

## “Are We Prepared to Spray?”

by Marty Baumann

We all spend time, energy and concern over the safety and well-being of our employees. We purchase shatterproof glasses, helmets, steel toe boots, first aid kits, send them to training seminars and do safety audits. We strive to make our work places as safe as possible. But, how prepared are we for the work that we and our assistants do?

Spraying our golf courses is one of those duties most of us reserve for the superintendent, assistants or our spraying tech. The big question is how prepared are we to react to an accident, before or during spraying?

We can be prepared to react quickly and correctly for very little investment. We have been hearing about most of these items at safety seminars for years!

A safety eye wash station with normal saline eye wash and fresh water, an MSDS book (up-to-date), in an easy to find place. Do you have the Chemtrec number posted in plain view? (It's 1-800-424-9300). Is your spill kit full? These few items will allow you to react quickly.

### **We can be prepared to react quickly and correctly for very little investment.**

If you have an incident, react quickly. If a chemical spills in your eyes, flush them for a full 15 minutes before seeking medical attention. If you get chemical in your hair or on your skin, wash with soap and water completely. If you spill on your clothes, take them off! I keep paper jump suits on hand just for that reason.

Lastly, while spraying or mixing, if you or your employee starts displaying one of these symptoms: nausea, sweating, dizziness, or obvious disorientedness, call EMS and have them taken to the hospital in an ambulance.

Finally, if you have a spill, take the time to clean it completely. A chemical spill is not only dangerous to your men and your shop, but there is also the danger of the chemical mixing with another chemical creating a problem of larger scope.

By being prepared and reacting immediately, chemicals can be safely used and safe to you and your men.

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## Turfgrass Short Course Revamped

The Turfgrass Short Course was offered at Purdue University during 1989 through 1992. The course was part of the 8-week Winter Short Course at Purdue. The course was targeted at interested individuals that were already employed in the turf industry that wanted to further their knowledge about turfgrass management. Even though the course was fairly popular, it was difficult for interested people to dedicate 8 weeks to attend classes on the Purdue campus. The decision was made in 1993 to cancel the short course at

Purdue and to restructure it to better suit the turfgrass industry of the Midwest. The course has been changed to a week long course with 10 intensive sessions on all aspects of turfgrass management. The course is co-sponsored by Purdue University and the University of Illinois in cooperation with the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation and the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation. Attendees will receive a comprehensive education on turfgrass management taught by turfgrass specialists from both universities. Session topics include turfgrass

I.D. and selection, establishment, plant physiology, soil physics and fertility, all areas of pest control, and irrigation management. CCH credits and GCSAA CEU's will be offered where applicable. The first course will be held Feb. 20-25, 1994 in Merrillville, IN. You will be receiving more information in the future and if you have questions please call Zac Reicher at 317/494-9737.

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