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### FOREWORDS

## Spring Into ACTION

Are you ready for spring? I'm sure all your courses are beginning to look their best as you get ready for those end-of-season member-guest tournaments. I'm just ready for some warm weather.

With the warm weather comes our "favorite" time of year time to start cranking up those verticutters and aerifying machines that golfers think we just love to run. The warm weather also brings out our favorite little bug the mole cricket. Right now there is a full-court press on the subject as EPA is looking at possibly canceling the temporary registration of broadcast friponil (Top Choice®).

While there are baits and other insecticides, I do not think there is one that works as well and is as safe as friponil. While they say they are looking at the broadcast application for fire ants, what about broadcast of granular Top Choice applications for mole crickets? Insiders think if we lose one, the other will likely follow, based on EPA's history.

Out of all the products that have been on the chopping blocks the past few years – Mocap, Oftanol, Namacur, Methyl Bromide and MSMA – all are gone or going away. So with this latest notice I just would like to put it out there that we must get involved on the chapter and individual level.

When sample letters and talking points are sent out to the chapters everyone must take personal responsibility to draft comments and submit them and not expect that someone else will do it for you. In order to get EPA's attention there needs to be a significant show of concern on our part about the consequences of losing these products. Silence is consent to allow yet another product cancellation. Our position and concerns are based on science, peer reviewed studies, and real-world experience; the opposition often uses emotion and limited computer models



Shane Bass, CGCS  
President

*I'm confident that most of you are probably doing 75 percent of the BMPs but it doesn't do the industry any good unless you are documenting it.*

to make their case.

We must show them that we practice what we preach and, for the third time I am pressing that we all sit down and do our BMP manuals. A lot of people worked hard to get these done but they are not doing us any good if we are not using them.

If you do not have the time to sit down and go through the checklist, delegate it to an assistant. That way when he or she moves on they will already be prepared to do them at their new course.

I'm confident that most of you are probably doing 75 percent of the BMPs but it doesn't do the industry any good unless you are documenting it. I promise I this will be the last time you hear me mention the BMPs but I sure would like to say one day that 100 percent of Florida golf courses are in compliance with the BMP manual.

Spring has sprung and soon we'll be on the summer run. I hope you had a decent golf season.