

Lighten Up!

Kawasaki has a new line of string trimmers, hedge trimmers and blowers. They're quieter, more powerful and lighter than other brands. Try one. And make light work of all your heavy-duty turf care jobs.

Call Toll Free 1-877-KAW-POWR
for a Kawasaki dealer nearest you.



Kawasaki
Professional
Power Products

www.kawpowr.com

Dallisgrass control

I have noticed a lot of dallisgrass coming in lawns. Where does this grass come from? What product do you know that might kill the seed and the plant?

—WEST VIRGINIA

Reportedly an introduced grass native to Uruguay and Argentina, dallisgrass (*Paspalum dilatatum*) may be coming from nearby lawns, pastures, roadsides or ditchbanks.

Dallisgrass is a tufted, summer-growing perennial grass that grows from a hardy crown. It can rapidly produce flower heads over nicely mowed lawns.

Consider using herbicides such as Roundup, Finale, DSMA or MSMA. You may also want to overseed with desirable turfgrass seeds after spot treating with herbicides. However, damage to untreated areas may occur if you walk from treated turf onto untreated turf.

Many of the pre-emergent herbicides used for crabgrass control also will help manage dallisgrass. In the pasture areas either rotate with cultivated crops, dig the plant or spot treat with Roundup or Finale. Re-seed the areas with desirable plants.

The root of the problem

We have an extensive population of Northwest poplars and elms. Surface roots are damaging our mowers. To what extent can these roots be lowered or even eliminated without causing a great deal of damage to the trees?

— ALBERTA, CANADA

Generally I would not advise anyone to prune surface roots as this may not help alleviate the surface rooting problem. This practice will damage the tree and may cause it to die.

While some tree species are more prone to having shallow roots, trees will produce surface roots if the growing conditions are not favorable for proper root development. Water-logged, heavy clay or compacted soils may be causes.

Tree roots require sufficient amounts of oxygen and water so the roots grow where the soil has the conditions necessary for growth and, in these situations, that is at the soil surface.

You can consider adding a small amount of topsoil (1 to 1.5 inches) and a small amount of mulch (another 1 to 2 inches), and keep it from touching the base of the tree. This will reduce the severity of the visual problem and mowing will no longer be required near the tree trunks thus reducing damage to your mowers.

One final note, having damaged your mowers in this situation, it is possible that the trees have been damaged. Root rot and decay in the roots affect tree stability and increase the possibility of breakage in high loading situations. Trees that have had repeated severe damage to their roots should be inspected by a professional arborist familiar with hazard tree identification to evaluate their condition with respect to the potential targets.

Herbicide movement

Can lawn-applied broadleaf herbicides and pre-emergent crabgrass herbicide leach in the soil?

—PENNSYLVANIA

There are several factors that dictate or determine the leaching of herbicides. These include soil texture, how well the herbicide dissolves in water, attraction of ions or molecules of herbicides to soil colloids (a process called adsorption) and the amount of available water.

Herbicides, such as salt forms of 2,4-D which adsorb less to soil colloids, have a tendency to leach readily in sandy or silt-loam soils. The dinitro-aniline herbicides and many pre-emergent herbicides can readily adsorb to soil colloids and thus resist leaching. Reports indicate that the pre-emergent herbicide Dacthal can leach slightly in soil.

Many herbicides bind to the organic matter and clay in soils. Adsorption is poor if the soil contains too much sand or silt. Increase organic matter in the soil to increase adsorption and decrease leaching.

Herbicide leaching is usually not a concern if the applications were made per label specifications and guidelines, particularly in lawns with good organic matter. Often a herbicide-treated and an untreated lawn can be side by side without any weeds in the treated side and many weeds on the untreated side. This suggests that the herbicides did not move or leach laterally to the untreated area. **LM**



BALAKRISHNA RAO

Manager of Research and Technical Development for the Davey Tree Expert Company, Kent, Ohio

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO:

"Ask the Expert"

Landscape Management
7500 Old Oak Blvd.
Cleveland, OH 44130
or contact Nancy Stairs
nstairs@advanstar.com
440/891-2623

Please allow two to three months for an answer to appear in the magazine.

