

BRIEFS



**TURFLINE SECURES VIBRATORY PATENT**

ST. CHARLES, Mo. — Turflin, Inc., the manufacturer of the True-Surface(r) Greens Rolling System, has been awarded a patent for the company's vibratory greens roller by the U.S. Patent Office. The patent was issued in 1992 and the rollers can now be found on courses in the U.S. and overseas. The True-Surface(r) system incorporates an unbalanced center shaft with an eccentric flyweight to create the needed movement of the outer roller, designed to result in a truer, faster putting surface. For more information, contact the firm at 1-800-443-8506.

**BOWLER TO STAFF SEAL'S A-P OFFICE**

KUALA LUMPUR — National Seal Co. will open a new sales office here in an effort to target the expanding Asia-Pacific environmental market. National Seal sees particular opportunity in Taiwan, Australia, Thailand and the Philippines, where rapid growth in the environmental industry has spurred interest in these types of containment systems, according to Mike Bowler, vice president of Asia-Pacific operations. For more information, phone the U.S. office at 708-898-1161.



Mike Bowler

**EP AERATION SCORES AT PGA WEST**

LA QUINTA, Calif. — E.P. Aeration has announced that eight of its EP LK series sub-surface activated oxygen aeration systems have been installed at the new Tom Weiskopf-designed course here at the PGA West complex. The systems, which will treat three lakes at the course, were specified and selected by Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering, based in Huntington Beach, Calif. The lakes were constructed by Living Waters of Brea, Calif.

**GREENSCAPE EXPANDS, RELOCATES**

CARROLLTON, Texas — Greenscape Pump Services, Inc. has announced the expansion and relocation of its main offices here. The new address is 1425 Whitlock Lane, Suite 108, Carrollton, Texas, 75006; phone — 214-446-0037; fax — 214-446-0313. Greenscape has also opened a new branch San Antonio office, which can be reached by writing 11031 Wye Drive, Suite 102, San Antonio, Texas, 78217; calling 210-590-9577; or faxing 210-590-9066.

# Chemical firms brace for MCS P.R. struggle

By HAL PHILLIPS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — It's called MCS, short for multiple chemical sensitivity. No one is sure what causes MCS, how to prevent it, or whether there's actually anything to prevent. However, the specialty chemical industry is shoring up its scientific flanks in anticipation of a public relations struggle.

The phenomenon of MCS — a condition of ill health allegedly induced by reactions to household and workplace chemicals — has prompted an upcoming conference, "Multiple Chemical Sensitivities: State of the Science Symposium," scheduled for Oct. 30 to Nov. 1 in Baltimore. The event is co-sponsored by the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology & Pharmacology, the Johns Hopkins University Educational Resource Center and the National Medical Advisory Service, Inc.

MCS also commanded a great deal of attention at the RISE Annual Meeting, held here in September. RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment) — a trade association and lobbying group representing more than 120 members of the specialty chemical industry — has taken a position consistent with the nation's mainstream medical community: That MCS is essentially a psychological affliction.

Nevertheless, RISE devoted an entire morning's education session to MCS, a disorder not recognized by mainstream toxicologists but one that has garnered increased public exposure in the courts, in Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) facilities, even in the nation's movie theaters. RISE members also heard from representatives of the Environmental Sensitivities Research Institute (ESRI), a group trying to inject more science into the debate.

"The broader issue of MCS affects the

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contingent representing Europe and Asia-Pacific, traveled to Deere headquarters in order to evaluate and critique the firm's product lines. During testing and neighboring Pinnacle CC, green, fairway and rough mowers were all evaluated, in addition to utility vehicles and a number of concept machines.



Bob Sumner photos

**FEEDBACK '95 IN MOLINE**

More than 800 golf course industry experts, 550 of them superintendents, descended on Moline, Ill., in late August for John Deere's annual Feedback '95. Five different groups from the United States and Canada, plus a

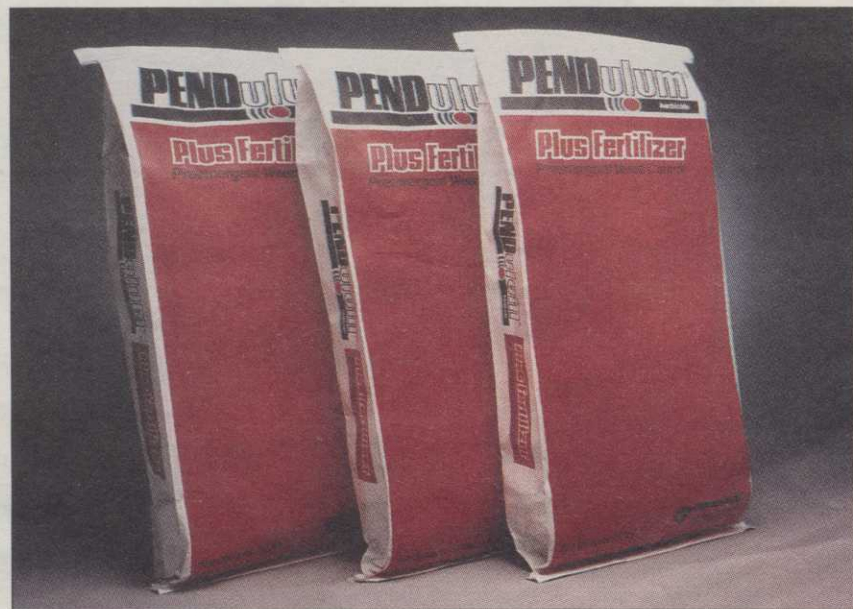
# HCC wins patent suit for Dig-it knockoff

