

# GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

## ASSOCIATION

### GCSAA to honor Ford at 56th annual show

Former President of the United States Gerald R. Ford is to receive one of golf's most prestigious awards at a dinner February 12 in Washington D.C.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) is to present President Ford with the Old Tom Morris Award during the International Golf Course Conference and Show slated for February 5-13 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel.

"The award is presented to an individual who has helped to further the welfare of the game with the same dedication and zeal demonstrated by Old Tom Morris," James W. Timmer-

man, president of GCSAA, says.

Golfing great Arnold Palmer and entertainer Bob Hope are previous recipients of the award, named in memory of Old Tom Morris, a four-time winner of the British Open Championships between 1861 and 1867, and generally credited with boosting the popularity of the game worldwide as player, greenkeeper, club and ball maker, and golf course architect.

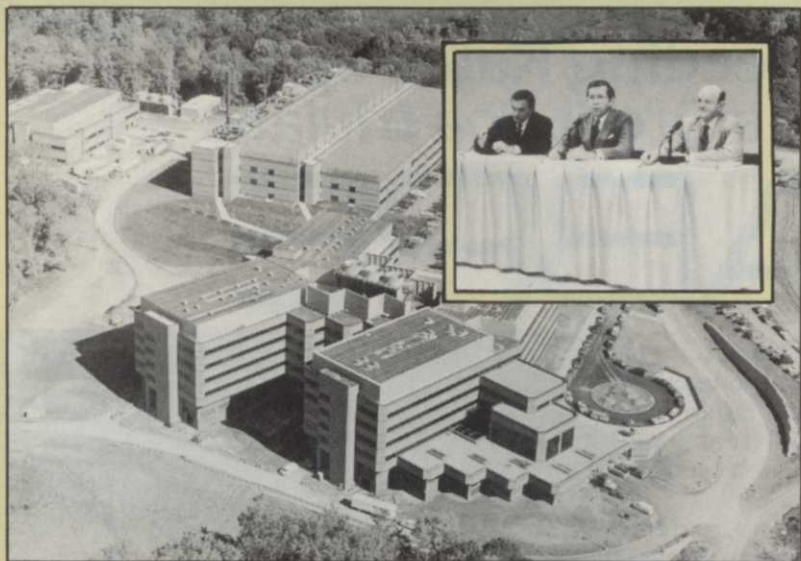
President Ford brought international attention to golf while serving as President. Since leaving office he has been a frequent participant in charitable golfing events, as well as sponsoring his own charitable golf tournament, the

Jerry Ford Invitational Golf Tournament.

The 56th annual conference will feature more than 20 seminar courses and over 100 professional presentations by researchers, businessmen and golf course superintendents from all over the world. The number of companies expected to feature their products and services at the equipment and trade show should exceed 250.

The name of the conference was changed from International Turfgrass Conference and Show to "better explain the focus" of the annual event, GCSAA Executive Director John M. Schilling notes.

### Monsanto makes commitment to future



Nicholas Reding, executive V.P., Richard Mahoney, President, and CEO, Dr. Howard Schneiderman, Sr. V.P. of Research and Development.

Monsanto made a major statement about the future of the chemical industry in October when it dedicated a \$150 million research and development center in St. Louis County, MO.

Monsanto President Richard Mahoney told a collection of distinguished guests at the ribbon-cutting ceremony more than 1,200 scientists will use this research center to focus on the future needs of agriculture, human and animal health and electronic controls.

Central to the research are advances in biotechnology and total control plant growth chambers which can simulate conditions of any geographic location. The company's sleuths have already found dramatic keys to nitrogen-fixing bacteria for plant roots and hormones produced by the human heart.

What took 15 years to figure out in the field can be done in months in the special growth chambers and laboratories.

Mahoney said the company will have its new growth regulator on the market within the coming year.

## INDUSTRY

### Fertilizer market strong through summer

U.S. fertilizer markets, both domestic and export, remained strong this summer, the Fertilizer Institute reports.

Domestic disappearance (sales plus conversions to other products) increased by 19 percent over the same period of 1983 while exports of finished products jumped by 62 percent, with major increases in each of the nitrogen, phosphate, and potash product groups.

The Institute says production for finished products increased 36 percent this summer with U.S. potash production more than twice last year's level.

