents from selecting it for their golf courses, the company says. But now the ability to seed with Sea Spray will make seashore paspalum more affordable, easier and quicker to establish.

Trials held at the University of Hawaii show that Sea Spray gained 95 percent soil coverage after about five weeks, according to Turf-Seed. For more information, contact 800-247-6910 or www.turf-seed.com.

Surfactant

Precision Laboratories introduces a blend of polymeric surfactants designed for in-line hose applications. Specially formulated to provide a rescue treatment for localized dry spot (LDS), EZ Tabs are packaged in a disposable container that eliminates the need for handling tablets. Used alone or in conjunction with a comprehensive water management program, each EZ Tab container covers about 12,000 to 18,000 square feet of turf and lasts up to 40 minutes in conventional in-line hose applicators. For more information, contact 800-323-6280 or www.precisionlab.com.

Science. That development of Allectus — containing imidacloprid (Bayer’s Merit) and bifenthrin (FMC’s Talstar) — was hailed as a breakthrough, in that it represents a product that controls turf pests both above and below the surface. These include all major white grub species, as well as pests such as billbug larvae, annual bluegrass weevil larvae, mole crickets, chinch bugs, cutworms, sod webworms, fire ants and others.

“Customers asked us to develop a single-product solution to multiple pest problems. Allectus answers that request,” said Mike Ruizzo, business manager of neonicotinoids at Bayer.

One application provides eight to 12 weeks of residual control; two applications per season will provide season-long control. For more information, contact www.bayerprocentral.com.

Insecticide

Azatrol EC Insecticide is PBI/Gordon’s azadirachtin insecticide formulated to provide broad-spectrum insect control with very low environmental impact. Azatrol provides all the benefits of azadirachtin, a proven natural antifeedant, insect growth regulator, anti-ovipository and repellent, as well as a toxin to soft-bodied insect larvae.

An application of Azatrol does not provide the quick knockdown of a contact poison. However, 21 days after treatment, insect control is comparable to the standards, the company says. Azatrol does not harm beneficial insect populations, including predator wasps and wasp larvae, ladybugs, praying mantis and other predatory insects. For more information, contact 800-821-7925 or www.pbigordon.com.

Mole control

Bell Laboratories offers Talpirid, a bait for mole control. The product’s optimal size, shape and feel allows bait to be consumed in the same manner as its natural food. Each tray of 10 worms is sealed for freshness and maximum shelf life.

One worm contains a lethal dose. Special enhancers help ensure immediate attraction and acceptance. Talpirid is designed to degrade naturally, leaving no buildup of active ingredient in the soil. Under normal conditions degradation will happen in about 14 days. For more information, contact 608-241-0202 or www.talpirid.com.
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very Saturday for four years, my brother and I spent our mornings at the illustrious All Star Lanes in Salina, Kan. There, when not sucking down sodas and munching candy bars, we bowled on a team in youth leagues. Our routine was routine: at the lanes early for video games and pinball, snap the shoes, check our averages and the standings, feebly attempt to talk to girls, and take a few practice rolls to prepare for battle.

The competition was surprisingly fierce, as young rollers learn from an early age the art of the psych-out. We scored on our own — spare is 10 plus the next ball, strike 10 plus the next two balls — and there was no better thrill than a string of XXX to close out a narrow match.

While those days are relegated to nostalgic haze and a handful of retro bowling patches atop my bookshelf, the sport (or strike 10 plus the next two balls — and pinball, snag the shoes, check our averages and the standings, feebly attempt to talk to girls, and take a few practice rolls to prepare for battle)

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