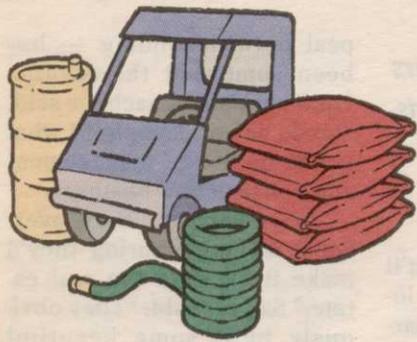


BRIEFS



PAPE NEW GM AT SEED RESEARCH

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Seed Research of Oregon, Inc., has announced the hiring of Tom Pape as general manager and Skip Lynch as national sales manager. Prior to joining the Seed Research staff, Lynch was a design coordinator with Jack Nicklaus Golf Services. Pape was previously president of Lely Pacific Inc. in Albany, Ore.

NEW FACES, PLACES AT YAMAHA

CYPRESS, Calif. — Michael Muetzel has been named the new national accounts manager for Yamaha Golf Cars. Before joining Yamaha, Muetzel was with North Coast Distributing company, a sales agent for Lake Erie Golf cars and one of Yamaha's dealers in Ohio. Appointed sales manager in 1982, he worked his way up to his most recent position of vice president of marketing.



Michael Muetzel

In other Yamaha news, J. Ronald Ryan has been appointed a regional sales manager for the Northeast. Ryan has extensive experience in the golf industry, both as a professional golfer and course manager. Prior to 1990, he was vice president of Sawtelle Borthers, Inc., a Massachusetts-based distributor of golf cars and turf equipment.



Ronald Ryan

PROMOTIONS AT ECI

CALABASAS, Calif. — Bruce Wilson, president of Environmental Care, Inc., recently announced promotions at ECI branches in Denver, San Diego and Jacksonville. In San Diego, Bob Rogers was named branch manager. Steve Ziraldo was named Denver branch manager after having served as operations manager since 1989. And Jan Cunningham was promoted to the position of branch manager in Jacksonville.

CONNALLY JOINS MILES

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Kevin Connally has joined the Agriculture Division of Miles Inc. as a sales representative for the division's line of specialty products used in the commercial lawn and pest control industries. Connally will cover New York City, Long Island and northern New Jersey. Prior to joining Miles, Connally was branch manager and trainer for Orkin Pest Control in Shelburn, Vt., and Queensbury, N.Y.

Ohio firm introduces pond-cleanup technology

By HAL PHILLIPS

A technique pioneered at a Maine country club appears to have resuscitated a seven-acre pond system that had been choked by years of pesticide build-up.

The innovative technique, called bioremediation, was applied by an Ohio firm specializing in acid mine drainage — the treatment of mine effluent laden with heavy metals. The Columbus-based Lambda Systems, Inc. had never before worked on a golf course project — that is, until Portland Country Club officials secured its service in 1989.

The ponds at Portland CC had been taken over by excessive cattail growth, to the exclusion of most other species. Wildlife that inhabited the pond's ecosystem had also been forced off. In December 1989, according to Lambda's Jo Davison, soil and water samples indicated toxic levels of lead, mercury and arsenate, as well as high levels of other heavy metals and sulfates.

In a balanced micro-ecosystem, you have producers (algae, for example), consumers (which eat producers) and decomposers (fungus and bacteria that break down dead consumers and producers).

"This is the most efficient recycling system in the world," Davison explained. "It's a circle, and if one link in the circle breaks



The pond system at Portland Country Club was choked with cattails (see photo above) and nearly bereft of wildlife before Lambda arrived. After the BIO-CARB treatment, flora and fauna returned (see photo at left).

down, the circle dies. This is what happened in Portland. The ecosystem was out of balance."

Portland CC officials had a few choices: They could remove the pond bed (at great cost), fill it, or incinerate it under special conditions.

Instead, club elders opted for

bioremediation: the introduction of microorganisms and bacteria which are encouraged to multiply, consume the toxic material, then disposed of it through the digestive process. Only organisms indigenous to the area are applied.

Lambda calls this the BIO-CARB pro-

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Gator Pumping Systems bought by SyncroFlo

NORCROSS, Ga. — In a move that places it among the largest pre-packaged pumping system suppliers to the irrigation market, SyncroFlo has announced the purchase of Gator Pumping Modules (GPM).

The purchase includes rights to the GPM models ideally suited for smaller landscape applications.

"The GPM purchase complements our existing large and small designs," according to David Hanson, SyncroFlo president. "We can now support virtually any market requirement for both new and upgrade irrigation systems."

SyncroFlo also gained significant distribution for all SyncroFlo irrigation pumping system products in south Georgia and Florida by signing an exclusive distribution agreement with Florida Irrigation Supply, one of the largest single suppliers of systems to the Florida golf industry.

For more information, contact David Thraikill at 1-800-886-4443; or write SyncroFlo, 6700 Best Friend Road, Norcross, Ga., 30071.

Golf Course News marketing conference set for Oct. 4-6

CHICAGO — Speakers have been announced for "Marketing to Golf Course Facilities," a seminar sponsored by *Golf Course News*, scheduled for Oct. 4-6, at Oak Brook Hills Hotel and Resort in Oak Brook, Ill. Suppliers of products and services to golf facilities should plan to attend.

The program includes a panel discussion, "Supers Buying Habits," featuring Tim Hiers from John's Island Club in Vero Beach, Fla., and Dave Fearis from Blue Hills Country Club in Kansas City.