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Spancrete Machinery Corp. of Milwaukee, Wis., has been awarded an undisclosed sum in financial damages from RH&M Machine Co. of Morgantown, W.Va., for the infringement of U.S. Patent No. 4,925,358, covering a towable backhoe marketed under the trade name, Dig-it.

The ruling, issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, also orders RH&M to discontinue sale of the infringing backhoe

which it had designated as the Gopher Digger II.

The jury's infringement verdict had been reached in December of 1992 but had been stalled when the trial court overturned the verdict on technical grounds. The original verdict of infringement has since been reinstated by the court of appeals for the Federal Court. Dig-it products are currently marketed and manufactured by HCC, Inc. of Mendota, Ill.



**NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH**

American Cyanamid has brought golf course superintendents the convenience of pre-emergent herbicides and fertilizer in one product with Pendulum Plus Fertilizer, formulated to provide control of most annual grasses and many broadleaf weeds found in turfgrass. Pendulum Plus is a granular product and can be applied with most commercially available spreaders. It will be available in early 1996. For more information on Pendulum Plus Fertilizer, call 201-831-387. For more new products, see page 42.

# American Cyanamid, Rohm & Haas join forces on insecticide

American Cyanamid Co. and Rohm and Haas Co. have announced the formation of RohMid L.L.C., a marketing and sales joint venture to develop, register and commercialize a new insecticide, RH-0345, for the U.S. turf and ornamental market.

According to Janet Giesselman, Turf and Ornamental products manager for Rohm and Haas, and Tom Perkins, Ph.D., business manager, Turf, Ornamental and Pest Control Products at American Cyanamid, both firms have expertise in developing molting accelerator compounds (MACs) for the 2.2 million acre U.S. turf market. The formation of RohMid allows the companies to share the costs of developing a new insecticide and to expedite the development of data needed to register the product with regulatory authorities.

RohMid hopes that the Environmental Protection Agency will grant a registra-

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## Gill acquired by Woods Equipment

OREGON, Ill. — Woods Equipment Co. has acquired the assets of Gill Manufacturing Co., L.P. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Based in Charlotte, N.C., Gill is a manufacturer and marketer of landscaping products to dealers primarily located in the Eastern and Southeastern regions of the U.S. Core products include pulverizers, turf renovators, seeders, core plug aerators, landscape rakes, and spreaders. The integration of these products broadens the spectrum of Woods'

Turf and Grounds Care Business.

As the third acquisition for Woods in the past twelve months, Gill joins the ranks of other brands that comprise the Woods product offering. In July 1994, Woods expanded into the industrial/construction attachment market with the acquisition of Gannon Manufacturing.

The addition of Alloway Manufacturing in November 1994 reinforced the commitment to provide agricultural dealers with a brand of specialty agricultural attachments.

## Netlon secures Minn. distributor

BLAINE, Minn. — The Glen Rehbein Companies, headquartered here, have joined the Netlon Limited North America distributor network. The network centers on providing the patented Netlon Advanced Turf system, which incorporates small, interlocking polypropylene mesh elements with a free-draining rootzone medium covered by natural grass. The system is designed to relieve surface pressure.

The Glen Rehbein Companies include Glen Rehbein Excavating, which handles golf course construction, and Glen Rehbein Farms, which maintains two sod farms, a major installation of Strath Ayr SquAyr, and a washed-turf system. Glen Rehbein Farms can be reached by calling 612-674-7937. For the Netlon distributor nearest you, contact Stephen Guise at 714-578-0215.

## MCS campaign

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entire pesticide industry, including golf courses, because the ultimate solution in terms of believers of MCS is non-use of the offending pesticide," explained RISE Executive Director Allen James.

"In reality, the issue is not that big. That's not the reality. However, for more specific uses like golf courses, there more might be more local reactions. Neighbors might object to the uses of certain chemicals under the aegis MCS, saying they were supersensitive to pesticides."

