

Turf Tip

By Mark Licon
Ruby Hill Golf Club

Many of you have probably heard of using Dawn dishwashing liquid for moss control in turf, but I have found it to be a great product in delaying the winter dormancy of bermudagrass. It is inexpensive and shows no signs of phytotoxicity. I start in the fall following the first sign of frost and spray it every two to three weeks at a rate of 4 to 5 oz./1000 sq. ft. It is important to use a no-foam agent in the mixture. I have found that by using the Dawn, I can keep my bermudagrass green well into December.

(If you have a tip you'd like to share with your fellow members, please email it to the editor at kennethdwilliams@hotmail.com)

GCSAA Government Relations Department Launches Grassroots Campaign

Your action is needed! GCSAA has launched a grassroots campaign in support of H.R. 1592, "The Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act of 1999". This bill is intended to ensure fair implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996. Two important classes of chemicals that superintendents use are under the gun right now at EPA — organophosphates (products such as Dursban) and carbamates (products such as Turcam). Our members must take action on this issue!

Go to the GCSAA Web site at <http://www.gcsaa.org/members/govrel/fqpa.html> (this is in the members-only section) to access information on this issue and find out how your chapter can take action. The site contains background information, action steps, instructions on how to contact your members of Congress and detailed talking points on the bill.

Contact Carrie Riordan, government relations manager at (800) 472-7878, ext. 610 or by e-mail at mailto:criordan@gcsaa.org with any questions. /

Getting To The Big Easy Gets Easier

If you're going to the next GCSAA conference and show in New Orleans, get your clicking fingers ready. On Aug. 2, the third conference and show site will open its doors for registration and program information. If you've ever registered too late to get into the seminar of your choice, be sure to be one of the first visitors — for the first-time ever, GCSAA's registration service will be providing REAL-TIME on-line conference and show registration. You'll have a confirmation of your plans before you log off your computer!

Other features of the conference site include on-line hotel arrangements, full event information and a personal planner, while upcoming additions include an on-line exhibit hall, attendee directory and on-line silent auction. Go to gcsaa.org to find a link to the site. /

Web tip: Ask Jeeves — The butler always knows

If you need to find relatively simple information on the web quickly, try Ask Jeeves (<http://www.askjeeves.com>), which uses natural language to process your request. The search engine features an entertaining interface and is powered by a proprietary knowledge base. However, just in case Jeeves doesn't know the answer to your question, it also searches for matches from several of the web's most popular search engines. Ask Jeeves is a great resource, particularly if your keyword could be interpreted in a variety of ways by simple text searches.