

Former students honor Dr. Bill Daniel

The Dr. Bill Daniel era at Purdue University is over and a new era begins, the recent Midwest Regional Turf Conference signaled.

Participants, many of them former students, braved blustery March weather to fete (sometimes humorously) Daniel who, during a 34-year stint in central Indiana, carved a reputation as "Mr. Turf" of the Midwest and, together with Melvin Robey, invented the Prescription Athletic Turf system in 1972.

Daniel, honored at two dinners (the first, a get-together with former students, the second a more formal affair in the Purdue Memorial Union), capped his career as an educator and researcher at Purdue. Daniel retired from that university April 30.

"He is a great mentor," says Ted Woehrle, former president of the GCSAA and Daniel's first student in 1950. "He taught me how to think and how to ask the question 'why?'"

Woehrle's comments echoed those of many former students in a bittersweet dinner at The Trails on the banks of the flood-swollen Wabash. The light-hearted affair, emceed by Dr. Jim Beard of Texas A&M, another Boilermaker grad, took on the appearance of a "Who's Who in Turf"



WT&T Executive Editor Bruce Shank honors Daniel as "Man of the Year."

"There were people there from all fields in the turf industry," Dr. Terry Riordan, U. of Nebraska notes. "That's just one indication of the work he's done. He's had quite an im-

pact on my career and on the careers of many people." Dr. Riordan is one of 15 former students Daniel helped guide to Ph.Ds.

continued on page 18



New ASLA headquarters in Washington D.C.

ASSOCIATIONS

ASLA settles into new historic home

A four-year effort to buy an historic building in Washington D.C. paid off for the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

The ASLA recently took title to its headquarters, a turn-of-the-century townhouse, after raising \$400,000 for the down payment. The Society began the drive to acquire the Victorian-style structure at 1733 Connecticut Ave. in 1980 when it signed a long-term lease with an option to purchase. In 1981, ASLA staff members began working in the extensively remodeled townhouse.

Says ASLA President Robert H. Mortensen: "All of our members can share a real sense of accomplishment." Nearly 3,000 individual members, 600 firms, and most of the ASLA chapters and some suppliers contributed to the building fund.

In 1982, the Washington Metropolitan chapter of the American Institute of Architects recognized the ASLA building for its first award for achievement of excellence in historic preservation and architectural design.

The ASLA has used its headquarters in the nation's capital to expand and consolidate its operations. The Society's staff has grown from seven to 30 in just seven years, and The Landscape Architecture Foundation is now also located at that address. Members of the Society's publishing staff, which produces the periodicals *Landscape Architecture* and *Garden Design*, moved from Louisville to the D.C. headquarters last year.

The American Society of Landscape Architects is a voluntary professional society serving the landscape architects across the country. Started in 1899 by 11 landscape architects, it now numbers over 7,000 members.

INDUSTRY

Midwest next boom for irrigation

Much of the water-rich Midwest remains almost virgin territory for home irrigation systems. That could be changing in the not-to-distant future.

Representatives from Rain Bird and Toro Irrigation told attendees at the recent Reinders Turf & Irrigation Conference that irrigation will take on increased importance, even in areas where it is now uncommon, as

home owners realize the value of well-maintained lawns and landscapes.

"Irrigation awareness is growing by leaps and bounds," said Don Bulmer, district sales manager of Toro Irrigation. "The growth of irrigation is staggering."

Bulmer explained that 52 percent of single family residences in Southern California possess irrigation systems, but in the Midwest the figure drops to about 3 percent.

Bulmer, pointing to the phenomenal growth in the past decade of

such amenities as automobile air conditioning and central air in homes, predicted 40 to 50 percent of all homes will have irrigation by the year 2005.

Water conservation, however, will remain a concern of irrigation companies.

"Water is becoming a very scarce commodity in many parts of the country," Rain Bird's Desi Williamson added. He said products like electronic "rain checks", which shut a system down during a rain, and "moisture sensor inhibitors", which keep a system from operating until there's a need, indicate the growing sophistication of irrigation systems.

