

# EQUIPMENT NEWS

## EPA approves label changes on Ciba-Geigy's Banner

The Environmental Protection Agency has approved several label amendments for Ciba-Geigy's Banner fungicide on turf.

Banner now can be used to control gray leafspot on St. Augustinegrass and gray and pink snow mold on all labeled grasses. Several usage recommendations have been modified.

"These label amendments are encouraging, and we will continue research on these

difficult-to-control diseases," said Dr. Doug Houseworth, turf and ornamental products manager for technical support.

Banner's watering-in statement has been amended to address recommendations on a case-by-case basis.

In Florida, Banner now can be used for disease control on all Bermudagrass except on greens when temperatures exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

## Applewood Seed enlarging dealer and grower network

Founder and president Gene Milstein said Applewood Seed Co. is setting up a larger network of growers and distributors to make wildflower sod available on a more regional basis.

After years of research, Applewood introduced the wildflower sod in 1987 as a means to instantly cover ground with perennial wildflowers. The sod is now produced nationally by licensed growers.

Meanwhile, the Arvada, Colo., company is continuing to conduct research on its

seed mixtures "as we locate new growers and suppliers," Milstein said.

"Fall-blooming wildflowers are in demand, so we will step up research in this area and increase our production of New England Aster," he said. "Our overall goal is to stay competitive without compromising quality."

Applewood, whose 35-man staff includes two horticulturists, an ecologist and a registered seed analyst, field-tests all its mixtures in its own trials and in cooperation with botanic gardens and universities.

## Echo conclave aims at customer

The sixth annual Echo Service Managers' Conference, held recently in Arlington

Heights, Ill., addressed topics ranging from the basic repair and trouble-shooting of Echo's engines to improving customer satisfaction.

The highlight of the conference was a product integrity session in which 37 service managers from North America, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and France exchanged views with a panel of Echo executives.

Product Service Trainer Awards were presented to Dave Herring of Virginia Outdoor Equipment in Charlottesville, Va.; Dave Ryser of Burton Supply Co. in Youngstown, Ohio; Alan Tate of Outdoor Equipment Distributors in Raleigh, N.C.; Dave Greineder of Lawn Equipment Parts Co. in Landisville, Pa.

Also, George Hassan of Rahr Sales Inc. in Forest, Ohio; Quentin Gunther of Power Equipment Distributors in Baton Rouge, La.; and Timberland Machines Inc. in Lancaster, N.H.

Each service manager received a package of slides and supporting scripts to use in 1990 dealer service schools.

## Rain Bird adds Bob Ladd, Sawtelle Bros. as distributors

Sawtelle Brothers, Inc. of Lawrence, Mass., and Bob Ladd, Inc. of Memphis, Tenn., have been named the exclusive distributors of Rain Bird's line of golf course irrigation products in their regions.

Ladd, which will handle the western Tennessee and northern Mississippi regions, has been in business for more than 30 years.

Sawtelle, in operation for 57 years, will supply Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Both Ladd and Sawtelle are full-service suppliers of Jacobsen and other major turf-equipment lines for golf courses, commercial and light commercial projects.

They both also furnish repair on golf course irrigation equipment.

## Lesco donates to research effort

Lesco, Inc. has presented a check to the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation from the proceeds of a Lesco promotion.

Through Turf-Seed Inc.'s Blue Tag Promotion Program, Lesco redeemed 50 cents on each tag redeemed from Turf-Seed's Oregon Certified Turfgrass Varieties.

Musser is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting education and research in turfgrass development and management. It funds research on further development of turfgrass research and education by establishing fellowships for outstanding turfgrass science graduate students working toward their doctorate degrees.

## Erosion Control has never been more advanced



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