

Terms to Know

Active ingredients - the main inhibitory substance found in a fungicide formulation.

Biosynthesis - the process by which living cells make molecules, tissues, or organs.

Contact fungicide - those fungicides that are active only on the external parts of plants.

Emulsion - suspension of liquid droplets within another immiscible liquid.

Formulation - all of the ingredients and additives making up a given fungicide product.

Fungicidal - treatments that kill fungal pathogens.

Fungistatic - treatments that prevent fungal pathogens from growing or producing spores, or prevent spores from germinating.

Inert ingredients - those components of a formulation that have no fungicidal activity.

Label - all of the written information that accompanies the fungicide. This includes the information affixed to the container, as well as any other written material associated with the product.

Localized penetrant - those fungicides that pass into the tissue underlying the point of application.

Penetrant fungicide - those fungicides that enter plant tissues.

Systemic penetrant - those fungicides that pass into the plant tissues and are moved through the xylem and phloem to distant parts of the plant.

FOR A COMPLETE INDEX OF TURFGRASS FUNGICIDES AND MANUFACTURERS CONTACT:

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Turf Organizations Form Partnership

by Sherry L. Glick and Anne Leslie
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program (PESP) is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) voluntary program designed to address the use of, and risk associated with, pesticides. It is involved in making administrative, regulatory and legislative changes to encourage the use of safer pesticides. A major element of PESP is the encouragement of voluntary partnerships with private industry, on behalf of safer pesticides and environmental stewardship. All organizations with a commitment to pesticide risk/use reduction are eligible to join PESP, either as a Partner or Supporter.



One of the components of PESP is the development of regional environmental stewardship strategies. EPA plans to integrate the strategies developed by the Partners into its policies and programs for agriculture and the environment. Partners have a great deal of flexibility in developing their strategies. First, they identify their pest management issues, then they identify the potential solutions to those issues. Many Partners are close to completing their strategies, which will include research, education and alternative techniques and practices to enhance pest management and reduce pesticide use and risks.

Several turf organizations are participating in PESP. The Golf Course Superintendent's Association of America (GCSAA), the Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA), and the Pebble Beach Corporation are all participating as PESP Partners. Each of these organizations is developing its strategy for pesticide risk/use reduction.

The United States Golf Association (USGA) is participating in PESP as a Supporter. According to USGA President, Reg Murphy, "We were very pleased that the EPA has asked us to join this cooperative effort. USGA has committed millions of dollars over many years to develop turfgrasses that use substantially fewer pesticides. At the same time, we've also spent millions of dollars to study our game's impact on the environment, including what effect, if any, that golf course pesticide use has on our surroundings. This new Partnership can only enhance our ongoing efforts on these issues." It is the intent of USGA, as a PESP Supporter, to disseminate money for research to 1) produce turfgrasses which substantially reduce water use, pesticide use, and maintenance costs; 2) develop management practices for new and established turf which protect the environment while providing quality playing surfaces; and 3) encourage young scientists to become leaders in turfgrass research. This information is shared through educational publications, training seminars, and on-site visits to golf courses. The information gathered through research programs will further the knowledge base of the turfgrass industry. New grasses are released that benefit the golf industry and beyond, such as sports fields, parks and home lawns. New and developing information is also shared through a wide variety of educational programs that reach both the turfgrass industry and the general public.

GCSAA is taking the lead in discussions of environmental issues surrounding the game of golf. The Allied Associations of Golf, together with a number of environmental groups at Pebble Beach, California, met January 1995, to discuss environmental issues surrounding golf course development and operation. From this conference, "Golf and the Environment: Charting a Sustainable Future," a Guidelines Subcommittee was formed to develop a document, "Environmental Principles for Golf Courses." GCSAA prepared a draft document on principles in golf course management, which has been presented to the Allied Associations, and, subsequently, to the Guidelines Subcommittee. The subcommittee includes representatives from a number of organizations: GCSAA, USGA, Royal Canadian Golf Association, American Society of Golf Course Architects, the National Wildlife Federation, the American Farmland Trust, the National Coalition Against Misuse of Pesticides, the National Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, the New York Audubon Society, and the National

Resource Defense Council. The subcommittee has made significant progress in coming to consensus on the document, which encompasses some critical issues in site selection for golf courses. The goal is to present a final draft document at the annual meeting of GCSAA in February, 1996, and to recommend its adoption at the next Summit meeting in March.

Earlier in the year, some of our PESP Partners were awarded grants which provided them the opportunity to design projects that would promote pesticide risk/use reduction. PLCAA was awarded a grant to educate and encourage lawn care companies to take measures that reduce the risk of pesticides to applicators, the public and the environment. The main component of the grant will be to develop a plan with a list of practices for each company to follow and evaluate against its own practices. The plan will outline those practices that are considered environmentally sound and directly or indirectly lead to the reduction of pesticide risk. Each practice will be assigned a range of points that can be credited to a company. If their total credit adds up to a predetermined total, they can be designated an EPA/PLCAA partner in the program for a specific time. In order to continue in the program past the first period, the participating company must submit a plan for adding measures that reduce the risks from pesticides. A committee will evaluate and determine compliance with the program, and if deemed necessary, visit the company facility or make an inquiry to ensure that companies follow through with their proposed practices.

Some examples of practices that can be adopted are:

- outreach training of homeowners, groups, organizations, and school children in environmentally sound lawn care practices;
- company posting on all properties that they treat when the state does not require it; and
- the use of spot applications, in lieu of broadcast applications, on a certain percentage of lawns and a certain percentage of a company's customer's lawns.

PLCAA believes that these activities can help industry implement and administer more planned and thoughtful activities for companies, as well as become more aware of practices that can be beneficial to their employees, customers and the environment.

If you would like to learn more about PESP, contact the PESP INFOLINE 1-800-972-7717 or the following:

PESP Partners:

PLCAA

contact: Tom Delany 1-770-977-5222

GCSAA

contact: Cynthia Kelly 1-800-472-7878

PESP Supporters:

USGA

contact: Kimberly Erusha 1-908-234-2300

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Ms. Anne Leslie has been a chemist in the Office of Pesticide Programs of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 1980. She has degrees in chemistry and biochemistry from, respectively, the University of Arizona and McGill University in Montreal and has done graduate work towards a Ph.D. at the University of Utah. She joined the EPA's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program in 1986, working on collecting and dissemination information on best management practices for turfgrass. This is her first contribution to *TurfGrass TRENDS*.

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