

## GO FIGURE

# -18

## DEGREES

The temperature recorded at Falls CC, International Falls, Minn., on Jan. 6th.

## //SYNGENTA BUSINESS INSTITUTE

### SCHOOL'S IN SESSION

Syngenta Business Institute hosted its fifth event at the Graylyn International Conference Center, near Wake Forest University.

Stephanie Schwenke, Golf Market Manager for Syngenta, spoke of the changes this year. "We are very excited about... the changes that we have made to our current curriculum to really help meet some of the changing dynamics that the golf course superintendents have shared and expressed with us as needs," says Schwenke.

The Syngenta Business Institute teaches superintendents about the business side of the industry. This year, 25 of the 82 applicants were selected to attend. To apply for next year's Business Institute, visit [greencastonline.com](http://greencastonline.com).

## //IN COURT

### ANDERSONS SUES OVER PATENT INFRINGEMENT

The Andersons has initiated a patent infringement suit against Enviro Granulation, Plant Science and Harrell's.

The Andersons introduced its dispersible granular technology in 2004 under the brand Contec DG. The Andersons say this product shares similarities to Enviro Granulation's water-dispersible pellet fertilizer. Enviro Granulation's product is sold to Plant Science, who markets it as Tru-Prill and others. Tru-Prill is distributed by Harrell's to end users.



## //LOOKING BACK

# View from the Summit

➔ The goal of the *Golfdom* Summit is to create intimate and friendly settings for networking, as well as scheduling one-on-one meetings with manufacturer representatives to discuss new equipment, technology and chemistry. *Golfdom* succeeded on that score in spades, according to the superintendents I spoke with at the December event at the Reunion Resort in Central Florida. They liked the organized, focused sessions, where they could ask questions in a quieter environment.

Superintendents Kasey Kauff, Jason Kubel, Erik Pinkham and Steve Moffitt also cited examples of equipment features and technology they learned about which could increase productivity, save dollars and inputs over time.

The Smithco sprayer was a big hit with it's precision GPS features of mapping and automatic spray tip off and on controls to avoid over-spraying and wasting chemicals on non-target areas when making turns on greens, tees and fairways.

The Hurricane X3, Stand On-Riding Blower garnered lots of interest. This smaller unit freed up a tractor for other jobs and was deemed great

for cart path blowing as well as those hard-to-reach spots in roughs with lots of trees. They have smooth tires for use on greens, tees and even bunkers. There were also electric mowers, rollers and improved rotary rough units from Jacobsen.

Mark Woodward, Steve Mona and Annika Sorenstam were powerful speakers at the Summit. They tackled meaningful topics arising from the

current state of the industry, including the increasing number of job losses, efforts to grow the

game and goal setting.

Speaking of goal setting, Ms. Sorenstam gave an inspirational presentation on how she prepared herself to achieve the goals she set for herself in her life and career. She talked us through the history making 59 she shot and the reasoning and reactions to her decision to play in a men's PGA Tour event.

When you climb a mountain and view the surrounding countryside from the summit, you get a different perspective on the world around you. The same thing happens to the people who attend the *Golfdom* Summit.

Joel Jackson, CGCS-Ret., is senior contributing editor for *Golfdom*.