Does this guy
do a lot of business
with Florists'?



Ken Andersen
Walter Andersen Nursery

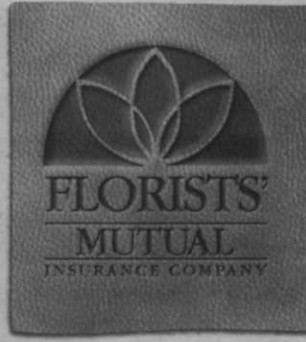
You betcha.

Florists' Mutual, Complete Expert Coverages for Garden Centers and Landscapers

Landscapers, Nursery Growers and Garden Center Operators nationwide depend on Florists' Mutual for a wide variety of insurance coverages and services. Florists' has served the needs of the horticultural industry for more than a century, so we understand your business like nobody's business.

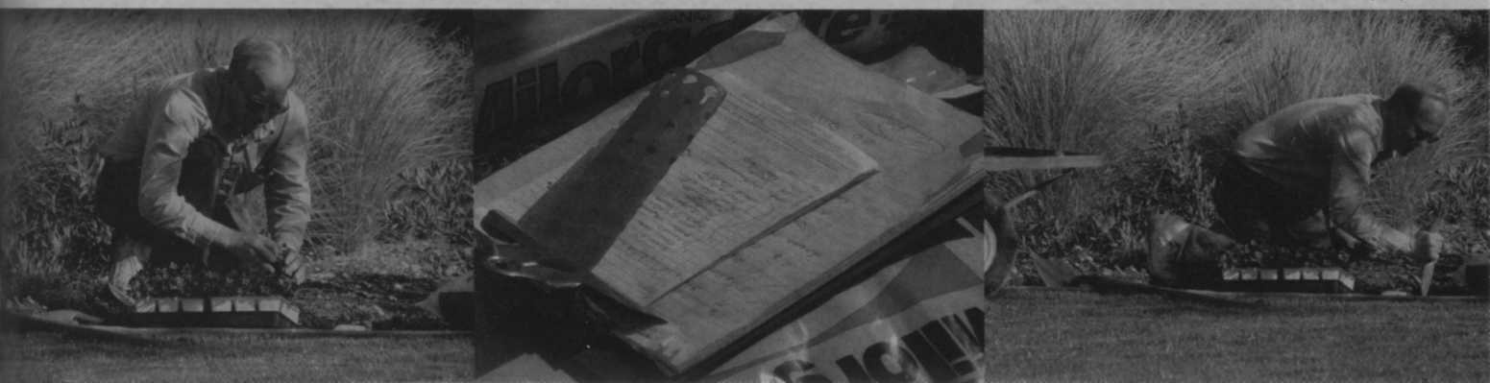
110 Years Experience Serving The Horticultural Industry

Florists' Mutual is extremely cost competitive, financially solid and we'll work hard to earn both your trust and your business. We're uniquely qualified to meet and exceed your insurance needs. So don't let the name fool you. It's time you did business with Florists'.



INSURANCE SPECIALISTS FOR THE HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Circle No. 160 on Reader Inquiry Card



Landscape Management, Athletic Turf win 9 TOCA Awards

ORLANDO, FL — For the third straight year, *Landscape Management* scooped up a winner's share of writing and design awards, presented at the annual meeting of the Turf and Ornamental Communicators Association, held in Orlando earlier this month.

TOCA members include editors and designers of many green industry publications, public relations and marketing directors for landscape and supplier firms, industry association representatives and advertising agency account supervisors.

This year's contest was hotly contested, with a record 160 entries in writing, design and photography.

Managing Editor Ron Hall won big with a first place award for his ornamentals feature article in November, 1998, "Disney's Grand Green Experiment." He also won three merit awards for writing (including one for *Landscape Management's* sister publication, *Athletic Turf Maintenance & Technology*), and Executive Editor Sue Gibson also won a merit award for writing.

