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NEWS continued

Three New Distributors Named by Weather-matic

Three new lawn and turf irrigation product distributors have been named by Weather-matic Division of Telesco Industries.

Hawaii Irrigation Supply Co., Honolulu, will be exclusive distributor for the Hawaiian Islands. Turf Equipment & Supply Co. will handle Phoenix and Las Vegas. Irrigation & Sprinkler Supply Co. will handle Tucson.

Crabgrass Control Methods Explained by Agronomist

Crabgrass is a hot weather annual with a seed that winters in the soil and then sprouts when spring temperatures reach about 55 degrees. The weed spreads by trailing runners that infiltrate turf rapidly in warm weather, choking and smothering it.

"There are a number of ways to take some of the curse out of crabgrass," according to Doyle Jacklin, agronomist with Jacklin Seed Co., Spokane, Wash. "One is to prevent sprouting of its seed. Pre-emergence crabgrass preventers do that. Precise timing is required, before the crabgrass seed sprouts, and uniform blanketing of the turf where the crabgrass customarily grows is necessary."

He said preventers may depress the turf slightly, restraining depth of rooting and perhaps altering color and texture somewhat. One can wait until crabgrass has definitely made its appearance, and then spray with post-emergence arsonates a few times. This kills most of the crabgrass with only some momentarily discoloration of the turf.

"But there is still another way to fight crabgrass," Jacklin said. "Why not let your turf fight most of the battle? It will do this if it is dense and vigorous. Moderate fertilization and high mowing early in spring are often sufficient to help the turf fight crabgrass. This will be especially effective if the turf is leafy, strongly rhizoming cultivars or if these cultivars are overseeded into thin turf."