ASSOCIATION

GCSAA outlines mid-year conference

The Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis, IN, is the site of the 1985 GCSAA Mid-Year Conference and Show. The date is Sept. 19-24.

Says GCSAA President Eugene D. Baston: "GCSAA members have expressed a need for information that will assist them in training their own staffs. With this conference, we will be answering those needs."

On the GCSAA agenda are seven education seminars, staff technician training courses, a golf/turfgrass market research workshop, a turfgrass research conference, and a national golf championship to benefit turfgrass research.

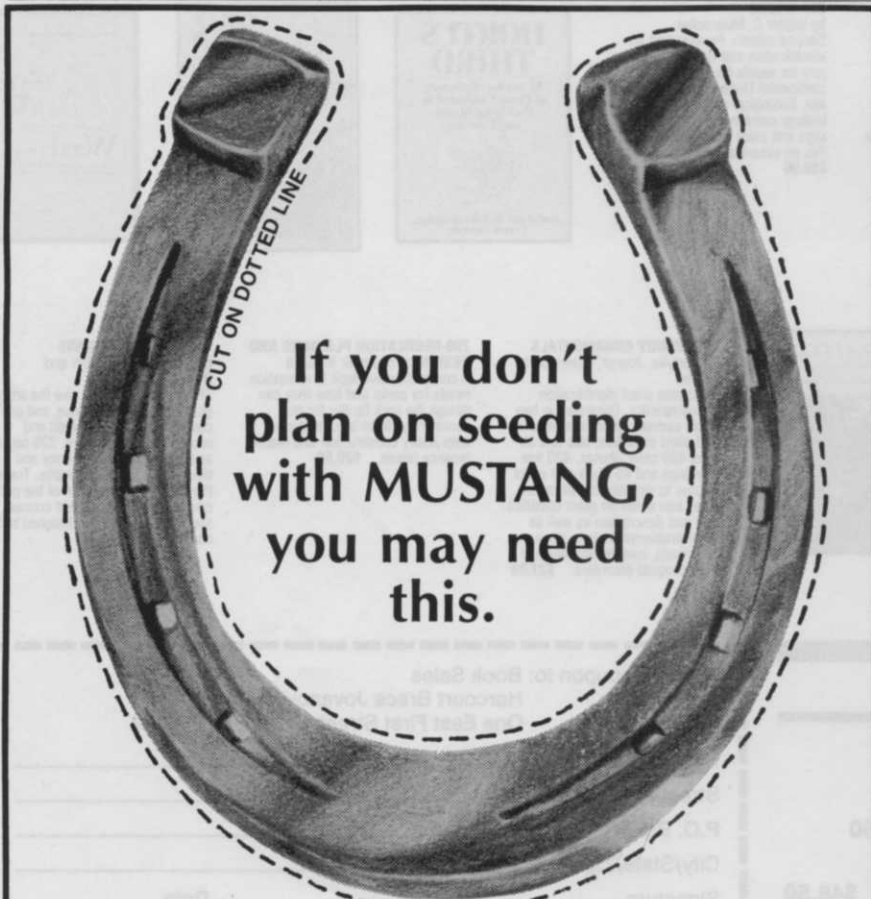
The staff technician training courses will be "hands on" with the involvement of manufacturers. They will focus on equipment repair, irrigation equipment operation, pesticide safety and applications, and golf car repair and maintenance.

In addition, 20 of the nation's leading scientists are expected to present updates on all major turfgrass research being funded with GCSAA's support.

A national "selling and buying" type exhibition trade show is planned in conjunction with the conference and an outside turfgrass equipment demonstration.

"September is an excellent time for manufacturers and distributors for golf course equipment and supplies to demonstrate their products as this is the time of the year when golf course managers plan purchases," Baston adds. "We believe this mid-year conference will be very beneficial to our members and to our advertisers and distributors."

A one-day golf championship will be played with the proceeds going to turfgrass research.



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UPDATE

Groundwater scare spreads

Concern over contamination of groundwater in New York, Florida and New Jersey is spreading to other states, the most recent being Connecticut. The Connecticut Tree Protective Association sent a legislative alert out to arborists and landscapers in late February to help counteract overzealous state lawmakers excited by recent groundwater contamination stories.

