

Congress Will Debate Delaney, water bills

By Ron Smith

A Bill in the U.S. House of Representatives last month will replace the outdated Delaney Clause, enacted in 1958 to eliminate any detectable amount of carcinogens in processed foods.

The new law would consider advances in science and technology that permit detection to amounts smaller than parts per trillion. The new law would consider reasonable risk instead of zero tolerance.

"The Delaney Clause is important to the Green Industry, even though it deals with products used on food crops," said Allen James, Executive Director of RISE, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment. "Most of the products we use are primarily registered for food crops. If they are

lost for those uses, registration for turf and ornamentals would no longer be feasible."

The law also would streamline the Environmental Protection Agency's registration process and provide relief for minor use pesticides, including products important to the turf and ornamental industry.

James said clean water legislation "is now on the fast track in the House of Representatives HR 961, 'Clean Water Amendments of 1995', is being considered by the full House under the leadership of Congressman Bud Shuster (R) of Pennsylvania.

"Of greatest interest to our industry is inclusion of flexible non-point source pollution provision. There have been strong efforts by opponents to include

rigid mandatory requirements. Although proponents expect to maintain voluntary provisions in final House language, the Senate could see the issue differently."

Also of interest is the Endangered Species Act, and Allen says efforts to reauthorize the law "are gaining momentum in both House and Senate, through amendments and related policy changes."

He said bills have been introduced in both houses that would restrict further endangered species actions, including the "taking" of private property without compensation. "The real key to success of any reform action will be whether language can be worked out which strikes a balance between environmen-

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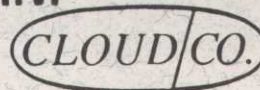
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Delaney —water bills

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tal and economic interest," James said. He also reported on a new effort to provide information on multiple chemical sensitivity.

An organizational meeting for an institute which will monitor and interpret research on the complex and confusing issue of multiple chemical sensitivities was held on June 13-14 in Beltsville, Md/

"RISE is a sponsor of this new organization, the Environmental Sensitivities Research Institute," said James.

"But it is a good idea for individual manufacturers and formulators to become members as well.

"This is a serious issue that could have a very negative impact on the green industry."

Keep It In Perspective

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why it is acceptable for Businessmen to lose deals, Bankers to lose money, Doctors to lose patients, Lawyers to lose cases, Golf Professionals to lose tournaments, but, it is unacceptable for a Superintendent to lose any turf? Unfortunately, I do not have an answer to that question.

It is hard to forget during the heat of summer, that holding the greens may mean holding your job. Knowing this makes working long hours and on weekends a requirement of the job. So, do the best you can this summer, and try not to let your work consume you. At least not to the point that you neglect your friends and family. If the worst does happen, and turf is lost, deal with it at that point in time. Keep it in perspective and remember, turf can be replaced.

Golf and the Environment: P. R.

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sional maintenance practices.

Public appearances are a great way to spread the word. An ideal place to begin is at local schools, elementary, high school and college. At the elementary level you could discuss how golf courses can benefit the environment. Environmental topics are certainly a part of the curriculum. What a great opportunity to tell "the rest of the story". At the high school and college level you could discuss the turfgrass profession as a career, emphasizing the environmental benefits of golf courses. How about speaking to a local environmental group? Part of the reason anti-golf attitudes exist is due to a lack of knowledge. You can help provide that..

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