MCS has gained momentum in recent years as an increasing number of people have sued employers, citing adverse physical reactions to the chemicals used in pest control products, paint and lawn applications. In California's Marin County, HUD recently financed construction of the ultimate "safe house," built and maintained with nothing that might be deemed chemically volatile — paint, pesticides or certain polymers. Even an EPA building here in Washington has been singled out as chemically "unsafe," owing to allegedly toxic carpet glue.

Hollywood has entered the fray with "Safe," an art house film that documents an affluent housewife's bout with mysterious symptoms she believes are caused by chemical aspects of her environmental. Though the film makes clear the housewife's problems are primarily psychological, industry representatives and groups like RISE and ESRI fear the stampede of public opinion may legitimize the mysterious disorder.

"There's a harassment factor here," James explained. "Many proponents of MCS will simply harass the users of a particular chemical until the users simply cannot fight it anymore. We haven't seen it on golf courses yet, but we've seen it in other areas, like homeowners associations."

For more information on "Multiple Chemical Sensitivities: State of the Science Symposium," contact the symposium coordinator at 301-230-6553. For more information on the ESRI, call 301-984-8933.

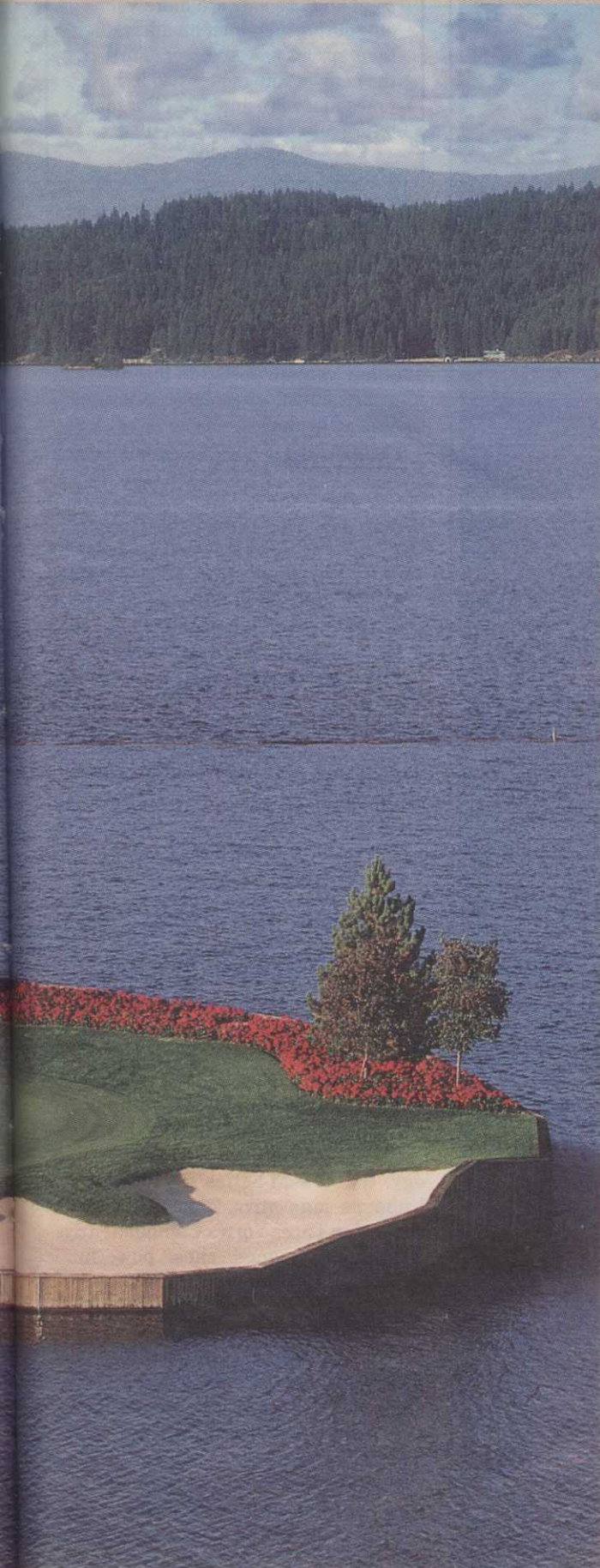
## Insecticide coop

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tion for the insecticide in the U.S. by early 1997.

RH-0345 is a diacylhydrazine insecticide that controls grubs and other soil-borne pests on golf courses, industrial parks, home lawns, and other turf applications. This compound (benzoic acid, 4-chloro-, 2-benzoyl-2-(1,1-dimethylethyl) hydrazide) has a unique mode of action that interferes with the normal molting process of grubs and caterpillars.

RH-0345 can be applied at low use rates, without harm to earthworms, honeybees or other beneficial insects.



14th green, The Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

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