Industry members get concerned when state laws venture too far from national ones. In this case, two bills are in question. One requires monthly reports to the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and posting of job sites. Another would allow the state to change the classification of a pesticide regardless of Federal action.

Seed label laws come to terms

'Noxious' or 'undesirable' makes a big difference to seed companies in Pennsylvania and other Atlantic states.

Afraid of different labelling requirements for each state, people like Adikes' Bob Russell are opposed to new state seed label laws. Others, like Penn State University's Dr. Joe Duich, feel stronger laws will improve the overall image of seed from reputable companies.

The biggest problem may be the states don't talk to each other when formulating their regulations, or do they? Progress has been made through regional regulatory officials, helping change the terminology of 'noxious', required by state laws on seed labels, to 'undesirable'. But the battle is not over, even with the change in terminology. It should be a hot topic at the American Seed Trade Association meeting this summer.

Reclamation laws may fall short

When abandoned mine reclamation funds expire in 1992, thousands of acres of scarred lands will remain, according to a recent report by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Not only are the lands scarred, but they pour nearly 2,400 tons of sediment per square mile per year into Tennessee Valley waterways alone. The TVA report states, "The abandoned mine problem will not go away; rather it will, in many cases, become more critical and costly to solve."

The Federal Reclamation laws were first implemented in 1977. They represented a great opportunity for landscape contractors, but much of this potential was lost as mining companies battled the laws in court.

TVA has developed a report, Orphans of the Valley, to describe the seriousness of reclamation laws falling short.

ASSOCIATION

Florida nurserymen seek bad check law

The Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association is pressing the state legislature there to stiffen bad check laws. If successful, the familiar refrain "the check is in the mail"—particularly if it's a bad check—might not be so common.

"From a commercial standpoint, this issue of bad checks is a big problem," Allen Bernard, executive vice president of the FNGA, tells Weeds Trees & Turf. "Our effort is a move to put some teeth into the law."

Current Florida law almost requires a check to be signed in front of a merchant before the drawer can be prosecuted for writing a bad check. Therefore prosecution arising from checks delivered by deliverymen or through the mail is rare. The problem of postdated checks has also caused dissatisfaction with present laws.

The FNGA is asking the legislature to rewrite the statute to allow businesses to create a check cashing card file for each customer which would include name, address, telephone number and signature of that customer. The card could be used as a basis of identification for the check writer—the main stumbling block to prosecution in the present law. Postdated checks would be eliminated as well.

"Even with these changes very few would ever be prosecuted," Bernard adds. "But the threat of prosecution might get them to pay, and that's really the intent of it all."

A draft of the FNGA proposal, which is gaining support from other non-related industries, is in legislative committee.

ATHLETIC FIELDS

Toma speaks, crowd big at Sports Institute

The Sports Turf Institute, held in March at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, doubled in size from its inaugural meeting last year.

Show organizer Professor Kent Kurtz started with the conference last year based on requests received by the University for assistance with both professional and school fields. The first show last May attracted more than 250 field managers and 8 exhibitors. This year's show drew more than 550 field managers and 30 exhibitors. It also attracted stadium management from the Rose Bowl, San Diego Stadium, Anaheim Stadium and the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Well-known sports field expert
continued on page 84

Although many of the students stretched their remembrances of their former professor for a chuckle, the thanks were heartfelt.

"One of the real strong points that separate him from other professors is his sincere interest in his students, even when they leave Purdue," says Charlie Tadge, superintendent of Mayfield Country Club near Cleveland and a 1958 Purdue grad. "He keeps track of his students and has helped many of us in our careers."

At a dinner in the Purdue Memorial Union the following night Bruce Shank, executive editor of *Weeds Trees & Turf* magazine, presented Daniel with the publication's "Man of the Year" Award. He is the fourth recipient of the award. Previously honored by the magazine were: Dr. Fred Grau, Monty Moncrief, and Al Radko.