Graphic Designer Lisa Bodnar again made a strong showing with three first place design awards: "June 1998 Table of Contents" (Single Page Design), and "Weed ID Guide," which tied with "Turf Manager's Guide to Insect ID" (Two-Plus Page Design). She also won two merit awards for design.

Coincidentally, Hall's Disney feature was awarded just a day after the group toured the new Disney Animal Kingdom and the Wide World of Sports. Disney horticulturists and sports field managers conducted TOCA on behind-the-scenes tours of both facilities, de-

tailoring the extensive landscape and field design, installation and maintenance practices.

"This year's strong showing confirms our efforts to provide the most informative, useful and easy-to-read magazine in the industry," said Sue Gibson. "Both Ron and Lisa are enormously talented people who bring a rare enthusiasm to *Landscape Management*. This shows through year after year because the judges keep changing, yet they recognize Ron and Lisa's excellence in writing and design."

"Ron's articles always cut right to the meat of the topic, yet continue to be fun and interesting to read," she continued. "Lisa's elegant designs for our contents page and both Weed and Insect ID Guides makes it so easy to find the information you need in the field. Personally, I'm honored that the judges recognized the first editorial I wrote for *Landscape Management*."

Look for more TOCA presence at upcoming industry events this year. TOCA will assist with RISE communication efforts. TOCA also sponsors a roundtable discussion of critical green industry issues during the Green Industry Expo; it is open to anyone attending the GIE.



Leadership transition at Exmark

BLOOMINGTON, MN —Toro announced that H. John Smith, president of Exmark, and Roger Smith, executive vice president of sales and marketing, stated that they will leave their current positions effective Oct. 31, 1999, and Nov. 30, 1999, respectively.

Dennis Himan, vice president and general manager of Toro's landscape contractor businesses, will be responsible for day-to-day operations at Exmark and will direct the effort to identify the long-term leadership plan for the company. Himan was instrumental in Toro's November 1997 acquisition of Exmark, an important element in Toro's dual-brand, dual-distribution strategy for the fast-growing landscape contractor market.

Deere cuts emissions in two-cycle engines

RALEIGH, NC — Two-cycle engines using a new John Deere-developed technology could cut emissions by 75% compared with current engines, the company claims. And since less fuel is lost into the exhaust and more of it is cap-

tured for combustion, fuel consumption is decreased by about 30%.

Steve Peace, director, advertising and marketing support services consumer products for the Worldwide Commercial and Consumer Equipment Division

of John Deere, told *LM* that the engine "is based on a simpler design, very basic components, better emission performance results and is less expensive to manufacture." The engines will be available starting in 2000, he said.

Insure that valuable tree

HARTFORD, CT — Insure a specimen tree that you maintain? You bet.

Gulf Insurance Group, a member of Travelers Property Casualty Corp., offers this new program to provide insurance coverage specifically for trees and landscaping-related personal property. But your insurance agent can obtain it for you too, says Lester Edelman, of AFG Partners, the New York-based wholesale broker and program administrator of the program.

Here's how the process works: You've got a stand of stately oak trees on the college quadrangle and you'd like to insure these trees. You contact your insurance agent, who contacts AFG Partners and provides some bare-bones information about the trees. AFG determines a preliminary price to insure the trees. You then hire a certified arborist to measure, inspect and determine the specific value of each tree. With this information, AFG can set the premium.

The insurance covers trees against death or serious damage due to fire, lightning, wind, the weight of ice and snow and, in some regions, floods and earthquakes. Death caused by insects or disease is not covered. Insurance can be written to cover replacement costs, including installation, or full value.

You may not want to insure just any tree though. The minimum premium is \$5,000.

—Ron Hall

THE ULTIMATE WHEELBARROW



Spreading mulch and compost by hand is a costly, labor intensive process. It limits production and puts workers at risk for injuries. The Express Blower will turn an inefficient process into a profit center and blow your competition away!

