

RISE meeting

Continued from page 1

"We're very supportive of her willingness to talk, and she seems to be willing to listen to our viewpoints," said James. "However, she has, on numerous occasions, said it is the job of EPA to reduce the use of pesticides to ensure the safety of the American public. We don't agree with that. We feel the public is already safe and an arbitrary reduction is not in the best interest of the American people or the environment."

Indeed, on the issue of pesticide reduction, the Clinton Administration has presented a united front of sorts. The EPA, the U.S. Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture have all taken rigid positions on pesticide use. As James noted, this is the first time any administration has so publicly attacked pesticide use, in official concert.

However, as the Clinton Administration settles into the nation's capital, RISE begins its third year with significant victories in hand.

Thirty-five states have passed federal pre-emption statutes, which make it impossible for states or municipalities to ban chemicals okayed by the federal EPA.

Yet the effectiveness of RISE campaigns must be measured against its relative immaturity. Trade associations often spend years gathering enough strength to make a difference, but RISE has made an immediate impact.

"I would say that we have matured very rapidly," said James. "Our strength has been the willingness of member companies to get involved at a high level. And most often it has been a great number of people within the same company, which is unusual."

"There was a core group of companies and people who worked very hard to get RISE up and running, but we've had hundreds of people from many more companies who've become deeply involved. Furthermore, no one company has tried to micro-manage the process."

James said RISE now represents about 50 percent of the companies in the chemical industry — a phenomenal achievement in just 24 months. However, there is still work to be done: RISE cannot claim 50 percent of the firms in the vegetation management field, and a large number of distributors in the pest control market are not yet on board, he said.

Down the road, James said RISE will concentrate on more state-oriented issues, including the movement to restrict spraying of herbicides on rights of way. Also on the horizon is a battle over spraying restrictions on school grounds and public places.

"These issues may not hit as close to home with a golf course superintendent as pre-emption," said James, "but they are rigid and adverse to the industry as a whole. If you ban spraying on rights of way, it makes sense they might try to ban it on golf courses."

GOLF COURSE NEWS

BEST SAND NOW SHIPPING THRU REGIONAL TERMINALS

CHARDON, Ohio—Best Sand Corp. is now shipping bunker sand mined from its quarry here through seven regional terminals. The newest shipping terminal is located in Cincinnati, with others located in Chicago, Detroit, Louisville, St. Louis and Port Colborne and Port Stanley, Ont., Canada.

Sand for each terminal is mined from the same company-owned quarry.

Dakota provides the blenders and expertise

Continued from page 31

said he saved "in the neighborhood of \$100,000 as compared to buying a mix."

Hengel's savings were enhanced by the fact his sand was on-site. But he added: "If you have to buy the sand, you will still save a lot, and it's far superior to bucket blending. It's much more scientifically accurate."

Dakota Peat & Blender representatives provide technical assistance and calibrate the blender.

After one day of training,

Hengel's crew mixed 11,000 yards, or 14,000 tons of material. Dr. Norm Hummel of Cornell University, who authored the new U.S. Golf Association greens specifications, tested the mix 14 times — and the tests were acceptable from beginning to end, Hengel said.

"The most critical part is having it tested as the calibrations are done," he said.

"People say blending is so difficult. Hengel and his staff blended it. Dr. Hummel quality-controlled the mix and found they were right

on the money," Pierce said.

