WASHINGTON, D.C. — Landscape managers will no longer be able to apply the popular pesticide Dursban now that its manufacturer, Dow AgroSciences, has agreed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to voluntarily cancel most in and around the home uses of it in the U.S.

The EPA contends that Dursban, manufactured by Dow AgroSciences, poses a health risk to children because it could harm their brains and nervous systems. The contention is based on a study by Dow that found that chlorpyrifos, sold under the trade names Dursban and Lorsban, causes brain damage in fetal rats whose mothers were given the pesticide.

Despite the study, Bruce Miehle, general manager for Turf and Ornamental Products at Dow, insisted on chlorpyrifos' safety. "Because of FQPA (Food Quality Protection Act), continued on page 19"
Egarden Joins with Hardware Co-ops
RALEIGH, NC — Egarden.com signed long-term strategic e-commerce agreements with Ace Hardware Corp., Do It Best Corp. and TruServe Corp. with the goal of establishing a strong initial base of buyers of lawn and garden products.

Textron Unites E-Z-GO and Turf Care
AUGUSTA, GA — In a move aimed at strengthening its position in the golf, turf care and industrial markets, Textron consolidated management of E-Z-GO Textron and Textron Turf Care & Specialty Products into a single organization called Textron Golf and Turf. Textron will continue to offer golf cars, professional/commercial turf care equipment and utility vehicles under the Bob-Cat, Brouwer, Bunton, Cushman, E-Z-GO, Jacobsen, Ransomes, Ryan and Steiner brand names.

Shemin Nurseries Buys Schumacher’s
DANBURY, CT — Shemin Nurseries Inc. acquired Schumacher’s Wholesale Nursery and Landscaping Supplies, South St. Paul, MN. Shemin, one of the nation’s largest wholesale distributors of horticultural products and services, will now be operating 24 distribution centers in 12 different geographic markets.

Tyler Opens Indy Delivery Operation
ELWOOD, IL — Tyler Enterprises opened a full-service 7,200-sq.-ft.

Andersons Completes Acquisition of Scotts’ U.S. Turf Business
MAUMEE, OH — The Andersons, Inc. has completed its acquisition of The Scotts Company’s U.S. Professional Turf business and can now focus on the process of implementation.

"We have a plan in some stage of implementation," said Rick Anderson, president of The Andersons, Inc. Processing Group. "Part of our management philosophy is to take the strength of what we acquired and our own inherent strengths and make them work well together to achieve a 1+1=3 phenomenon. Part of doing that well is putting a team together that is a combination of both and getting ideas from everyone involved."

The transaction included a long-term supply agreement under which Scotts will use its own manufacturing processes to produce value-added products for The Andersons. Specifically, the acquisition included ProTurf®, Contec™, PolyS® and other brand names, the distribution network, customer lists and all trademarks, patents, technologies and copyrights associated with the professional turf market. The transaction didn’t include use of the Scotts® brand or any of Scotts’ consumer, professional grass seed or professional horticultural businesses.

Weed Man Ups the Ante
Look for Weed Man to move into United States markets more quickly than planned, said company executives in an exclusive interview with Landscape Management. The Mississauga, Ontario-based lawn care franchise company, which is the largest in Canada, has restructured its original U.S. marketing plan and stepped up the pace, based on early and enthusiastic response.

According to Roger Mongeon, president of the U.S. subsidiary, "The initial interest was so great we started looking for the most efficient way to attack the United States market."

In response, Weed Man’s U.S. company, Turf Holdings Inc., signed six sub-franchisors in key markets. Each of these will be responsible for high population or multi-state areas and will sell a number of local Weed Man franchises to lawn care operators, pest control operators and other interested parties.

Currently, the large sub-franchisor territories cover much of the Midwest and mid-Atlantic areas. For more information on Weed Man, contact Turf Holdings Inc. at 416/260-5754 or visit the Web-site at www.weed-man.com

Shaner Appointed PGMS Executive Director
BALTIMORE, MD — The Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) recently named Thomas C. Shaner as its new executive director.