The Express Blower can be operated by one person, with remote control, in any weather, on any terrain. Spread mulch, compost, soil mixes, playground chips or any number of other organic materials for landscaping, lawn restoration, erosion control and much more.

With our ALL NEW Injection System, the Express Blower can inject seed, fertilizer or other additives WHILE BLOWING! Install a lawn with soil mix and seed, or blend weed inhibitors with mulch. You can even topdress and overseed turf with only one application.

Get a jump on your competition. Call today and find out how you can expand your possibilities with an Express Blower!

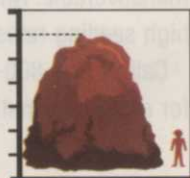
Visit our web site at www.expressblower.com
A division of Rexius Forest By-Products, Inc., Eugene, Oregon

Circle 110



5 MEN AND A WHEELBARROW

A typical 5-person crew can spread 8 cubic yards per hour.



1 MAN WITH THE EXPRESS BLOWER

One person, can blow 30 to 100 cubic yards per hour.

EB
Express Blower
800-285-7227

What's all the racket about?

Watch out for cicadas this spring! Sometimes incorrectly called the "17-year locust," cicadas can be found somewhere in the eastern United States nearly every summer, with different groups (broods)

hatching each year. There are 15 broods: 12 hatch every 17 years (primarily northern states) and three hatch every 13 years (primarily southern states). In the next 23 years, 19 broods will hatch.

This year's activity (Brood V) will hatch in eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania, much of West Virginia and a small, northern portion of Virginia.

Mother of a bug

Cicadas neither bite nor sting, but their large size (1.25 to 1.75 in. long) and large red eyes are unnerving.

For most of their lives, cicadas live underground as nymphs, feeding on the sap of roots. Their feeding activities are not particularly harmful.

The most significant damage is from laying eggs in slits cut into twigs (usually 0.25 to 0.5 inches in diameter). The subsequent dieback and breakage is unattractive, but not serious. Small and newly planted trees may be affected and



Introducing Turfmaker Junior. Welcome to the family.



Now you can get the productivity of a Turfmaker II in a compact machine. Proudly announcing the Turfmaker Junior — the latest in our line of high-capacity seeders that prepare the perfect seedbed to give you uniform germination.

Turfmaker Junior's 11-bushel hopper delivers everything from bluegrass to fescues without bridging. Four- and six-foot widths make it exceptionally maneuverable. And thanks to the standard speed-up kit, you get the same high seeding rates that run in the entire Turfmaker family.

Call us at 1-800-409-9749 or visit our Web site at www.brillionfarmeq.com for more information. Junior's waiting to come out and play.



www.brillionfarmeq.com • Brillion Iron Works, Inc., Brillion, WI 54110
Phone (920) 756-3720 • (800) 409-9749



Periodical cicada adult

may even die if used heavily for egg laying, since many of their branches may be the desirable size for egg laying.

Control tactics

The Ohio State University Extension recommends ways to reduce damage:

- delay tree planting until after the cicadas die, to avoid damage to newly planted trees;
- prevent egg laying by covering trees, starting when the males begin to sing until the singing stops. Tie the small gauge nylon netting or cheesecloth to the trunk beneath the lower branches;
- use chemical controls; labeled insecticides carbaryl (Sevin) and chlorpyrifos (Dursban) can be applied once a week. Avoid blooming plants to preserve honeybees and other pollinating insects.

—Nancy Stairs

Flexible enough...



**... to gather the
best quality
and technology
available.**

**... to respond to
future market
opportunities.**

**... to deliver
genuine
value to the
turf manager.**

No one is as strategically positioned and has the strength to look after the turf manager's best interests.

United Horticultural Supply has earned a leadership role in discovering and delivering the best quality and technology available on the market.

Competitors tied to limited resources or technologies cannot make that statement.

That's why you can trust the performance and quality of all UHS products and services.

Contact your local UHS representative for more information.



