

BRIEFS



YUST JOINS PRECISION LABS

Precision Laboratories, Inc., Northbrook, Ill., has announced the appointment of Allan Yust to sales and marketing manager of its Turf and Ornamental, IVM Products Division. Yust previously held the position of specialties product marketing manager for DowElanco of Indianapolis, Ind.

NESTMA SHOW AUG. 9

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — The New England Sports Turf Managers Association (NESTMA), in cooperation with the University of Massachusetts Extension and Western New England College (WNEC), will conduct its 4th Annual Athletic Turf Field Day, Aug. 9 at WNEC. NESTMA's annual meeting and elections will be held in addition to demonstrations on irrigation, top dressing and infield grooming.

JOHN T. VAN WINKLE, 47

John T. Van Winkle, 47, of Springfield, Mo. — long-time sales manager for Champion Turf Equipment — passed away May 24, at his home following a battle with ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease. Memorial contributions may be made to the ALS Association, Keith Worthington Chapter, 8340 Mission Rd., Suite B-4, Prairie Village, KS 66206; or the Hospice of SW Missouri, Inc., 3653 South Ave., Springfield, MO 65807.

FURZE LEAVES VIGORO FOR PURSELL

SYLACAUGA, Ala. — Pursell Industries, Inc., the manufacturer of coated controlled-release fertilizer, has announced the employment of Gary Furze, formerly vice president of sales and marketing of Vigoro Industries Professional Products Division. Furze will eventually relocate to the Pacific Northwest, heading up Pursell's horticulture and specialty agriculture sales effort, mainly based around Pursell's patented Polyon technology.



Gary Furze

TORO MAKES AUDUBON DONATION

SELKIRK, N.Y. — At Audubon Society of New York State's headquarters here at Hollyhock Hollow, Toro has donated a 16 hp twin-cylinder hydrostatic mower with recycling deck and 10-cubic-foot dumpcart. The mower was donated by The Toro Co. along with co-contributor The Grassland Equipment and Irrigation Corp. of Latham, N.Y.

EPA settles on nat'l emissions standards for small engines

By HAL PHILLIPS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Small engines may cost \$5 to \$7 more to manufacture come 1997, when the federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new regulations on small-engine emissions take effect.

The EPA has finalized the first national set of regulations affecting small, gasoline-powered engines used primarily in the turf and lawn & garden industries. Under the new guidelines, all small engines — anything at or below 19 kilowatts (about 25 horsepower) — manufactured after Jan. 1, 1997, are expected to conform. EPA expects the new guidelines will result in a 32-percent reduction in hydrocarbon emissions and a 7-percent reduction in carbon monoxide emissions.

"This goal was announced in the Clean Air Act amendments of 1990," explained EPA Environmental Scientist Mary Walsh. "We had a timetable whereby these changes had to be completed by a certain time. This rule change was delayed for a while, but eventually there was a lawsuit brought by the Sierra Club which furthered things along."

Repercussions in the golf industry will be widespread, as the engines used in mowers, utility vehicles, hand-held blowers and trimmers, golf cars and pumps among others will be expected to fall in line. According to Walsh, the \$5 to \$7 increase will represent a 2-percent cost hike for non-hand-held equipment (6 percent for hand-held) relative to current production costs.

All those engines produced for the 1997 model year must comply. All existing inventory is grandfathered and, "As long as there is no evidence of stockpiling of

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NGF buying program attracts second firm

JUPITER, Fla. — Scorecard Plus, which specializes in custom-designed booklets that serve as both yardage guides and scorecards, has become the second company to join the National Golf Foundation's (NGF) "Advantage Buying Program" which the NGF is developing for its golf facility members to provide exclusive discounts from preferred suppliers of golf products and services. As a result of the partnership with Scorecard Plus, NGF facility members can annually receive a year's supply of advertising-supported booklets free of charge, a potential savings of \$1,250 per facility, per year. The Miami-based Thor Guard Co., which developed a lightning prediction system, was the first member of the NGF's new program. For more information on the NGF's "Advantage Buying Program" call 407-744-6006.



NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

The makers of Verti-Drain have introduced the Verti-Brush, a machine incorporating a new technology (patent pending) for brushing sand into aeration holes. Unlike rotating or reciprocating brushes, the open helix-pitch Verti-Brush picks up the sand and forcefully disperses it over the surface. The unit weighs 220 pounds and has a working width of six feet. Power required at 540 rpm is approximately 6 hp. For more information, call Emrex — national distributor for Verti-Drain and Verti-Brush — at 717-288-9360. For more new products, see page 42.

