Ciba-Geigy Ltd. and Sandoz Ltd., have merged to form Novartis, which will be the largest marketer of crop protection chemicals in the world. Ciba Ag Group head Emilio (Leo) Bon- tempo will head Novartis Crop Protection (which includes turf and ornamental), and Northrup King president Edward Shonsey will head Novartis Seeds. Fred Fuller, president of Ciba Seeds, is the new head of Vaughn's Seed Co., Novartis's stand-alone flowers and ornamentals business in North America.

Golf superintendent Glenn Smickley of Robert Trent Jones Golf Club in Gainesville, Va., is a winner in the GCSAA's Environmental Steward Award competition. The competition is sponsored by by GCSAA and Ciba Turf & Ornamental Products; Rain Bird’s Golf Division; Jacobsen Division of Textron, and Lebanon Turf Products.

Jim Ferrin of Granite Bay Golf Club in California is Seed Research of Oregon’s 1995 “Golf Course Superintendent of the Year” winner. The company’s “Golf Course of the Year” award went to Glen Oaks Country Club of West Des Moines, Iowa, Tom Marzolf, architect, and Tim Johnson, superintendent.

Monsanto is sponsoring the Roundup All-Pro Weekend Sweepstakes, which will send the grand prize winner and a guest to the AT&T National Pro-Am Golf Tournament next year at Pebble Beach, Calif. To enter, pick up an entry card from your Roundup Pro retailer. The company also announced plans to spend nearly $200 million to produce Roundup herbicide in several countries.

Rain Bird launched a “Passport to Fun” contest on May 1. Contractors can win luxury cruises, camcorders, color televisions or free cases of rotors. Pick up entry brochures at your Rain Bird distributor.

Twenty students received Peter Selmer Loft Memorial Scholarships worth $1,000 each, at the Rutgers Alumni Awards Banquet last fall, continuing a 13-year tradition established by Lofts Seed. Also, Lofts gave royalties to Dr. C. Reed Funk, Dr. T.M. Casey and Dr. Bruce Clark of Rutgers University ($700,000) and Dr. Noel Jackson and Dr. Bridgit Reummele of the University of Rhode Island ($15,000).

AgrEvo’s North American controlled release nitrogen fertilizer business—including Nitroform and Nutralene—is now being made and marketed by the Nu-Gro Corp., Ontario, Canada. AgrEvo is planning to concentrate on ag and turf control products.

When a golf course superintendent purchases Pinpoint 15 Granular Insecticide and/or Orthene Turf, Tree & Ornamental Spray, a donation will be made to the research organization of his or her choice. The program is called “The Right Course,” according to Valent’s Derrel Kelso. For more information, phone (800) 898-2536.

Walker Manufacturing produced its 25,000th mower on Jan. 9th, 16 years after the first units were produced. President Bob Walker commended the nearly 100 employees for quality workmanship and teamwork.

Four personnel changes at Jacklin Seed, which is celebrating its 60th year in busi- ness: Gayle Jacklin promoted to vice president, managing director of marketing; Rick Dunham promoted to vice president, marketing; and Brandie Beebe named to a public relations/advertising position.

Scag Power Equipment held its annual distributor service conference in Ft. Myers, Fla. Dave Greinder of Lawn Equipment Parts was Service Manager of the Year and Texas Outdoor Power Equipment was Service Distributor of the Year.

Ransomes America will co-sponsor the GCSAA’s program of 150 local and regional semi-