**United
Horticultural Supply.**

www.uhsonline.com

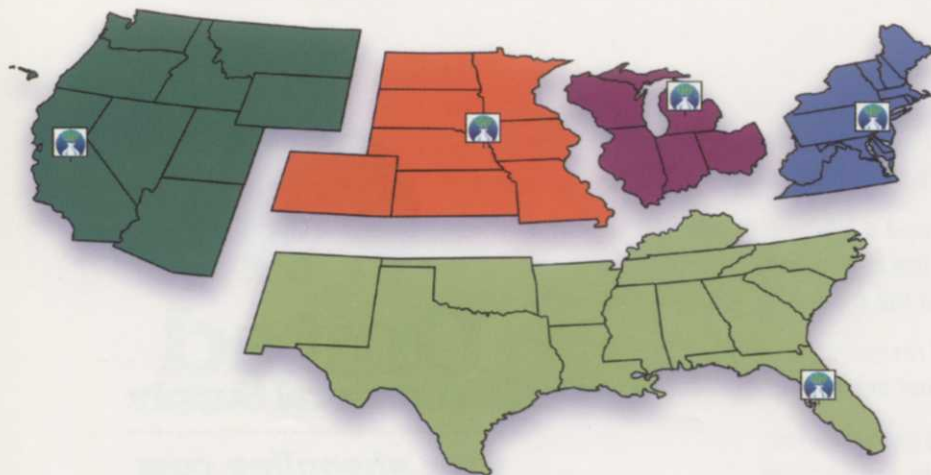
800-847-6417

While our company is national, our focus is local.

United Horticultural Supply is your source for professionals who have the technical expertise and can provide all the products you need to be a success in today's competitive market.

- Fertilizers
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Turf Seed
- Soil Amendments
- Adjuvants
- Equipment
- Colorants
- Aquatic Products
- Micronutrients
- Wetting Agents
- Plant Growth Regulators

Call today for a free product guide containing a comprehensive listing of available items.



Circle No. 114 on Reader Inquiry Card



United
Horticultural Supply

Working To Enhance Our World

Atlantic Division

(302) 266-7580

Great Lakes Division

(517) 333-8788

Midwest Division

(402) 330-1910

Southern Division

(800) 457-0415

Western Division

(559) 253-5711

Lesco acquires new fertilizer technology

CLEVELAND, OH — Lesco, Inc. recently acquired exclusive worldwide rights to a new matrix technology for controlled-release fertilizers that will compete in the turf market with other coated and premium fertilizers.

"We are very excited about the technology," Ken Sekley, vice president marketing at Lesco, told *LM*. "It is a homogenous structure that has unique controlled-release properties. In addition, the nutrients in the matrix will be very efficiently used by the turf or other targeted plants."

The patented technology was licensed from the Agri Nutrients Technology Group of Disputanta, VA. At one time, Vigoro had rights to the technology, but, in the course of corporate restructuring, the rights reverted back to Agri Nutrients. Lesco moved swiftly and snagged the exclusive worldwide rights.

"After we finalized the deal, we did get some calls from the other companies who were interested in the technology. There was interest expressed in working with us," Sekley says. He didn't rule out that possibility.

Product in limited quantities will be available later this year. Lesco is reportedly focusing on formulations for golf turf first, then other turf and ornamental applications.

Turf experts learn new fungicide awaits registration

MELBOURNE, FL—In March, turfgrass scientists met here for a two-day conference and learned of a new turf fungicide awaiting EPA registration. Compass, from Novartis, is a broad-spectrum fungicide that combines contact and systemic properties, termed "mesostemic."

Dr. Mike Agnew tells *LM* that this "reduced risk" compound is highly effective on fungal diseases which attack through leaf tissues, like brown patch and anthracnose. Compass also shows good control of gray leaf spot, red

thread, rust and leaf spot. However, the low application rates (0.1 to 0.25 ounces) means that it is less effective on pythium, nor will the application rates be effective on dollar spot.

Compass uses the same chemistry, but different mode of action, as Heritage by Zeneca, Novartis says.