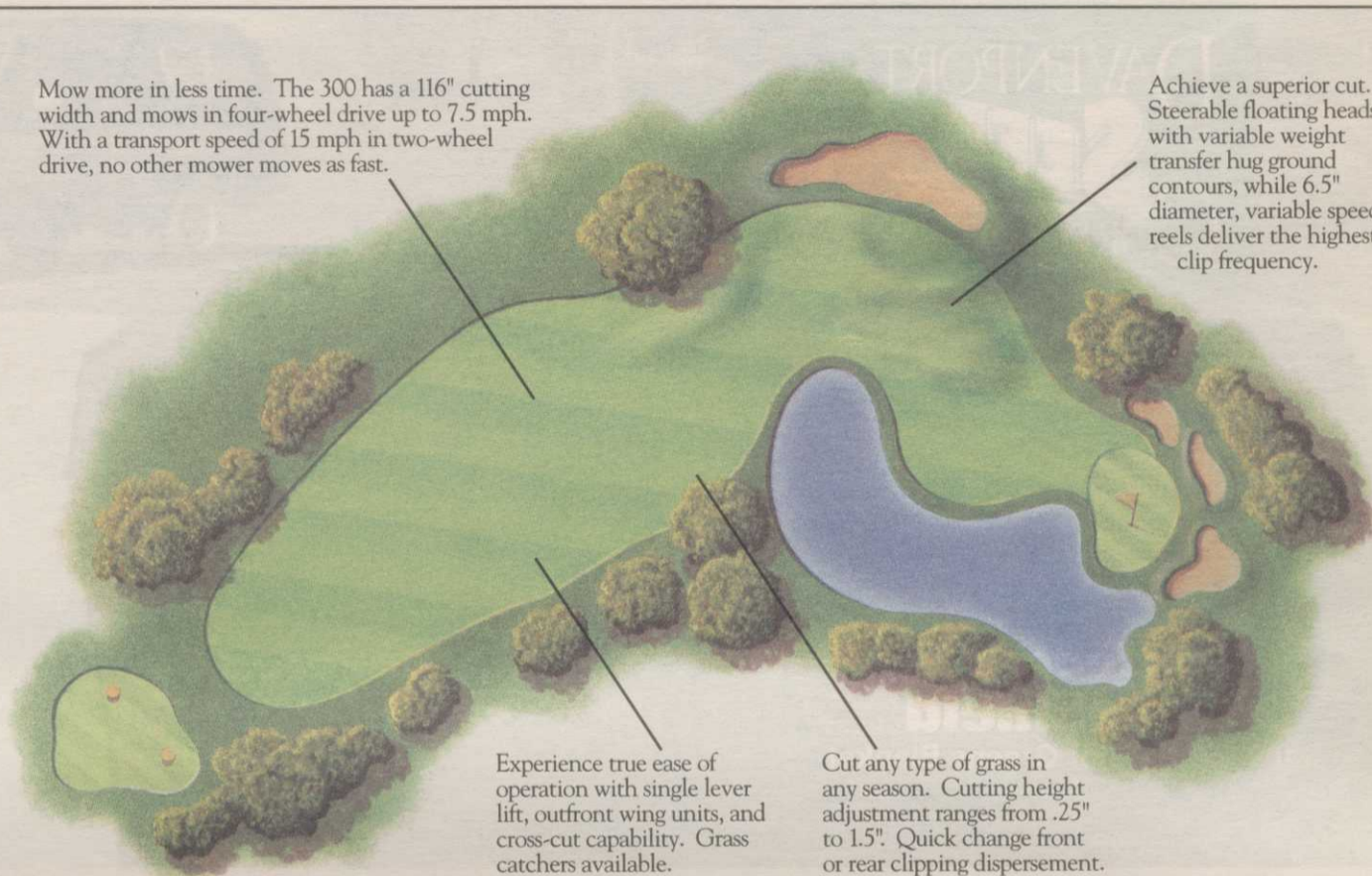
Deliveries are nationwide and the transportation cost is figured into the per-ton figure. A minimum 5,000 tons must be blended.

The Model 2200 meters and mixes peat, sand and two types of fertilizer or chemicals; then stockpiles or loads the mix directly into trucks.

Dakota equipment and peat dealers can be contacted concerning the rental, or people may contact Kevin Kylo at the Grand Forks headquarters at 701-746-4300.

Mow more in less time. The 300 has a 116" cutting width and mows in four-wheel drive up to 7.5 mph. With a transport speed of 15 mph in two-wheel drive, no other mower moves as fast.

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Cut any type of grass in any season. Cutting height adjustment ranges from .25" to 1.5". Quick change front or rear clipping dispersement.

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No other fairway mower can match the combined quality of cut and production capabilities of the new Ransomes 300. In fact, the 300 is the industry's only "right" weight, fine-cut, four-wheel drive fairway mower. It's a master class machine that out cuts, out powers, outperforms and outlasts the competition.

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