



# PCNB

## for You and Me?

American Vanguard Corp. says that PCNB will be back on the market to help superintendents battle snow mold soon.

## Inexpensive snow mold control product returns, but will superintendents really be able to get a hold of it this winter?

BY SETH JONES, EDITOR IN CHIEF

**J**ust in time for the cold winter months, the stop-sale on PCNB has been lifted.

But the availability of the product for this year is unclear.

"The court ruled that the stop-sale order by the EPA was inappropriate. It was basically overturned, legally," Bill Kuser, director of investor relations for American Vanguard Corp., manufacturer of PCNB, told *Golfdom*. "That being said," he added, the roughly 12 or 13 months PCNB was off-line, it was due for re-registration and relabeling. The EPA put that on hold while the product was on hold. Even though we have a legal right to market PCNB, the reality is we have to have these registrations and the proper labels on the containers before we can go out."

Rob Golembiewski, Ph.D., Oregon State University turfgrass specialist, said that the lifting of the stop-sale was good news for superintendents.

"I think (PCNB) is pretty darn popular. I think there are a lot of good products to control pink and gray snow mold, but for the cost — and in this economy — it's one of the most effective," Golembiewski said. "Last year when we lost PCNB, a lot of superintendents had to look for alternatives, and they also had to worry about balancing their budgets. Is it the only product? No. But I guarantee people will integrate it right back into their programs once it becomes available."

Bruce Cline, superintendent at Gladstone (Mich.) Golf Club, said he did pretty well for himself last year without the use of PCNB, and will probably continue the same program this year.

"I imagine people will go back to it once it's available because it's cheap and it's effective," he said. "I don't know if it'll be available to me this season."

Jesse Goodling, superintendent of the two 18-hole courses at Herron Lakes Golf Course in Portland, Ore., says

the lifting of the stop-sale didn't matter much to him, as he hasn't used the product in 15 years.

"It was good as a preventative, not very good as a control," Goodling said. "It used to be the old standby... but it had a bad odor, which made everyone paranoid. Plus, if you used it too much, it stunted *Poa*."

Kuser said that the process to bring PCNB back to market was "virtually complete."

"We are simply waiting for the EPA to issue our new amended labels," Kuser said. "PCNB will be back in the marketplace very shortly for all its major applications. It's a safe and effective product — always has been — and it's unfortunate that it wasn't available to users over the last 12 to 13 months." ■

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Parts of this story originally appeared on the *Golfdom Daily* at [www.golfdom.blogspot.com](http://www.golfdom.blogspot.com).