Joanne Hodge of Novartis talking to: (L to R) Dr. Larry Stowell, Pace Consulting; Dr. Bruce Clarke, Rutgers University; and Dr. Houston Couch, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, at the Novartis Vero Beach Research Station.

Terra selling service centers

SIoux CITY, IA — Terra Industries Inc., headquartered here, is selling its distribution business to Cenex/Land O'Lakes Agronomy Company for \$361 million. The sale is expected to close this summer. Included in the sale are Terra's 400 retail farm service centers in the U.S. and Canada. Terra's distribution business, basically agricultural but some turf and ornamental, reported 1998 revenues of \$1.73 billion and employed 2,600.

[CLIPPINGS]

Grand jury slams blowers

ORANGE COUNTY, CA — A grand jury here this spring recommended that local governments have maintenance workers use rakes and brooms rather than gas-powered leaf blowers. A news report in the *Orange County Register* said that members of the grand jury labeled blowers "noisy and polluting," based on California Air Resources Board estimates that 2.11 tons of combustion pollutants are put into the county's air each day by blowers.

We're not sure how CARB can measure one county's air vs. another's, but the bigger question: Why is a grand jury ruling on this?

Rohm and Haas acquires Morton

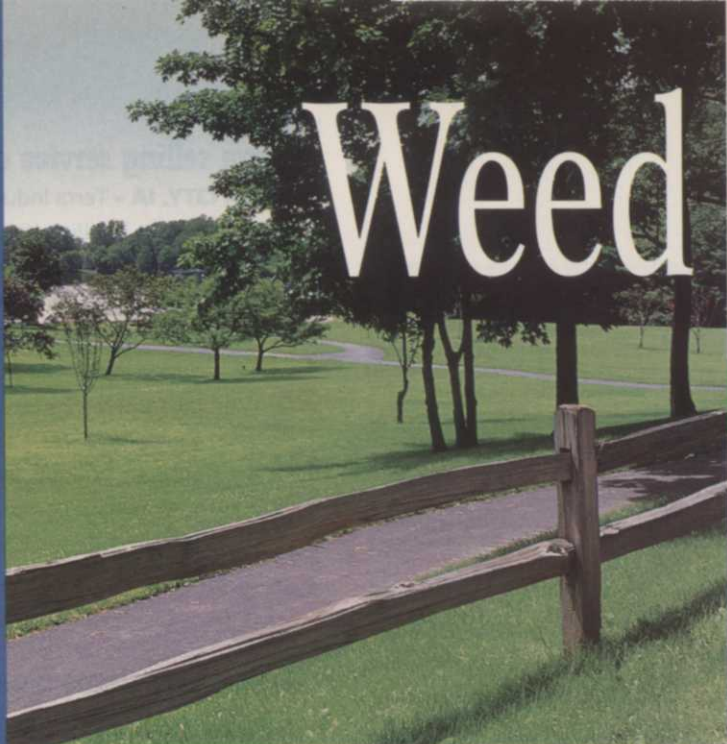
PHILADELPHIA — Rohm and Haas Company is acquiring Morton International, Inc. Rohm and Haas, a speciality chemical company, had nearly \$4 billion in sales in 1998. Morton is a marker of speciality chemicals and salt products with sales of about \$2.5 billion last year. Rohm and Haas received all the regulatory approvals required to complete the transaction in late April.

Dow boosts spinosad production

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — Dow AgroSciences LLC is going to be able to spin out more spinosad, the key chemical component of Conserve insecticide, because of a recent agreement with Integrated Genomics Inc., Chicago.

Weed control

PROformance



Controlling weeds is serious business. You need a herbicide that always delivers. That's why we created Roundup PRO® herbicide.



PROformance
TECHNOLOGY

With its PROformance Technology, Roundup PRO penetrates the leaves and roots of weeds faster. That means more complete weed control with no regrowth. Rainfastness in 1-2 hours for wider windows of application. No weed control callbacks. And lots of satisfied customers.

Always read and follow label instructions. Roundup PRO® is a registered trademark of Monsanto Company.
© 1999 Monsanto Company. pro-lco-99