

## Hobbie named Ransomes America sales manager

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Ransomes America Corp. has named Ron Hobbie national accounts manager for the company's Turf Products and Industrial Products Divisions.

Meanwhile, Mike Johns has been reassigned as territory manager and John Chiera has been hired as a territory manager. Both Chiera and Johns will work in the Turf Products Division.

As national accounts manager, Ron Hobbie will oversee servicing of existing accounts, as well as selected professional lawn care accounts. He will also work closely with territory managers to identify and develop pricing programs

for new national accounts.

In his new position, Johns will handle sales responsibilities for the south central region of the United States. He will also handle selected key industrial accounts in the U.S. and Mexico.

As a turf products specialist, Chiera's responsibilities will include the distribution of Cushman, Ransomes and Ryan products throughout the north-east area of the U.S.

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Ransomes America Corporation has opened a new training center at the company's Lincoln, Neb., manufacturing facility. The center offers service training ses-

sions on turf, professional lawn care and industrial and commercial equipment from the Cushman, Ransomes and Ryan product lines.

Held 15 times a year from October to March, most training sessions last 4 1/2 days and focus on specific pieces of equipment like the Ransomes 300 fairway mower or the Cushman Haulster utility vehicle. The "service schools" range in size from 12 to 15 people. Typical attendees include Ransomes America Corporation industrial and turf dealer service personnel along with equipment maintenance mechanics from golf courses.

Service training sessions usu-



Mike Johns

Ron Hobbie

ally include tear down, rebuilding and adjustments of various power units, drivetrains, hydraulic systems on mowers, utility vehicles and aerators. Information on day-to-day maintenance is also reviewed.

For more information on Ransomes America Corporation's training center, contact Ransomes America Corporation, P.O. Box 82409, Lincoln, Neb. 68501; 800-228-4444.

## ASPA descends on Newport for convention

NEWPORT, R.I. — Sod related exhibits and equipment demonstrations will be featured at the American Sod Producers Association (ASPA) 1994 Summer Convention & Field Days, July 27-29, here at the Newport Islander Doubletree Hotel.

The convention will begin on July 27, with committee meetings, the ASPA annual business meeting, and an educational program, all held at the Newport Islander Doubletree. A New England clam bake, hosted at Sodco, Inc. in Slocum, R.I., will be held that night and will feature open exhibit displays, dining and entertainment. July 28, will be highlighted by observation of the third annual ASPA seed test plots July 29 is four-day.

For further information regarding the 1994 ASPA Summer Convention and Field Days, contact: Tom Ford, ASPA, 1855-A Hicks Road, Rolling Meadows, Illinois, 60008; or call 708-705-989; or fax 708-705-8347.



Maureen Thompson

## CelPril adds to presence in West

CelPril, a surveyor of seed coatings and seed enhancements, has bolstered its marketing representation in the western U.S. by adding a seed and crop chemical marketing professional, Maureen Thompson.

Thompson has served as a district sales manager for Funk Seeds International, an area sales representative marketing agricultural chemicals for Farmers Marketing Corp., and a sales representative for the Gowan Company in Arizona which markets and distributes agricultural chemicals.

She will be responsible for sales and marketing of CelPril products in Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and New Mexico.

In addition, Joe D. Burns, professor emeritus, Plant and Soil Science, University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, has joined CelPril as special research and marketing associate. Burns will also work with the agricultural extension service and its county agents in addition to serving as CelPril's national university liaison.



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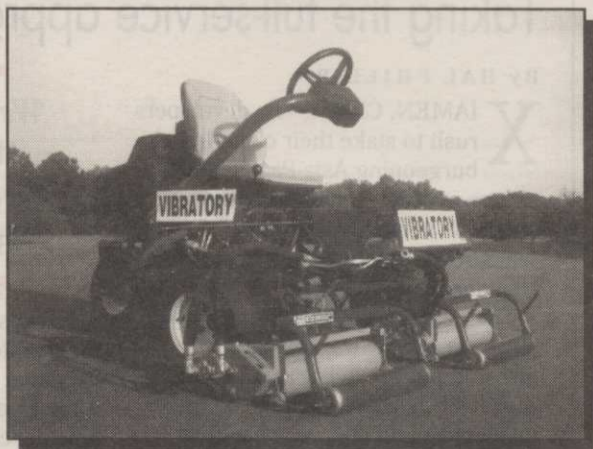
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