Filling the void in Purdue's Department of Agronomy left by Daniel's retirement promises to be a tall order. Members of a university search committee met soon after the conference to solidify a job description for a "quality" replacement.

"We hope to attract somebody that's already out in the professional

ranks," a university spokesperson, says. "We think it's an attractive enough situation to advertise at the associate professor level."

As for Daniel, looking fit and trim at the conference, retirement from academia probably means a greater involvement with the promotion and marketing of his PAT system for athletic fields.

GOLF

Fiber covers can save turf

Dr. John Roberts says golf course managers in the North should recognize fiber turf covers as a valuable "tool" in maintaining greens on their courses. They can be of particular value in the period between the spring thaw and the opening of a course for play.

Roberts of the University of New Hampshire says spun-bonded, polyester covers used on New England courses helped in four ways:

- 1 by reducing desiccation
- 2 by speeding spring green-up
- 3 by keeping unwanted traffic off greens
- 4 by hastening seed germination rates by as much as 10 days.

Although several materials were tested, Roberts says the most effective seems to be a translucent material weighing one ounce and costing about five cents per sq. meter. This material (Reemay by DuPont) allows light to reach the turf, encouraging "normal" growth, he points out.

Roberts made these comments at the recent Midwest Regional Turf Conference at Purdue University.

EDUCATION

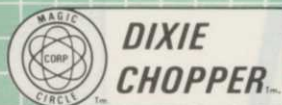
Toro funds endowment; announces competition

Good news from Toro Irrigation for the landscape industry.

Toro, through an endowment fund, is financing a course book on irrigation. The California-based company is making direct contributions totalling \$50,000 over five years to the program. Interest from the fund is earmarked for use by The Landscape Architecture Foundation, Washington D.C., in putting together the irrigation reference book (in the format of the LAF "Handbook" series). Other educational materials will be funded from the endowment.

continued on page 84

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TOMA SPEAKS *from page 16*

George Toma from the Kansas City Chiefs keynoted the conference. Toma fascinated the crowd with 140 slides of his experiences with both natural and artificial turf. "We face tremendous roadblocks at times," Toma admitted. "Only long hours, creative problem solving, and our crews get us through. We are a family and we have to stick together and grow."

Specialists in drainage, chemicals, soils, and irrigation gave both the basics and their tips to the Institute



Sports Turf Institute '85.

attendees. For four hours speakers shared their experiences so others could learn.

This year's Institute was sponsored by the Sports Turf Manager's Association (STMA), a non-profit professional

organization Kurtz serves voluntarily as executive secretary.

"STMA has arranged major regional seminars in 1986 in conjunction with the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America conference in San Francisco and the new Landscape Exposition in Valley Forge, PA," Kurtz said. In addition to the Institute, Kurtz hopes to develop seminars in the Chicago area and in Florida.

STMA has a bimonthly newsletter and a membership binder containing field specifications, membership roster, and product catalog sheets. Dues range from \$20 to \$100 per year. Interested persons should contact Kent Kurtz, STMA, 1458 N. Euclid, Ontario, CA 91764.

Kurtz is co-authoring a book with Dr. William Daniel on sports turf management to be published in 1986 by Prentice Hall.

TORO *from page 18*

Courtland P. Paul, president of the ASLA, is teaming with Toro's Rick Robins, landscape architects Bob Cloud and Cal Olsen, and university professors John Roberts and Jot Carpenter

on an editorial committee.

In a related matter, Toro announces a Landscape Advancement Awards Competition to recognize landscape professionals utilizing innovative irrigation techniques.

Landscape architects, architectural engineers, and other landscape professionals are eligible to compete for one of four \$500 cash prizes. Toro says it will contribute a \$2,500 donation in each of the winner's names to the endowment fund. The first presentation of these awards will be Oct. 11-15 at the 1985 ASLA show in Cincinnati, OH. Submissions for the 1985 awards will be accepted through July 15.

For more information contact Sherry Barndollar, executive director LAF, 1733 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D.C. 20009. (202) 223-6229.

