

# News Briefs

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tion, has already surrendered.

Agriculture knows these new rules are coming and it, using evidence from earlier battles by other pesticide user groups, has decided that it won't mount a full scale attack on the new regulations but it will fight their imposition at the edges. Agriculture has decided that it wants to have some input in the process, so that the final regulations are not conceived by bureaucrats alone.

## Will the Republican majority slow things?

If you think that the new Republican majority of the Congress will halt the imposition of many of the new pesticide use-regulations, I remind you of actions of the Reagan and Bush administrations.

Bush and Reagan, good Republicans both, and a bit like the current crop of anti-government zealots, professed a hatred for environmental legislation and regulation. But many new environmental laws were passed and many new pesticide regulations were enacted during their terms in office.

Despite all their bluster, politicians from both the left and the right understand that to challenge or obstruct environmental legislation designed to protect the American people is, like reducing Social Security benefits, the political equivalent of touching the third rail.

## What should we do?

When I go through my repertoire of appropriate old sayings designed to reduce the pain of the inevitable, one in particular comes to mind, the Anonymous Prayer. It goes like this, "God grant me the serenity to accept the things that I cannot change, the courage to change those things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." ■

*Buying, Leasing, or Renting continued from page 9*

particularly where upgrading the equipment every three to four years may be an important way of keeping that production at maximum efficiency. High-use production situations have a tendency to "use up" equipment, even when that equipment is very well maintained. By leasing high-use equipment for three to four years, managers have the use of that equipment under peak circumstances with little down time. Depending on the terms of the lease, once the lease period is over, the equipment can either be returned or purchased at a previously arranged nominal fee.

Leasing is particularly attractive if you are acquiring a newly designed or untested piece of equipment. It is also attractive if you need it for a limited period — say two to three years — or when such equipment has been shown to have a limited effective life span. Leasing for limited periods is particularly effective when the equipment is still in the development phase.

One of the benefits of leasing has to do with returning the equipment after the lease period has ended. Once the equipment has been returned, it can be replaced with a newer version of the same model. Surrendering short-term leased equipment allows turfgrass and landscape managers to take advantage of newer versions of the same models or change to a different equipment model that is better engineered. This ability to change or upgrade optimizes business efficiency by keeping operators from being saddled with outmoded or overworked equipment.

## Does leasing cost more than buying?

Historically, leasing has been approached as strictly an accounting decision and the financial aspects of a leasing agreement are very important, but the decision whether to lease, buy or rent equipment should be, first and foremost, a business decision. ■

# EPA consolidates label change policies

In order to reduce the confusion caused by different implementation dates on mandated changes in product labeling, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has formed the EPA Labeling Unit.

This unit will be responsible to coordinate all labeling changes and will implement them on October 1 of each year. Currently, the deadlines for publishing revised labels often depends on the wording of the new regulation. By requiring a single date each year for the imposition of label changes to a product, the EPA hopes to reduce any confusion caused by the regulatory pro-

cess. Additionally, the EPA will require that the labeled changes would go into effect on the next October 1 following the imposition of mandated changes.

*TGT View - With coming widespread changes in the availability and use of many pesticide products and formulations, all applicators will now be able to better plan for the future. If on Oct. 2 of each year, the current product label says that an application of a given product can be used for a given purpose, then the applicator can have confidence that he can use that material for at least the next year. —CS*



### Delany settlement lists pesticide phase-out

Following the settlement of a lawsuit between the EPA and the NRDC, AFL-CIO, and other groups over the strict enforcement of the provisions of the Delany Clause, which bans carcinogenic pesticide residues in the food supply, the EPA has released a list of 46 uses of 25 pesticides that will be phased out to meet the requirements of the settlement. Even though no turf uses of any of the pesticides were banned, 15 of the 25 listed pesticides are commonly used in either turf or horticultural areas.

Based on a conversation with an individual involved in ag-extension work in the mid-Atlantic area, these pesticides have been banned because they have been shown to be at least minimally carcinogenic and the residues from their use can be detected in either raw or processed foods.

Listed below is the chemical name of each of the 15 pesticides, its common name, and the banned uses.

Pesticide	Common name	Banned usage
acephate	Orthene	soybeans
benomyl	Benlate	apples, grapes, tomatoes, soybeans
captan	Orthocide	grapes, tomatoes
chlorothalonil	Daconil 2787	potatoes, soybeans
dichlofos	Vapoma	soybeans
dicofol	Kelthane	apples, grapes, tomatoes
dimethoate	Cygon	apples
iprodione	Chico 26019	grapes
lindane	Lintox	tomatoes
mancozeb	Dithane 45	barley, oats, potatoes, rye, wheat, apples, grapes
maneb	Fore	apples, grapes
PCNB	Terrachlor	potatoes, tomatoes
thiophanate methyl	Fungo 50	apples
triadimefon	Bayleton	apples, barley, grapes, wheat
trifluralin	treflan	potatoes

*TGT's View - As part of the settlement, the EPA agreed to review an additional 49 pesticides, that are alleged to be cancer-causing, within the next five years. This coming review combined with the above list may ultimately lead to the elimination of many tried and true pesticide tools from both the turfgrass and the landscape manager's tool box. Turf and landscape managers should start to look for replacement products for the above listed fifteen pesticides as their long term survival in the marketplace is now in doubt. Even if the canceling of the agricultural uses for these pesticides does not cripple the manufacturing of these products, turf and landscape managers may not want to be using any materials that have been identified as cancer-causing. — CS*

### E.P.A. to cancel registrations of 1480 pesticides

The Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) has said it will cancel the "registration for use" of 1480 pesticide formulations for failure of the products' formulators to pay the annual registration maintenance fees for 1994.

The deadline for acceptance of the fees was April 15, 1994. Most of these cancellations were for pesticide formulations that were no longer in production and the E.P.A. estimates that their cancellation will have very little effect on the agricultural, horticultural, or turfgrass markets. In addition to the announced cancellations, at the request of their producers, the registration fees for 42

minor use pesticides were waived by the E.P.A., which also deferred cancellation of 11 other pesticide formulation registrations for 90 days while interested parties other than the current registered producers support the products' re-registration. Likewise, the E.P.A. delayed cancellation of five active ingredients which will disappear from the marketplace unless outside parties are found to support these five active ingredients' re-registration.

Stocks of the canceled products could be distributed at the wholesale level until Jan. 15, 1995 and the products can be sold and used until supplies run out.