Human Exposure—
(Continued from Page 22)

There are two opposing caveats to this type of study,” he says. “First, we cannot claim that research on superintendents represents the maximum exposure received by full-time applicators. On the other hand, the mortality group that would be studied are primarily superintendents who worked in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, before personal protection and careful handling were commonplace and safer products became available. Therefore, the research does present a ‘worst-case scenario’ when compared to the practices and products used today.”

Jones adds that the study would serve as a starting point for GCSAA Scholarship & Research-sponsored studies of other specific questions, such as breast cancer among female golfers, cancer trends among PGA professionals and illnesses among golf course chemical applicators.

Jones says that he hopes the study would be in place late in 1992—if the focus group arrives at a workable plan.

Another human exposure study already under way is being conducted jointly by the National Cancer Institute and the Environmental Protection Agency. This exposure study is similar in nature, but focuses more on the agricultural use of pesticides. It will look at farmer exposure and will examine human exposure to pesticides through crop residue.

Although the study is aimed at agriculture, its findings could be significant to the turfgrass management industry as well.

The NCI/EPA study will look at the rate of disease in farmers compared to the general population. Some of the illnesses to be examined include non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, prostate cancer and leukemia.

Scientists will study more than 100,000 people—most of them farmers—in two or three states, who are registered to apply pesticides. The study could stretch three decades or more.

Scientists involved in the study say their findings should stretch far beyond the farm because many of the chemicals involved in the study are used by city dwellers as well.

The study will examine exposure to diesel fuels, animal viruses, paint and other chemicals, such as possible carcinogens in food.

Study organizers say results should provide insight on key questions that have gone unanswered for years because scientists lacked clear data on worker exposure to chemicals.

Most of the pesticide applicators to be included in the study will be farmers, their spouses and families. Other pesticide applicators—all registered—will include grain workers, lawn service crews, road crews and foresters.

Scientists will draw blood from participants, check it for chemicals and examine chromosomes to determine what effect—if any—chemical exposure has on humans.

Glatty Announces Formation of Twin City Seed Company

John C. Glattly, a 17-year seed industry executive, has announced the formation of Twin City Seed Company. Glattly is principal stockholder and president.

Twin City Seed is a distributor and marketer of all types of seed, with primary emphasis on professional turfgrass seed sales in the Midwest. Twin City Seed also represents and sells national seed company proprietaries and products to various classes of trade, including garden centers, lawn care companies, sod growers and other chains. Twin City Seed also distributes to the agricultural market.

Glattly was most recently Director of NK Lawn & Garden Co.’s Medalist Turf Division. He left that position to form Twin City Seed. He has worked for several regional and national seed companies including Whitney-Dickinson Seeds, Great Western Seed Co. and Lesco Inc.

Twin City Seed Company is headquartered at 7263 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55439.