

Environment and Government Relations Update

By this time, most everyone should have received their copy of the *Compliance Guide*. I hope you have taken time to go through it before you shelve it. Even though the information in this book may be difficult to understand or comprehend, this is the law. If you have difficulties with any part of the guideline, the names of MGCSA Committeemen are listed in the front of each chapter to assist you. Any questions or suggestions that you have on the entire booklet may be directed to me.

The intent of this guideline is to keep you, the superintendent, up-to-date with information already assembled. During the next few months, we as a committee will be reviewing our published information for accuracy. We will also update any changes on current information. The changes will be mailed out by entire chapter to ease the updating by all concerned. The changes will be mailed out around June 1.

The committee presently is working on three new chapters that will be mailed out at the same time. The new chapters will be Water Usage, Endangered Species and Employee Right to Know. If there are any other topics that are of concern, please let us know so that we may research them during the winter months.

On the government side of this committee, you must know by now that mercury fungicides may no longer be used in the state of Minnesota after July 1, 1994. It is too bad we are losing environmentally safe and tested products by means of an emotional issue. The makers of the product, Grace Sierra, have confirmed with

me that they are still proceeding with re-registering of the products. They will also be making a visit to Minnesota to talk with the Department of Agriculture on putting an extension on that law that states, "or until a suitable replacement is available." Best bet is that it will not happen.

I hope those attending the Annual Conference in November were able to attend the session on "Contingency Compliance." The information is in the guideline and must be taken to comply with the law. Also, recent information received from the GCSAA states that permanent eyewash stations should be at their facility if, according to label or MSDS, it states that if product is sprayed into the eye you must flush the eyes for 15 minutes. Eyewash bottles are not satisfactory. A quick look at my MSDS labels shows that following products are the 15-minute eye flush: Dursban, Daconil 2787, Hydrothol 191, PCNB, Rubigan and Bayleton. Serious though should be given soon to the purchase of a permanent eyewash station before OSHA lays out some fines.

A final note to consider before the chairmanship passes to Scott Austin, Midland Hills, is that of posting. The present committee feels it is a good idea.

We are recommending to our fellow superintendents that they post at or near the entrance to the golf course, pro shop and/or 1st and 10th tee, the daily pesticide application. It is not yet a law

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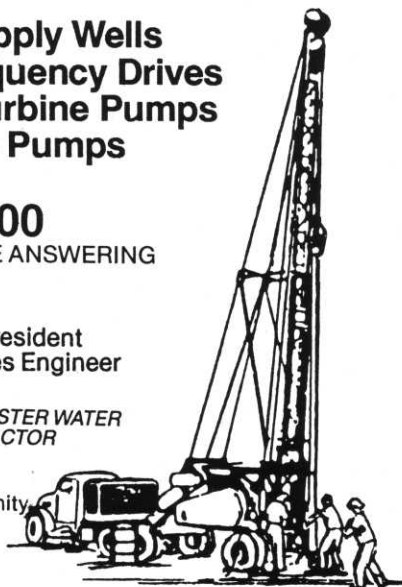
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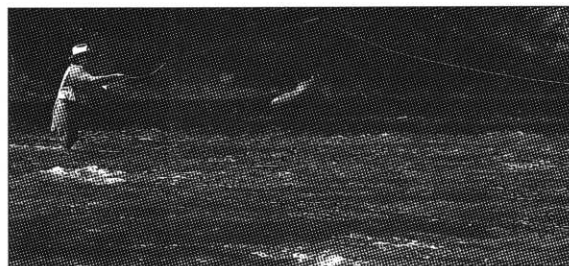


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Environment and Government

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in Minnesota, but it will be soon. The reasoning behind this move is that it is a positive outlook to our association. By complying before the law tells us to is a good public relations move. There currently are some generic signs that are made up to use, or there are signs on which you can write daily messages concerning pesticide applications. The choice is yours, but do it so it makes all of us in the golf business proud.

— Kevin Clunis



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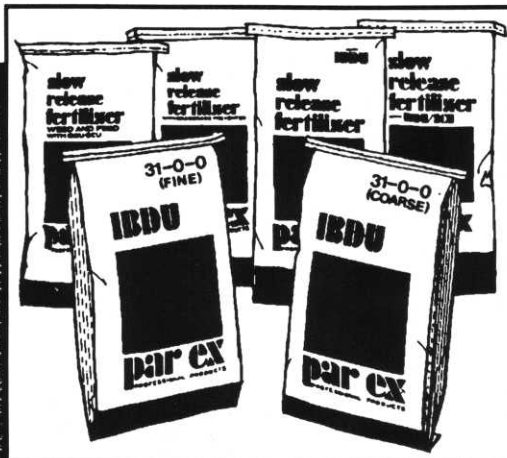
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