

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Ease, safety critical issues to industry

BY NEIL MATTHEWS

Insecticide companies can be divided into two groups: manufacturers and formulators. And issues differ significantly between the two groups.

First, the groups must be defined. Manufacturers, as the name implies, create the final product - biological or chemical - that controls insects. Formulators may re-work a manufacturer's product slightly, add it to other products (e.g. fertilizers) or add other products to it.

That's why issues for one group don't necessarily affect the other.

"Our primary concern is making a product that maintains the manufacturer's intent for the product," said Paul Mengle, manager in Lebanon Chemical Corp.'s Total Turf Care, an insecticide formulator. "For example, if we add an insecticide to a fertilizer, we have to be sure the fertilizer has no negative effect on the insecticide."

Packaging is another area of high interest among formulators because packaging is one way formulators differentiate their products from others on the market. "Insecticides must be delivered to the end user in packages that are easy and safe to use, but they also must not degrade the product inside the package," said Mengle.

This is where common threads begin emerging between the two groups. Like formulators, manufacturers are becoming more sensitive to packaging issues.

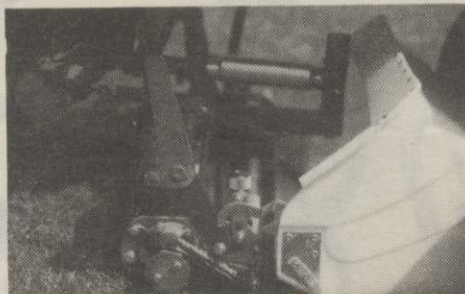
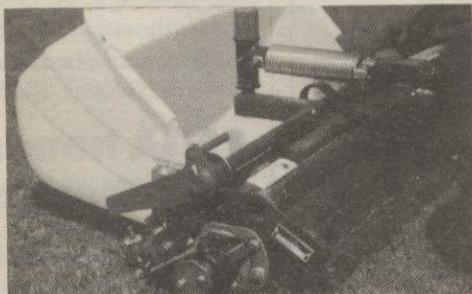
"We've had a water-soluble packet for

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— The symbols for areas of a golf course that the listed insecticides are used on are: G (greens); T (tees), F (fairways), and R (roughs).

Company	Trade Names	Active Ingredients	Market Area	Area of Course	Liquid or Granular	Contact Person
Ciba-Geigy P.O. Box 18300 Greensboro, N.C. 27419 919-547-1160 Circle No 200	Triumph	Isazofos	Nat'l	GT	L	Joe Prochaska
Creative Sales P.O. Box 501 Fremont, Neb. 68025 800-759-7739 Circle No 201	ACECAP	Acephate (Orhtne)	N. America	FR	N/A	Bryan K. Wolfe
DowElanco 4040 Vincennes Circle Indianapolis, Ind. 800-373-2369 Circle No 202	Dursban	Chloropyrifos	Nat'l	GTFR	Both	Ken Rose
Kincaid Enterprises P.O. Box 549 Nitro, W.Va. 25143 304-755-3377 Circle No 203	Marlate	50% Methoxychlor	Int'l	GTFR	N/A	Jim Ratcliff
Lebanon Chemical P.O. Box 180 Lebanon, Pa. 17042 800-233-0628 Circle No 204	Lebanon, Country Club, Lebanon Pro	Dursban, Dylox, Oftanol, Sevin	Nat'l	GTFR	Both	Greenline
Lesco, Inc. 20005 Lake Rd. Rocky River, Ohio 800-825-3726 Circle No 205	Lesco Oftanol, Sevin SL, Granular Dursban, Granular Sevin	Isofenfos, Chlorpyrofos, Trichlorfon Carbaryl, Horticultural oil	Nat'l	GTFR	N/A	Greg Richards
Midwest Spraying P.O. Box 519 Long Lake, Minn. 55356 800-448-8525 Circle No 206	MSSI	Pyrethrin, d-phenothrin resmethrein,	Int'l	GTFR	L	Ed Meehan
Rhone-Poulenc P.O. Box 12014 Research Triangle Park, N.C. 27709 800-334-9745 Circle No 207	Chipco Mocap, Chipco Sevimol	Mocap-Ethoprop, Semivol-Carbaryl	Nat'l	GTFR	Both	N/A
Sanex Chemicals 15 Webster St. N.Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120 416-677-4890 Circle No 208	Fosran 2E, Prox 1.5, Diazinon 5G and 4E Malathion 50%	Chlorpyrifos, Propoxur	Nat'l	N/A	Both	Philip Lysack
O.M. Scott & Sons 14111 Scottslawn Rd. Marysville, Ohio 43041 513-644-0011 Circle No 209	Fertilizer Plus	Chloropyrifos, Diazinon, Isofenphos Trichlorfon, Carbaryl	Nat'l	GTFR	Both	Joe Bell
Seacoast Laboratories P.O. Box 323 Dayton, N.J. 08810 800-522-4769 Circle No 210	Twin Light	Diazinon, Dursban, Dylox, Oftanol, Sevin	N'East, Mid-Atlantic	FR	G	Irv Baker, Bob Atkin

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Insecticide

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one of our products available for three years, and we recently received Environmental Protection Agency registration for the first dry flowable insecticide in the industry," said Dr. Mike Shaw, product technical manager in DowElanco's Turf and Ornamental Products. "We're continuing to look at packaging as an important issue in the 1990s."

Joe Prochaska, senior product manager in Ciba-Geigy's Turf and Ornamental Products group, agrees, but puts packaging under a larger heading: product stewardship.

"We're reviewing packaging, formulations and new application techniques as part of our role in the green industry to help it address environmental concerns," said Pro-

chaska. "We're also trying to supply more product information regarding timing and rates for our products."

This concern for product and environmental stewardship stems from the high visibility of the green industry, according to DowElanco's Shaw.

"Regulations are imposed on our industry that might not be placed on others because turf is in our backyards and at our golf courses," said Shaw.

The industry is making efforts to educate the public about its products and their benefits. "As an industry, we've tended to bury our heads in the sand when it comes to educating those outside the industry," said Shaw.

Chemical companies are also trying to be more pro-active by working closely with the EPA and staying aware of local restrictions.

"Federal registration is generally pretty

clear-cut," said Shaw. "Local registrations, where states impose inconsistent regulations, can be more difficult."

The cornerstone of the green industry's education process is research, according to Ciba-Geigy's Prochaska. Pennsylvania State

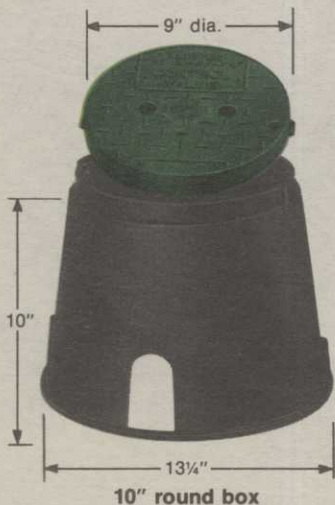
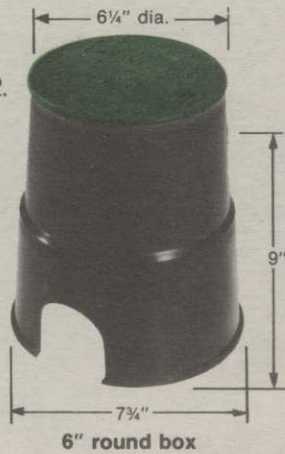
University's Dr. Tom Watschke, Cornell University's Dr. Marty Petrovic and others are working hard to show that lush, healthy turf actually benefits the environment. A solid research base will make educating the public much easier.

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