TURFGRASS

Lofts extends Baron contract through 1989

Lofts Inc., Bound Brook, NJ, will continue to be the exclusive U.S. source of Baron Kentucky bluegrass at least through 1989, Jon Loft, president of the company, announces following his recent trip to Holland.

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Loft and Bert Barenbrug, Arnhem, Holland, extended their Baron contract through the 1989 harvest. Lofts Inc. and Barenbrug entered into their initial agreement almost 15 years ago when Lofts introduced Baron to the U.S. turf market. Baron's U.S. plant patent number expires May 23, 1989.

INDUSTRY

Chipco Ronstar WP registered for turf

Chipco Ronstar WP is now EPA registered for turf, but won't be marketed until 1986 because of the timing of the registration, Rhone-Poulenc Inc. reports.

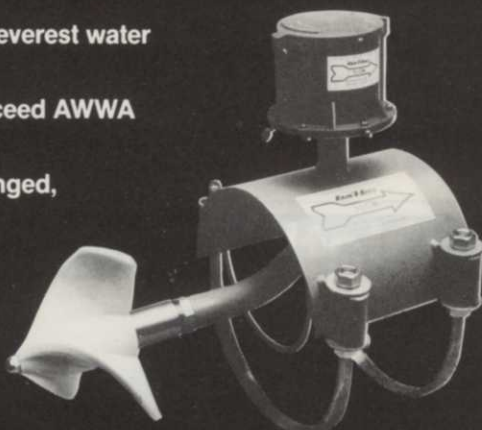
"We will use 1985 to demonstrate the excellent preemergent weed control of Chipco Ronstar WP to the turf professionals," says Chipco Product Manager Dan Stahl.

Chipco Ronstar WP is a wettable powder formulation of the widely used turf and ornamental pre-emergent herbicide Chipco Ronstar G.

Although the registration for Ronstar WP is for turf only, Stahl reports, "we already have a program for expanding the label and we have put that program into action."

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RESEARCH

Turf ring spot control difficult

The appearance of ring spots in turf still has researchers puzzled, although progress is being made in controlling it, says Dr. Gayle Worf of the University of Wisconsin.

The unpredictable response of ring spot, commonly called Fusarium blight, to traditional treatment is causing researchers to literally put the disease under the microscope.

Worf, who spoke at the recent Reinders Turf and Irrigation Conference near Milwaukee, says control of Fusarium blight is complicated because it appears to be two (or more) diseases with almost identical symptoms. Research points to necrotic ring spot (NRS) and summer patch as appearing as "twins", Worf notes.

His research in Wisconsin indicates NRS is usually a mid-summer disease that occurs primarily on bluegrass that is two to eight years old. NRS does not appear to be affected by aeration, removal of thatch, or by

changing the pH of the soil. Nor does it appear that NRS is caused by the application of herbicides.

Overseeding with perennial ryegrass will give affected turf a more pleasing appearance since NRS attacks bluegrass. But Worf says the best way to battle NRS might be to maintain sensible fertilization and irrigation programs. "Over a period of time, if you can keep the turf alive, the plants are going to heal themselves," he adds.

Some varieties of bluegrass (Adelphi, Majestic, Merion, Midnight, Mystic, Park, Vantage, and Wabash) appear to be more tolerant of NRS than others, his Wisconsin test plots suggest.

INDUSTRY

Scotts starts lawn care division

O.M. Scott & Sons, Inc. has set up a special division for marketing its products to professional lawn care companies.

The new division will be headed by Ron Gagne, a 16-year veteran of Scott's Pro Turf Division.

