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## Verti-drain suit

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ment would have required a separate action, which Redexim didn't care to pursue, said Otto. Consequently, Redexim served counter claims on July 14.

"The fact that it's a countersuit is a technicality," said Otto. "Basically what it means is, Southern Green saw it coming and tried to take an aggressive stance by suing first.

"[The Soil Reliever] is a knock-off as far as we're concerned. There are some differences but we don't think it's as good... They admitted, when we talked to them, that they wouldn't have had the idea if they hadn't worked for us.

"The real problem is, there's confusion in the marketplace. Among the distributors on the front lines, it's getting pretty ugly. We welcome competition in the industry. It's a just a question of how that competition develops.

In a statement, Redexim stated the countersuit reflects Redexim's philosophy to vigorously defend and protect its investments in the development of innovative and patented technology, and to protect related proprietary rights. In recent litigation in Germany, Redexim was awarded damages for patent infringement under the European counterpart of Redexim's United States patent on deeptine aerification machines.