

ProStar 70WP contains 40% more active ingredient

AgrEvo has announced that its new formulation ProStar 70WP Fungicide Contains 40 percent more active ingredient than its original ProStar 50WP formulation. According to George Raymond, Marketing Manager, AgrEvo Green Industry, the higher concentration of active ingredient in ProStar 70WP results in the need for less product to achieve the same effective control and smaller-sized packaging.

Additionally, Raymond said, ProStar 70WP Fungicide contains 38 percent less carrier and more wetting agents and dispersants, which enhance fungicide distribution and ease of use.

The company said that these properties make ProStar 70WP easier to mix and handle, with the same effectiveness at use rates as low as 1.5 ounces per 1000 square feet. For more information, contact 302-892-3000.

CIRCLE #201

Biobarrier ready with Root Control

Biobarrier's new Root Control System prevents roots from damaging hardscapes and landscapes by re-directing their growth. Installed between tree roots and the area to be protected.

Biobarrier is a geotextile landscape fabric with permanently embedded nodules. Biobarrier will fit the contours of the site and can be used along a sidewalk to maximize the soil space available for roots. For more information, contact 615-847-7000.

CIRCLE #202

ELMCO adds Royal Ride

ELMCO's new Royal Ride Sport LE Commercial Golf Cart is the industry's first commercial luxury golf cart. The Royal Ride Sport comes with either a 48-volt electric or 9 horsepower, 4-cycle gas power system. The luxury features on the Royal Ride include a hinged windshield, dual headlights and plenty of space in its built-in cooler/storage area for golf equipment. It's mounted on the all-aluminum Club Car chassis and has triple re-enforced body panels. For more information, contact 800-749-3533.

CIRCLE #203

GUEST COMMENTARY: PUBLIC ACCESS AROUND THE WORLD

Germany

Continued from page 10

tive courses are popping up around many of the larger cities in Germany, employing the philosophy of convenience and access.

The land required for a conventional 18-hole course necessarily pushes the clubs further away from cities and Autobahn connections. Given that it takes, on average, 1 hour to travel to the course followed by, say, 5 hours playing time, a round of golf takes up the greater portion of an entire day.

Whereas, a centrally located executive course with good traffic connections cuts traveling time in half and then one is not

obligated to 18 holes. Instead it could be a bucket of balls with the possibility of 6 holes in order to catch a little exercise after work and still be home in time for dinner.

There is a beautifully designed 6-hole executive course with driving range near Dortmund called Golfen in Herdecke: this business venture has recently opened and provides a wide-ranging clientele with the opportunity to try golf, practice and simply enjoy the game.

High quality is the benchmark in the German golf market with companies such as Paragon of London having developed wonderful facilities in association with horse racing tracks using

the otherwise useless land in the middle of the circuit for golf.

These executive courses are filling a lucrative niche as both business opportunities and accessible, convenient golf facilities for a broader and eager public.

In the highly competitive tourist industry a wide spectrum of attractions is key to success. Many of the mineral bath resorts throughout Germany are now expanding to include golf in their leisure armoury. The traditional perception of the Spas is one of passive and inactive leisure. The modern visitor is demanding active involvement in their leisure break, with exercise and beautiful environment being prerequisite.

Golf sits snugly in this scenario.

Resort hotels, complete with golf academies are offering package deals which introduce guests to the sport or allow the more experienced players to improve their golf under the tutelage of highly qualified instructors.

Again the benefits are twofold — the exposure of golf to new players along with playing opportunities for non club members. As the economics of supply and demand continue to determine the future of the golf industry in Germany, further development of public golf facilities is imperative.

Access is essential in fostering a growing market. Public golf is evolving in a different manner to the traditional municipal golf courses, but the net result is much the same — bringing this wonderful sport to the enjoyment of everyone while making a little money along the way.

For further information on Public Golf in Germany contact Thomas Adkisson, Freier Landschaftsarchitekt, Heinrich-Wieland-Allee 60b, 75177 Pforzheim, Germany. Tel: 0049-7231-140 050.

Leslie comment

Continued from page 10

- The ink. Probably it is soy-based. Farmers use pesticides to produce soy beans, right? Certainly more was used per soybean plant than Augusta National uses on its grass (read on and learn).

- The press. Think of all the energy that was used to run the presses. Again, was it coal-, nuclear-, or water-generated?

- Circulation. Transportation by truck, train or airplane uses gasoline, oil and various other resources.

- Feel free, bright students, to add to this list of environmental impacts.

Perhaps *Audubon Magazine* and Augusta National are on more even terms than people would think, eh?

But what is Augusta National's defense against claims, including one from a golf industry magazine editor, that they use "lots of pesticides"?

Club officials feel they are very environment-friendly.

First, Augusta National is closed five months a year, from mid-May to mid-October, during which time the course is maintained but not at tournament levels.

Second, to a great degree they use environment-friendly or no chemicals, for instance treating mole crickets with soapy water and ants with hot water.

Third, the very wealth of the club allows it to perform some functions in a better way than "average" courses. A weather radar system helps prevent pesticide applications when it is going to rain. The club has the manpower and equipment to do a lot of spot-spraying. Computer analysis is run on agronomic problems to identify a disease and determine how to treat it. And the maintenance crews recycle water and engine oil and have a special wash rack for golf carts.



Marsh Benson, who oversees the entire property, and golf course superintendent Brad Owen know they are under a global microscope for this most-watched television golf event. Thus they are extra cautious.

Now, would you like to answer the question: Does producing *Audubon Magazine* cause more impact on the environment than Augusta National Golf Club?

Armed with that answer, should we ask *Audubon Magazine* to cease publication?

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Audubon Magazine contains an interesting disclaimer in tiny type in the masthead that declares: "The observations and opinions expressed in *Audubon Magazine* are those of the respective authors and should not be interpreted as representing the official views of the National Audubon Society."

Most of the known world of newspapers and magazines in democratic countries at least say they try to handle news in an unbiased manner. This is the first one I recall reading that acknowledges its contributing writers editorialize.

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Audubon International President Ron Dodson, whose Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System for Golf Courses drew some praise in the *Audubon Magazine* article, defended the construction and maintenance of golf facilities.

"Is it possible to build a golf course and destroy habitat? Of course," he said. "But, personally, I've never been to a proposed golf course site that wasn't already decimated by or, at the very best, impacted by past human activity. It's either second- or third-growth forest, or an old pasture, or landfill. Yes, there is wildlife on it, but I'm telling you: Most of the golf courses being built that have to do an environmental impact statement, if they do continuous monitoring they find out that there are more species of wildlife on those courses after they build them than before they built them."

Dodson even said that when society has decided to develop a desert area, with all its pavement, houses and effluent water, the addition of a golf course can be a plus.

"From a wildlife point of view, a desert is an important ecosystem. There are a lot of reptiles and certain birds and sometimes endemic species of flowers and [nocturnal flying mammals] like bats. So there are a lot of reasons, from a biological point of view, that you do not want to disrupt the desert," he said.

With that said, and when the land is already being developed, "If they can build a course and keep the desert ecology functioning, you'll increase biodiversity."

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