"The lawn care industry had not

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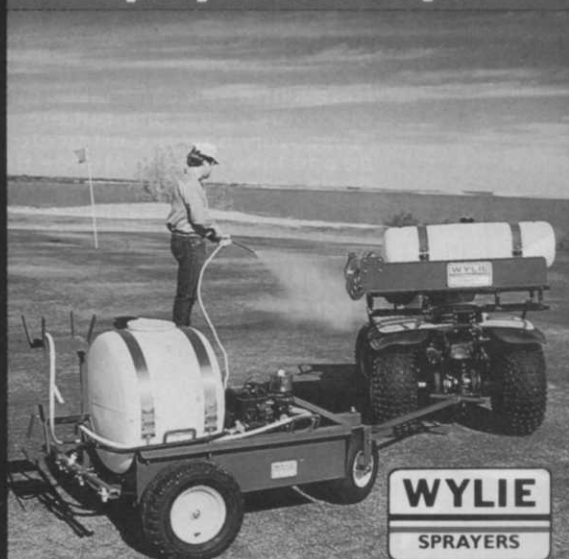
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been getting the attention it should have, mostly because we recruit our sales force from golf courses," says Gagne. "So our strength has been mostly with the golf courses."

"But after the PLCAA in Tampa last November, we decided to reorganize the Pro Turf Division and open a sales force specializing in professional lawn care and to develop a product line especially for that market."

The new division consists of five people, including Gagne. It will be expanded in October.

"Starting in January wasn't real good timing for this season," Gagne admits. "So this is a building year for us, a time that we're using to learn how to better serve the industry."

INDUSTRY

Estech to manufacture IBDU at Alabama site

IB Chemical Company, Bucks, AL, should begin manufacturing IBDU, isobutylidene diurea, for Estech later this year. IBDU, a high nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer, is distributed exclusively in North America by Estech, and is used in the formulation of that company's Par Ex turf fertilizers.

Par Ex Sales Manager Irven Stacy says healthy sales "required the need for (IBDU) production facilities in the U.S."

BUSINESS

New 'custom' lawn care service well received

W.R. Grace & Co. Agricultural Chemicals Group, longtime plant food maker, has apparently found a place in the professional lawn care market. It's one-year-old Wondergro Custom Lawn Service is now established in Southern Indiana.

"We've got plenty to keep us busy," Mike DeGross, service center manager for the service, tells *Weeds Trees & Turf*. "We'll be expanding into Louisville this year."

Wondergro, based in New Albany, IN, presently employs a staff of six lawn care "specialists," each with a fully equipped service truck. Switchboard operators receive inquiries on several special lines. The service stresses the "custom" nature of its services in a campaign of outdoor, newspaper, radio, and direct mail advertisements.

Grace's entry into the lawn care business was spurred by the success of its line of seasonal lawn care products, Grace officials report.