Nicholson to direct Mid-America show; Groth re-elected

CHICAGO — Bliss Nicholson, of the Wisconsin-based Bruce Co. has been appointed to a three-year term as a director of the Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show.

Nicholson, of Middleton, Wis., will represent the Wisconsin Landscape Federation, succeeding Paul Swartz, who had served for 21 years.

Peter Grathoff of Thornapple Landscape Maintenance in Geneva, Ill., was reappointed to a fourth term on the board representing the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association.

The eight member board is composed of representatives from Mid-Am's three sponsoring associations — Illinois Landscape Contractors Association, Illinois Nurserymen's Association, and Wisconsin Landscape Federation.

In addition, the board re-elected Don Groth of Don Groth Landscap-



ing, Greenfield, Wis., as president; Thomas Hoerr of Green view Companies, Inc., Dunlap, Ill., as vice-president; Platt Hill of Platt Hill Nursery, Bloomingdale, Ill., as secretary; and Frank Mariani of Mariani Landscape, Lake Bluff, Ill., as treasurer.

Along with its three sponsors, Mid-Am is endorsed by the Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association, the Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association, and the Nebraska Association of Nurserymen. For more information contact Mid-Am at 1000 N. Rand Road, Suite 214, Wauconda, Ill. 60084; or call 708-526-2010.

RISE NOTEBOOK

RISE Annual Meeting scheduled for Sept.

ARLINGTON, Va. — Sporting the theme, "Stewardship in Action," the RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) Annual Meeting will be held here Sept. 7-10, at The Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, just outside Washington, D.C.

The deadline for hotel reservations and early registration is Aug. 16. For more information on the meeting and RISE membership, contact Executive Director Allen James at 202-872-3860.

Through its various committees, members of the specialty chemical trade association will collectively concentrate on several issues during the September conclave:

- cooperation with federal representatives and agencies to assure fair and appropriate legislation and regulation;
 - learning successful environmental stewardship programs;
 - Becoming personally involved with efforts to promote stewardship in the specialty chemical industry;
 - addressing issues as an industry united.
- Other highlights will include comments

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EPA alleges FIFRA violations by DuPont

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a civil administrative complaint to E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (DuPont) of Wilmington, Del., for alleged violations of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

In a 24-count complaint, EPA has alleged that DuPont violated FIFRA by selling and distributing three Benlate (benomyl) fungicide products that differ chemically from the original formula the company had registered with the agency, according to EPA spokesperson Gwendolyn Brown. FIFRA prohibits the sale and or distribution of any registered pesticide in which the composition, at the time of sale or distribution, differs from its composition as described in the statement required in connection with its registration.

"They have requested a hearing," said EPA attorney Jim Chen. "Whenever a judge gets assigned, the hearing will go forward. It could be several months, up to a year. In the meantime, I expect the DuPont attorney to file a series of motions."

The three products in question are Benlate 50 DF (dry flowable) Fungicide, Olympic Benomyl 50 DF and DuPont Benlate Fungicide. The complaint proposes a penalty assessment of \$120,000. Prior to its November 1992 corporate statement that none of the plant damage was due to use of Benlate, the company paid approximately \$500 million to growers to settle Benlate related damage claims, said Brown.

The EPA has issued its FY 1994 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Accomplishments Report, which highlights major policies in addition to national, regional and state enforcement/compliance initiatives. It also summarizes significant cases and provides aggregate statistics on enforcement action and penalties. The report is available from EPA by calling 202-260-2080.

EPA emissions

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uncertified engines, there should be no problem," said Walsh.

The phrase, "As California goes, so goes the country," holds here. Two years ago, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) passed emissions standards widely perceived to be ahead of the regulatory curve. Though golf cars received a short extension, all turf-industry equipment used in California is also required by law to switch over to more fuel-efficient, cleaner-burning engines by Jan. 1, 1997.

Now the whole country will be forced to similarly conform. The only difference between the CARB regulations and those mandated by federal EPA concerns hand-held machinery (EPA considers something hand-held if it is carried by the operator throughout its use or it's used in "multiple orientations"; CARB requires hand-held machinery to meet both criteria).

The EPA arrived at the new guidelines after soliciting input from a number of firms and trade associations in the small-engine market. Those connected to the golf course industry included Briggs & Stratton Corp., CARB, Echo Inc., the Engine Manufacturers Association, American Honda Motor Co., Kohler Co., Kubota Corp., the North American Equipment Dealers Association, and The Toro Co.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Golf Course Marketplace

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