



### Court rules against OSHA

A federal court has rejected the U.S. Dept. of Labor's attempt to speed up restriction of over 400 toxic workplace chemicals. The court ruled that OSHA's attempt to set general limits was laudable, but flawed, and that—even though the chemical by chemical approach has been slow—that approach would stand.

### Entotech/Mycogen lawsuit settled

Entotech, Inc. and Mycogen, Inc. have settled a lawsuit that arose out of a claim of patent infringement and interference by Entotech against Mycogen. The suit revolved around the patent rights for *Bacillus thuringiensis*, a now widely used biological control for beetles. Six of the patents and all the associated rights were assigned to Entotech.

### Why granular Triumph isn't available

In the article on "Grub control: old standbys and new directions" (*TGT July, 1992*), publisher Christopher Sann made a statement concerning Ciba-Geigy's product Triumph, a major product repackager's concern about Triumph relatively high oral toxicity, and the repackager's failure to offer Triumph in a granular formulation. Technically, the statement was correct, but it conveyed the wrong impression.

In a phone conversation with Dr. Douglas Houseworth of Ciba-Geigy, we learned that the company has been attempting to get a granular formulation of Triumph registered with the E.P.A. for the past three years. First the E.P.A. refused to grant registration to a granular formulation, citing an estimated increased danger to birds. When extensive testing showed that Triumph does not pose an increased threat to avian populations, the E.P.A. switched arguments and again refused to grant Triumph registration for a granular formulation—this time citing the potential for toxic exposure to children playing on treated turf. The E.P.A.'s argument was based on an older study that reported that children playing outside eat enough thatch and dirt that, when combined with the Triumph's long residual, could lead to possible poisonings.

Despite indications that this new E.P.A. policy is incorrect, Ciba-Geigy has decided to suspend further pursuit of the required registration since they are unable to test children and disprove the "new" E.P.A. argument. We want to thank Dr. Houseworth for being helpful and forthright in discussing the facts concerning the possible granular formulation of Triumph. ■

### Not a complete show, just a glimpse

OBVIOUSLY, SEED-PRODUCERS have been developing new varieties that represent real improvements. The above examples are not a complete listing of all of the advantages of choosing a newer turfgrass variety over a common or better known, older variety, but it is representative. These tables reflect only a portion of the data collected for the 1991 Kentucky Bluegrass Progress Report. The same kind of analysis can be performed on the other species progress reports, and it will yield essentially the same results.

Doing the work of choosing the best new variety to meet the specific requirements of your turfgrass sites can:

- REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF FERTILIZER required per year,
- REDUCE THE NUMBER AND AMOUNT of preventive fungicide applications,
- INCREASE THE AMOUNT of live turf cover,
- AND IN GENERAL RAISE the overall quality of the turf stand.

The bottomline is that using NTEP's treasure-house of information can eliminate hours and hours of avoidable field work resulting from less rigorous seed-buying decisions. ■

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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