"We've certainly had one of the better earlier fall seasons than we've had in several years," William C. White of the Institute told WT&T.

Imports increased 27 percent over 1983. Muriate of potash constituted 60 percent of the total, and anhydrous ammonia 22 percent, the report, reflecting information provided by producers, notes.

## ATHLETIC FIELDS

### Royals favor grass but won't get it

Members of the Kansas City Royals professional baseball team prefer natural turf, but they're not going to get it.

A poll late in the 1984 season by

Kansas City Times writer Tracey Ringolsby, revealed 23 Royals favor grass, two prefer the artificial surface, and one player doesn't care. Royals Stadium has had an artificial playing surface since its opening in 1973.

Despite the survey results, the Royals management is planning to install a new artificial surface in Royals Stadium prior to next baseball season. The proposed surface, with a four-year guarantee to be softer than grass, will feature slits for better drainage.

Natural turf is somewhat of a luxury for members of the Royals who jogged on a strip of carefully maintained grass behind the centerfield fence for their pre-game warm-ups rather than run on the harder artificial surface this past season.

## INDUSTRY

### Toro earnings rise to five year high

The Minneapolis-based Toro Company reports its strongest year-end earnings in five years.

Net earnings for the year ended July 27, increased from \$572,000 the year before to \$8.3 million, while per share earnings improved from a negative 19 cents to 98 cents.

"We experienced solid growth in most of our major product lines," Kendrick B. Melrose, president and chief executive officer, says. Demand for Toro's irrigation products led the advance, while professional turf equipment recorded "strong growth."

Melrose cites new product introductions, improved economic conditions, aggressive marketing actions, and favorable weather as reasons for the upturn. Other factors include better management of assets and strong expense controls which resulted in a significant reduction in the company's total debt.

The company's biggest challenges in 1985 will be in its walk power mower segment and in the strength of the U.S. dollar against foreign currencies.

Melrose says he expects 1985 sales and earnings to show improvements over the previous year.

## RESEARCH

### Ohio prof says trees heal better in spring

Trees damaged in the spring have a better chance of healing, Dr. Curt Leben says.

The reason? Dr. Leben theorizes

high internal water content of trunks in the spring promotes healing and reduces the formation of discolored wood associated with wounds.

Dr. Leben, professor of plant pathology at the Ohio State University Agricultural Research and Development Center, purposely wounded 93 red maple trees with a chain saw. After two seasons he analyzed the wounds, discolored wood above and below the woods, and the amount of callus tissue the trees manufactured.

He discovered that fall wounds heal poorly and the discolored wood volume was greater than on trees wounded in the spring. The amount of discolored wood is important because it may eventually become decayed. Water content in the fall is lower, Dr. Leben reports, and this apparently results in poor healing.

## ASSOCIATION

### APPA buys building, moves to Alexandria

At last count 120 national associations were headquartered in Alexandria, VA. Add one more, the Association of Physical Plant Administrators of Universities and Colleges (APPA).

The APPA, with 1,200 members, recently purchased a new building at 1446 Duke Street and relocated its international headquarters there.

Knapp says his association made the move to lower operational costs, and because of access and quality of life. The new address for APPA is 1446 Duke St., Alexandria, VA, 22314, (703) 684-1446.

## TURFGRASS

### Cornell turfgrass research gets aid

Turfgrass research at Cornell University received a sizable chunk of cash from the New York State Turfgrass Association (NYSTA) this past year.

Contributions from 28 businesses and associations to NYSTA for research being conducted by A. Martin Petrovic, Richard Smiley, and Normal Hummel exceeded \$28,000, 40 percent more than the previous year. The money is being used in a broad-range study of turfgrass including fine cultivar evaluations, compaction studies, effect of herbicides, non-target effects of fungicides on the environment, and the funding of a graduate student who is helping in the research.

## CHEMICALS

### NY pro-pesticide council is formed

Leaders from industries concerned with the safe use of pesticides came together in a broad-based council in New York State recently.

The fledgling New York State Pesticide Users Council (NYSPUC) is fully operational, according to its president, Jeffrey T. Duflo, marketing manager of Duflo Spray-Chemical Inc., New Bremen, NY. The organization hopes to put a representative in the state capitol soon.

