WT&T

PBI/Gordon corrects Trimec story

In the December 1984 issue it was incorrectly stated that the expiration of the Trimec® patent is resulting in a commodity status for the proprietary post-emergent herbicide. It was further stated incorrectly that Trimec is really a loose term for a premixed formulation of 2,4-D, propionic acid, and dicamba that may now be obtained from sources other than PBI/Gordon Corp.

First and foremost, Trimec is not a loose term referring to a premixed formulation. Trimec is the registered trademark of PBI/Gordon Corp. for its proprietary herbicides and may not be

used in any other context.

Although the patent has expired, it continues to be a proprietary product of PBI/Gordon whose formulation is a closely guarded trade secret. The name Trimec can not be used by any

other company.

PBI/Gordon Vice President/Director of Research J. S. Skaptason offers the following clarification. "The Trimec patent number 3,284,186 was issued on the basis of the synergism that accrues when 2,4-D, MCPP and dicamba are mixed. In the beginning we noticed there could be inconsistencies in the activity of the product from batch to batch, especially if it was made by simply mixing amine products of the three herbicides. So, we launched a continuous research program to improve the efficiency."

Skaptason goes on to say a major step forward occurred when Dr. Roger Cahoy and Dr. Jan van Diepen succeeded in utilizing the characteristics of eutectic principles in formulating third generation Trimec complexes. "This chemistry affects the structure of droplets; and as proven by radio isotope studies, results in quicker penetration and more thorough translocation which result in better efficiency."

PBI/Gordon has not granted rights to any other manufacturer or formulator to produce or sell Trimec herbicides. Trimec herbicides can only be obtained from PBI/Gordon.

Resorts face tax threat

Proposed changes in Federal tax rules eliminating an interest deduction for any property other than a primary residence could slow down or even stop resort condominium development. That could mean cutbacks in both condo landscape work and golf course maintenance and construction.

Resort development has been a bright spot for both landscape contractors and golf course architects, builders, and superintendents. Resort landscapes are typically high-scale construction and maintenance to attract second home buyers.

Many resorts are centered around golf courses. The course makes the condominiums more valuable.

Loss of the interest deduction makes time sharing less attractive and may eliminate the marginal buyer.

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