The Scotts Co. is now accepting nominations for the 1996 Tradition of Excellence Award that recognizes outstanding achievements among superintendents in advancing the science of course maintenance. Nomination forms are available from Burke Geeler at (913) 832-4465, Darlena Huffman at (513) 644-7633 or Deb Strohmaier at (614) 846-7777.

Homelite, a subsidiary of Deere & Co., purchased the assets of Green Machine from Mark Machine, Wadsworth, Ohio. This fall, the company introduced a new line of commercial grade outdoor power equipment called Green Machine by John Deere. The line includes string trimmers, brushcutters, edgers, blowers, hedge trimmers, chain saws, a sprayer and walk-behind mowers.

2,4-D takes another step to re-registration

BELHAVEN, N.C.—The latest in a series of tests show no evidence of carcinogenicity and occurrence of brain tumors in laboratory rats at doses three times higher than previously tested.

The tests, required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for re-registration of 2,4-D, will be the focus of a symposium to be held Thursday, Nov. 2 at the O'Hare Airport Marriott in Chicago. The symposium will also include a briefing on the status of 2,4-D in the re-registration process.

The symposium, sponsored by the Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data, is open to all interested parties at no charge.

For more information, contact Don Page, the executive director of the Task Force II, at (919) 964-4558.

2,4-D is a broad-spectrum herbicide used extensively in the green industry as well as in agriculture and at the homeowner level. It is the third-most popular herbicide in the country. Use of the 50-year-old product has been increasing for several years because of its excellent fit in no-till and other reduced-till ag systems.

American Cyanamid and Rohm & Haas have formed RohMid L.L.C., a marketing and sales joint venture to develop, register and commercialize a new insecticide, RH-0345, for the U.S. turf and ornamental market. RH-0345 is a diacylhydrazine insecticide that controls grubs and other soil-borne pests. RohMid hopes that the EPA will grant a registration by early 1997.

William Brehm, founder of B&G Equipment Co. and inventor of the B&G compressed air sprayer, died Aug. 20 in Atlanta. He was 70. A scholarship fund has been established at Purdue University in his name. Further information is available by writing William Brehm Scholarship Fund, Purdue University, 1158 Entomology Hall, West Lafayette, IN 47907.

MacKissic Inc. purchased a commercial duty chipper-shredder line from Ameri-quip Corp. that will be manufactured in MacKissic’s Parker Ford, Pa. facility. The chipper-shredders are compact, highway towable, high performance machines for landscapers.

Rodney Sams of Evergreen Lawn Service in Hamilton, Ohio, is winner of the Ransomes America Corp. Fantasy Vacation Sweepstakes. The prize is a four-day cruise in the Bahamas and three days at Walt Disney World. More than 20,000 lawn and grounds care professionals entered.

According to reports from Snapper, a national factory rebate program on its commercial walk-behind mowers is achieving tremendous success. Since announcing the program the first week in August, the company says, business has tripled. The rebate includes $500 on commercial walk-behinds, which includes the full “10/52” factory warranty and the “no payments until ’96” credit program.

Terrasorb of Bradenton, Fla. now has a business alliance with Plant Health Care Inc. of Pittsburgh, Pa. to market to horticultural markets its family of mycorrhizal fungi spore products called MycorTree.

PanAmerican Seed has put its products on CD-ROM for growers, seed distributors, university teachers and students and retail garden staffers. The system fits most desktop computer systems equipped with a CD-ROM drive. The CD-ROM itself costs $30 and is available through GrowerTalks BookShelf at (800) 456-5380.

Gravely International and DewEze Manufacturing are now jointly manufacturing and marketing DewEze mower products. That includes three models of the All-Terrain Mowers sold primarily to governments. The products will now be sold under the Gravely brand name.

Woods Equipment Co. bought Gill Manufacturing Co. L.P. Gill’s core products include pulverizers, turf renovators, seeders, core plug aerators, landscape rakes, rearblades, backhoe and skid steer buckets, tillers and spreaders. Woods products are sold through a network of 6,000 independent dealers in North America.

Educational opportunities

APPLICATIONS are being accepted for Penn State University’s two-year Turfgrass Management Technical Program, beginning September, 1996. Application fee is $35; deadline for application is Dec. 31st. Applications can be obtained by calling (814) 865-8301 or by writing to: Turfgrass Management Technical Program, 306 Ag Administration Bldg., P.S.U., University Park, PA 16802-2601.

THE UNIVERSITY System of Georgia has an independent study course in turfgrass management. Earn college credit while completing this course in the comfort of your home or workplace. All basic principles of turfgrass management for both cool- and warm-season grasses are covered. For more information, call the UGA Independent Study Office, (706) 542-3243.

EROSION COURSES are being offered by the International Erosion Control Association. Subjects include erosion and sediment control; bioengineering; and streambank/lakeshore erosion control. The courses run for three consecutive days: Nov. 7-9 in Columbia, S.C. and Nov. 28-30 in Houston, Texas. For more information, phone (800) 455-4322 or fax (970) 879-8563.