The science of landscape management today is more of planning ahead than reacting to problems. Products that prevent weed problems with predictable control have replaced emergencies. When curative products are required, the problem is often less serious when preventative measures were originally taken than if they were not. Advances in preventative products, such as preemergence herbicides, have improved the predictability of results landscape managers depend on. These advances include longer length of control, control of a wider range of target pests or weeds, and products designed to fit the needs of various regions of the country depending on climatic conditions.

Preemergence herbicides and combinations of preemergence herbicides with fertilizers and other compounds provide labor savings and more precise control, allowing landscape managers to more fully utilize their time and resource allocations.

With this new technology, the landscape manager must establish new standards by which to compare products. Cost per package is no longer a sufficient comparison. Lower rates per acre, longer length of control, broader spectrum of control, and greater effectiveness and residual must be figured into the equation.

New compounds are more effective in smaller quantities, reflecting a concern for the environment and resulting in significant savings to the landscape manager in storage, shipping and application. These compounds provide the landscape manager and golf course superintendent with products that fit their management needs. They are also more controllable and dependable, and help satisfy the public's concerns regarding the environment. These are the products of the future.

Jerry Roche
Editor

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