Other speakers include Tom Gorman, president of CCI-Asia Pacific Ltd.; S. Susan Calhoun, marketing manager at O.M. Scott Co.; David Heegard, area sales manager for O.M. Scott Co.; Dr. Mike Hurdzan, president of Hurdzan Design Group; Ron Garl, president of Ron Garl Associates; Paul Eldredge, president of Wadsworth Golf Construction Co.; Allen James, executive director of Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment; Mac McIntosh of the Mac McIntosh Co.; and Scott Johnson, business manager of Chipco Specialty at Rhone-Poulenc.

"The repeat of this successful program is due to the positive response from last year's attendees," according to Charles von Brecht, publisher of *Golf Course News* and seminar program chair. "This year's program will provide attendees with critical information to help them market their products and services."

The program is designed for CEOs, sales/marketing vice presidents and directors, sales managers, and marketing

communication managers in companies who offer products and services for golf course facilities. The program is also aimed at advertising media directors or account representatives for producers of chemicals, commercial mowing equipment, golf course accessories, golf carts, utility vehicles, irrigation equipment, seed and sod. Distributors and other suppliers to golf course facilities are also urged to attend.

For more information, call the *Golf Course News* conference group at 207-846-0600.

Inaugural Pan-Pacific show hailed as a hit

HONOLULU — The first annual Pan Pacific Green Industry Conference and Trade Show drew 200 booth holders to the Neal S. Blaisdell Center here in July, whetting the appetites of show organizers for next year.

"It was a huge show for over here," explained Karen Vento, executive director of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii, which sponsored the event. "It was a great show, really too big for the facility."

Vento estimated that half of the 200 exhibitors belonged to the development or maintenance side of the golf industry, though the proceedings were still being audited

Continued on page 32

Fertilizer Institute forms retail task force

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Fertilizer Institute has established the Retail Compliance Task Force, part of TFI's Retail Business Council, to help retail fertilizer and agriculture chemical retail dealers comply with the "morass of regulations."

The task force is composed of compliance specialists in the retail sector and will provide a forum for sharing information among the entire retail community.

Other goals for the task force include: identification of re-

source experts who can help dealers in various regulatory areas, establishment of a database of regulations that will be made available to retail dealers, cooperation with state associations to develop resources that are state-specific and to provide guidance to TFI staff in formulating responses to federal regulators.

"It is widely recognized that regulators write and enforce regulations based upon the 'least common denominator,' or the worst case to be found," said TFI Retail

Business Council Chairman Mike Hochgesang. "For this reason, the entire industry benefits from efforts like this to help all dealers identify compliance issues and provide the information needed to comply."

"Compliance has become the number-one concern of many dealers today," said TFI President Gary D. Myers. "This task force will help retailers pool their resources in an attempt to keep up with the ever-changing compliance landscape."

Pond-cleanup technology pioneered

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cess (patent pending), and it worked in Maine.

At first, Portland CC commissioned a study from Lambda, which concluded the toxic materials were present as a result of an excessive build-up of pesticides, herbicides and fungicide residue, Davison explained. After seven months of evaluation — which included the establishment and test treatment of mirror site conditions — the BIO-CARB process was applied on Aug. 6, 1990.

Three-and-a-half tons of activated charcoal — wrapped in burlap sacks and loaded with indigenous micro-organisms and bacteria — were applied in and around the pond system at a cost of \$35,000.

"Nobody even knew we were treating the site," said Davison. "I think they were running a women's tournament at the time."

After a month, levels of lead, mercury, arsenate, cyanide and toxins were reduced to drinking-water standards. The water's pH level, which had stood as low as 4.5, was raised to 7.5 and remains there to this day. New plants have replaced the receding cattails and wildlife has returned, as evi-

denced by nesting communities in the area.

"Now that the micro-ecosystem has been staightened out, the macro-ecosystem — fish, flora, fauna — can come back. And it has come back," said Davison. "And I think we saved them \$60 to \$80,000."

Superintendent Pat Lewis, who oversaw the BIO-CARB application, confirmed that application of the process didn't disrupt life at Portland CC one iota.

"At this point we're cautiously optimistic," said Lewis. "We'll need another summer or two to know whether there will be lasting change."

Lewis arrived at PCC well after the pesticide damage had been done — indeed Lewis is recognized by his peers as one of the most environmentally-conscious superintendents in the country.

"Nobody deliberately created a problem there in Portland," said Davison. "But after 125 years, you're going to deplete parts of the system."

"Pat Lewis deserves a lot of credit. He took the steps, he did it right, and should be praised for it."

Ransomes offers leasing program

Ransomes America Corporation has formed Ransomes America Credit Corporation, a financial service company designed to provide new leasing programs for Ransomes' product lines.

This program is designed to enable Ransomes' distributors to offer creative payment options and alternative financing for Ransomes' products, including Ransomes, Cushman, Ryan, Supreme and Steiner.

With this program,

Ransomes distributors will have access to a marketing specialist who will assist on individual transactions. Other aspects of the program, designed to enhance customer service and convenience, include a distributor/dealer hotline, application fax line, 72-hour application feedback in most cases, and individually designed programs.

For more information, call Ransomes America at 402-475-9581.

Pan-Pacific show

Continued from page 30

when *Golf Course News* went to press. The 1993 Show shouldn't have any space problems, as it will be held at the larger Sheraton Waikiki, Sept. 1-3.

The Landscape Industry Council is composed of many green industry participants, including the American Society of Landscape Architects, Hawaiian chapter and the Hawaiian GCSA.

For early information on the 1993 show, contact Dave Klawitter at 1-808-841-3305.



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