In Brief...

- Innovations in pesticide packaging will continue, according to Ciba packaging czar Larry Dull. Dull told attendees at a recent industry meeting to look for more closed handles to facilitate easier rinsing, more "pre-packs" (two products packaged together, but not formulated together), more refillables, more biodegradable containers, more water solubles, gels and water-soluble bagged liquids. The manufacturers are listening to what users are saying, and the options seem to be growing constantly...

- The "moon suit" syndrome continues. At the same industry meeting, Kevin Downing, CGCS, of Florida's Willoughby, GC, noted how hard it can be to answer golfers who ask, "If this guy's all bundled up, how dangerous is this stuff to me?" Some superintendents find it effective to answer this question with a comparison to x-rays: The x-ray is harmless to the patient but the technician is required by law to protect herself because of the increased potential risks of frequent exposure...

- Tentative "Delaney" settlement doesn't impact turf. You may have read that EPA and the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) settled a long-standing court battle over enforcement of the Delaney Clause, a decades-old amendment that seems to mandate that no detectable levels of pesticide residues be allowed in food. The settlement could lead to a ban on the use of approximately three dozen pesticides on more than 140 different raw and processed foods. The key word here is "food," so the measure doesn't directly impact T&O uses...

- What's sauce for the goose? It may be Kool-Aid. According to an item in the Met GCSA's Tee to Green, a New York homeowner heard about research suggesting that odor and flavor of grapes can repel geese—and decided to conduct her own front-yard experiment using grape Kool-Aid powder. Reportedly, the nuisance geese that were fouling (fowling?) her yard beat a hasty retreat the next day. We wonder if the sticky purple webprints in her driveway are now a bigger problem.

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