The PGMS also announced it has contracted with Joseph E. Shaner Co. (JES), of which Thomas Shaner is president, to provide full administrative and management services.

"Through the association management company approach, PGMS volunteer leaders will be able to spend most of their time focusing on the future for their society," Shaner said. "Operational details will be handled routinely from our offices. We are staffed so that PGMS services can be expanded and improved to meet the needs of the membership, now and in the future."
the rules have changed," Miehle said, "but the safety of chlorpyrifos hasn't. We ultimately felt that we had to reach an agreement with the EPA, but this does not change our conviction in the safety of chlorpyrifos for all labeled uses."

**Users speak up**

The decision hits companies across the industry in a variety of ways. Some landscape managers have stopped using Dursban, or plan to now, despite the fact that they will still be able to use it under its current label indefinitely and find it on store shelves until Dec. 31, 2002.

"Our company made a position as of Jan. 1 to suspend purchases of Dursban, work off our existing inventory and phase it out," said Kirk Hurto, Ph.D., director of technical services for TruGreen-Chem-Lawn. "We had already brought down our inventory level significantly in the past with some development of alternative products."

Part of the company's decision, Hurto said, was not based on safety but rather the fact that it was a public issue. "Right now, when customers call, instead of putting our branches in a position of dealing with anxiety or clarifying information, we believe it's a lot easier to explain to customers that we want to phase Dursban out," Hurto said. "It's just so much easier to take a proactive stance, and customers in our business are looking for leadership and peace of mind. It's no longer a scientific issue than it is public policy."

"I quit using it (Dursban) some time ago when I saw this coming," says Michael Hornung, president of Valley Green, a lawn care firm in St. Cloud, MN.

But it's not that simple for others who have come to rely on the material's broad spectrum of control. "The loss of Dursban is going to destroy us down here," notes Jerry Gaeta, partner in The Good Earth, a full-service landscape contractor in Mt. Pleasant, SC. "We use it for termite treatments, fire ants, as a chemical in all potting plants, for a number of things. I don't know what we'll use in its place."

— Jason Stahl
warehouse and delivery operation in Indianapolis. The building will serve as a distribution center for Tyler's custom-blended fertilizer products and specialty chemicals.

Wright Mfg. moving to expand
GAITHERSBURG, MD—Wright Manufacturing, Inc., is moving its headquarters to a new building in Frederick, MD, 21 miles north of its present headquarters.

Milliken new distributor for Sybron
SALEM, VA—Milliken Turf Products, Spartanburg, SC, recently became Sybron Chemicals' newest distributor for global turf markets.

Echo expands Lake Zurich facility
LAKE ZURICH, IL—Echo Inc. is adding over 155,000 sq. ft. of office and distribution space to its Lake Zurich facility. This is the third expansion at the Lake Zurich facility since the original building was built in 1989.

IGP acquires Vandenburg
BOSTON, MA—International Garden Products (IGP), Boston, MA, acquired Vandenburg Bulb Co., Chester, NY. IGP is a grower/supplier of ornamental plants and horticultural specialty products to U.S. garden centers and retailers. Vandenburg is a processor of perennials and flower bulbs from Holland, the U.S. and other sources worldwide.

Netafim USA began a facility expansion project that will add 20,000 square feet and new production lines to its existing facility. The project is Phase 2 of the company's expansion plans which have involved capital investments of close to $4 million.

Nature Safe hired Chuck Barber as regional sales manager for the mid-Atlantic and New England states and is one of the regional sales manager for the western U.S.

Environmental Industries (EI), the parent company of Environmental Care (ECI), named Richard Sperber president of ECI. Sperber will also continue to serve as senior vice president and chief operating officer of EI.

Simplot Turf and Horticulture named Bill Whitacre president.

Bayer Corp. named Dan Carrothers head of marketing for the company's Garden & Professional Care unit. The company also named Phil McNally, Ph.D., field research and development representative for the western U.S. and Chuck Silcox, Ph.D., field research and development representative for the northeastern U.S.