

# SPORTS TURF MANAGER

... for safe, natural sports turf

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## IPM Demonstration Project

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### 17TH ANNUAL STA FIELD DAY

**Thursday, September 16.** Mark your calendar now! Sports turf industry professionals including indoor and outdoor exhibitors will be gathering in Mississauga for our popular annual event. See the inside front cover for further information.

In spring 2003, the Municipal Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Demonstration Project was established to demonstrate the effectiveness of conventional, IPM, alternatives and non-pesticide approaches to lawn maintenance. By setting up this trial in three municipal settings, Guelph, Brantford, and London, we were able to show the impact of IPM versus no pesticides in comparison with conventional methods in areas with slightly different microclimates, pest pressure and soil types. As well, we have been able to initiate a way of communicating our results to area residents and turf managers.

#### Study Description

At the Guelph Turfgrass Institute (GTI), there are 32 plots, 9 x 5.5 m each, with a total demonstration area of 1,584 m<sup>2</sup>. There are four management programs followed: conventional, IPM, alternatives and

no pesticides. The alternative products were only demonstrated at the GTI due to their experimental nature. The Brantford demonstration project is located at the Glenhyrst Art Gallery near the Grand River. Conventional, IPM and no pesticides plots were compared on 24 plots, 7 x 5 m each, with a total demonstration area of 840 m<sup>2</sup>. In London, the plots are located in Watson Park near the Thames River. There are 16 plots, 10 x 4.5 m each, with a total demonstration area of 720 m<sup>2</sup> with comparisons between IPM and no pesticides. Conventional plots were not set up in London due to the current City of London issues with pesticide use.

In each municipality, demonstration trials were set up on an established, predominately Kentucky bluegrass turf with an existing moderate level of weed infestation. The trial areas were divided according to each specific... → page 6