

## Maryland Turfgrass Council Scholarship Program

The Maryland Turfgrass Council (MTC) Scholarship Program was established to assist individuals pursuing formal turfgrass-related education.

The Board of Directors of the Maryland Turfgrass Council awards the scholarships annually. The selection criteria for the scholarship are as follows:

1. Applicant must be currently enrolled in a college-sanctioned turfgrass program, in his or her second year or third semester.
2. Applicant must have worked at least 6 months in a turfgrass-related field-golf course, sod farm, etc.
3. The student must have a G.P.A. accumulative of 3.0 or higher.
4. Applicant must be sponsored by an individual in the turfgrass business.
5. Sponsor must write a letter of recommendation for the applicant.

There will be three \$1,000 scholarships awarded. The Scholarship Committee will recommend applicant(s) to the Turfgrass Council for final approval.

Application deadline for the Fall of 1995 and Spring of 1996 semesters is September 15, 1995. Applications should be mailed to:

R. Wayne Evans CGCS  
16473 Old Frederick Rd.  
Mount Airy, MD 21771

Any questions concerning the application process can be directed to Wayne Evans at (301) 854-6709.

## Why Chelates?

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inorganic zinc in the soil, the chemistry of the soil begins to attack the zinc, as explained about the zinc sulfate earlier. What percentage of the zinc is really available when the plant needs the zinc? We don't know. This depends on the factors pointed out earlier. A point made many times is that with applications of zinc sulfate, zinc is building up in the soil, no wonder at 10 lbs or more zinc metal per application. 100 lbs of zinc metal in the soil would build it up also, but it may not feed the crop if it is not soluble or unavailable or tied up in the soil.

The last factor is environmental. With many zinc products, we are placing high amounts of lead or other heavy metals in the soil.

Per part CFR 503 sewage sludge technical regulations the monthly application rate of lead is 300 parts per million. For zinc it is 2800 parts per million, cadmium 39 parts per million. How much heavy metals are you spreading on your soil with each micronutrient application? With the current OSHA and EPA laws on record don't you think it is time to ask how much is there?

To summarize the 10 to 1 ratio:

A) Chelates move with the water, to provide season-long nutrients to the plant. The EDTA begins to break down after 6 months leaving carbon, nitrogen, a very weak acid and zinc molecules in the soil. None of these would cause problems in the soil, or get into groundwater.

B) There are approximately 30 to the 23rd power molecules of zinc in one gallon of chelate which equals to over 12 million molecules of zinc per acre.

C) They are soluble, available and are free in the soil to move with the soil moisture.

D) They feed the crop all through the growing season.

E) They are cost effective.

F) Lastly, they work and have worked for over 40 years.