"We believe in regulations that make things better, safer and cleaner, but that are sane, rational and workable," Duflo notes. "We intend to fight for the rights of the professionals who daily use federal and state approved pesticides correctly and safely."

James Taylor, owner of Taylor Tree Surgery, Inc., Walden, NY, is vice president of the group, Robert J. Mungari of the state department of agriculture and markets its secretary-treasurer.

"We intend to promote a favorable climate between NYSPUC, its member organizations and appropriate governmental bodies, agencies and officials," Duflo says. "The intent is to provide input on the potential impact of legislation and regulations from the experience of the professionals in the business."

The membership of NYSPUC is to be made up of trade associations, formulators, distributors and jobbers, dealers, re-sellers, commercial and certified applicators.

NYSPUC hopes to represent associations with a combined membership approaching 40,000. "With this kind of a group we can accomplish more than all of the smaller, individual associations can separately," Duflo adds.



Officers and members of the Board of Directors of the NYSPUC include left, front row, President Jeff Duflo, Vice President Jim Taylor and Secretary-Treasurer Bob Mungari.

## UPDATE

### Check hazardous waste quantities

If your business generates more than 200 pounds of "hazardous wastes" per month, you will soon have more rules to obey. The definition of "hazardous waste" will be set by the Environmental Protection Agency and is likely to include pesticides, many chemicals, their containers and anything contaminated by them.

The new rules are part of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, a new law designed to assist toxic waste control, a politically hot topic at the moment.

Businesses generating more than 200 pounds per month will face a whole set of rules involving leak prevention, underground storage, record-keeping and inspections by late 1985.

### Environmental impact factor in biotech rules

EPA must be notified of all field-studies for genetically-altered or biotech pesticides under interim regulations announced in October. Some concern over use of these materials has already made them an issue in California where environmentalists want to know what happens to genetically-altered products in the soil.

The environmentalists are attacking the pesticides in the same way they have in Oregon, asking for environment impact statements prior to use on government lands. For nearly all states EPA regulates pesticide testing through experimental use permits.

Up to now, all regulation of biotech products has been handled voluntarily by chemical companies based on guidelines set by the National Institute for Health. Both EPA and FDA are expected to get involved in regulation of biotech products in the near future.

Testing of biotech materials in laboratories is exempt from the interim EPA regulations.

### Legislators go after pesticide residue tolerances

Bills involving additional regulation of pesticide residues have been introduced in both House and Senate. The bills are designed to force a closer look at currently allowable pesticide residues on food products.

Both bills establish a review and hearing process for questionable residues and are intended to "close loopholes" in existing legislation. Advanced technology now provides knowledge of extremely minute quantities of pesticide on food. Standards designed for previous technology are being reexamined.

## PEOPLE

### Names in the news

**Richard Slivinski**, the highly regarded golf superintendent for the Phoenix Parks, Recreation and Library Department, is resigning his position to start his own golf and turf management consultant service. He is credited with implementing a successful water conservation system on the park courses, directing the construction of the new Cave Creek Golf Course, and making the city golf program self supporting during his eight years with the Phoenix department. He is a National Director of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and serves on state pest control and water management committees.

Also in the golf world, **Ted W. Zahn** is planning to re-establish the National Golf Foundation's education division in Scottsdale, AZ, after being named the NGF's director of education and golf promotion. Zahn joined NGF in 1979 as national education director after 15 years as a teacher, coach, athletic director, and school administrator in Oregon.

Zahn will also administer NGF's new Academy of Golf Instructors, an organization created to provide support, publications, films, and services to golf coaches across the nation.

Elanco Products Company, Indianapolis, IN, announces two promotions. **D. Michael Baker**, a native of Webb, MS, moves from his position of



D. Michael Baker



N. Wayne Rish

manager of national accounts for agricultural chemicals to director of sales, agricultural chemicals. **N. Wayne Rish** is the new executive director of agricultural chemicals marketing. Baker and Rish both began their careers with Elanco in 1969.

**John Gutknecht** begins his duties as president of the fertilizer division of Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation. The 51-year-old Gutknecht served as the division's vice president and general manager since 1983. He is a graduate of Tulane University with a degree in chemical engineering and holds an MBA from Louisiana State University.