SEED

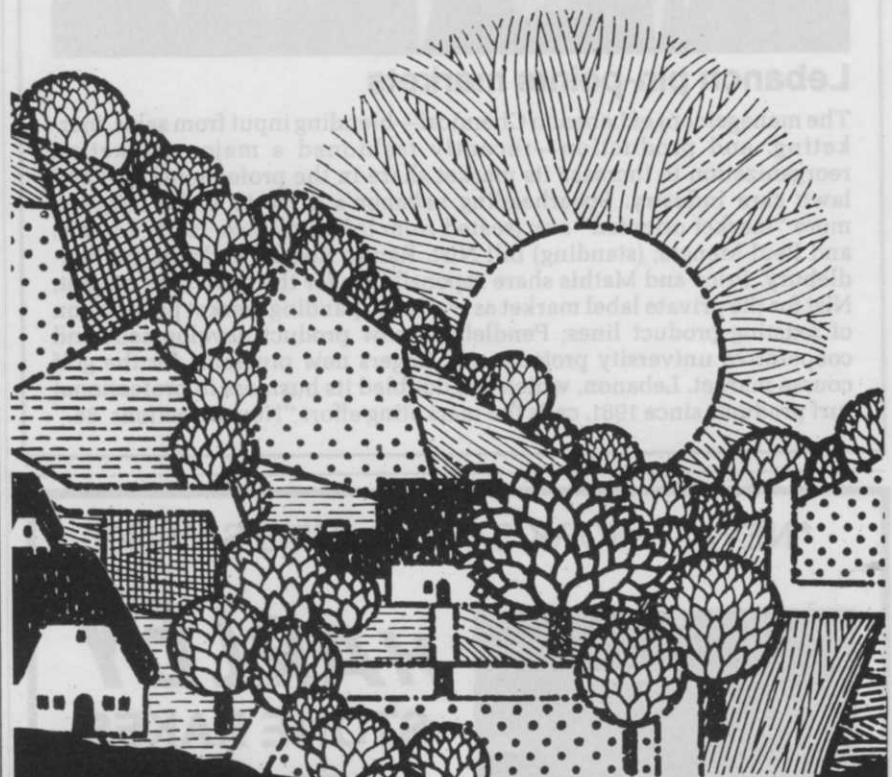
Jack Hertwig, 73, dies on assignment

Longtime turf industry representative Jack Hertwig died Feb. 26 in Manama, Bahrein. He was in the Persian Gulf nation as part of a joint American Seed Tradesman Association/Foreign Agricultural Service team of turf experts.

Hertwig was on assignment for In-the time of his death. Before joining

International Seeds, Inc., Halsey, OR, at that company in 1981 as a consultant, he worked 25 years with Germain's Seed, Los Angeles. For many years he headed that company's Golf Course Division.

Hertwig, a longtime member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and Pacific Seedmen's Association, is survived by his wife Barbara, sons Joe and Tom, daughter Kathy, and three grandchildren.



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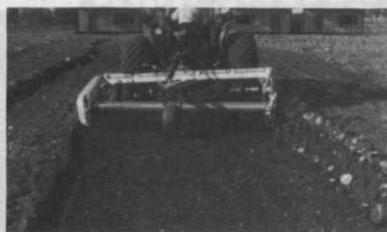
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Lebanon pin-points markets

The management of Lebanon Chemical—blending input from sales, marketing, and production—recently fashioned a major marketing reorganization to increase its market share in the professional turf and lawn care industry. Spearheading Lebanon's drive to make Lebanon more "market oriented" are: (seated from left), Ed Price, Harry Mathis, and Paul Mengle; (standing) Bill Nist, Randy Rogers, and Charlie Pendlebury. Price and Mathis share responsibility for the lawn care market; Nist for the private label market as well as expanding market penetration of existing product lines; Pendlebury new product development and cooperative university projects; and Rogers new programs for the golf course market. Lebanon, which has doubled its business in professional turf products since 1981, calls the marketing effort "New Directions '86."

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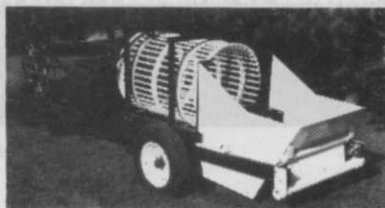
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General Turf & Grounds Equipment Co. (KS & MO)
Columbia, MO 65205, 314/445-6609

Grass Roots Turf Equipment Co. (IA & NE)
Des Moines, IA 50321, 515/223-5980

Hanley Equipment, Inc. (WI)
Sun Prairie, WI 53590, 608/837-5111

Ideal Mower Sales (MI & Western OH)
Ferndale, MI 48220, 313/541-4200

Kaye Corporation (MN, ND & SD)
Mankato, MN 56001, 507/345-5083

Olsen Distributing Company (IL)
Barrington, IL 60010, 312/381-9333

WEST

Colorado Outdoor Power Equip., Inc. (CO, WY & NM)
Denver, CO 80223, 303/733-4651

Highland Equipment Co. (UT)
Salt Lake City, UT 84103, 801/364-9445

Huber Incorporated (AZ)
Phoenix, AZ 85016, 602/955-1731

Jenkins Machinery Company (CA, NV & HI)
Concord, CA 94520, 415/685-6685

Turf-Go Northwest (WA, OR & AK)
Seattle, WA 98036, 206/771-4885

CANADA

Consolidated Western Ind. Co., Ltd. (Alta & Sask)
Edmonton, Alta T5S 1H4, 403/484-7181

G. C. Duke Equipment Ltd. (Ont. Que & Maritime Provinces)
Burlington, Ont L7S 1W6, 416/637-5216

Par Equipment Ltd. (Man)
Winnipeg, Man R3E 3J8, 204/775-8988

Rollins Machinery Ltd. (B.C.)
Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1H8, 604/874-6404

RANSOMES