

## ASSOCIATIONS

### Wilkinson is named director of PPPF

Jim Wilkinson, president of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America, is the new executive director of the Pesticide Public Policy Foundation.

"He possesses the unique capabilities that make him eminently qualified," says Eric Haupt, PPPF board chairman. Wilkinson owns a Ph.D. in agronomy; he headed a lawn care company; he worked with regulatory agencies for the PLCAA.



Wilkinson

"The opportunity to work for PPPF interested me," Wilkinson says. "I like the regulatory, environmental issues arena."

Wilkinson will work for 3PF as a consultant on a contract basis in Providence, R.I. He says he will probably seek other clients.

First order of business will be to solicit funds for PPPF, the new executive director says. The PLCAA and the National Arborists Association have been the primary supporters. Wilkinson says he will seek to better involve the golf course, nursery and structural pest control industries.

Wilkinson was general manager of Old Fox Lawn Care, Providence, for the last seven years. Replacing him is John Kenenski, who was formerly operations manager.

Wilkinson succeeds Dave Dietz of Salem, Ore., who had been personally involved with the PPPF since its inception. Dietz is recovering from a serious automobile accident that put him into a coma earlier this year. He is currently at a rehabilitation center undergoing physical therapy.

A mail poll of PPPF members was unanimously in favor of discontinuing the association's contract with Dietz. In a letter to Dietz dated Aug. 13th, PPPF board chairman Erik Haupt of Bartlett Tree, Osterville, Mass., wrote:

"It goes without saying that we were grievously saddened when we learned of the accident. On behalf of the Board, I extend my hand in thanks and appreciation for all you have done for the pesticide user groups. With kindest regards and wishes for a speedy recovery..."

**WATER WOES?...Algae in your standing water? Weeds infesting your ponds? The answer to your troubles might be a combination of things, according to Charlie Barebo of Barebo, Inc., Emmaus, Pa. "Water is one of the least understood commodities we deal with," Barebo says. "One tool alone (for control of aquatic weeds and algae) is not enough. A balanced approach is the best solution." Proven means of weed and algae control are by fertilization, by drawdown, with biological controls, with chemical controls and with mechanical devices. Harvesters fall into the last category, as do aquatic aerifiers like the ones manufactured by Barebo.**

**AND YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS?...Oak Pointe Golf Club near Brighton, Mich. lost 60 prime golf days to vandalism last summer, and it's a tribute to the course's crew and the assistance from Vidosh Brothers Landscaping that it wasn't longer. Eight greens and one tee on the three courses were killed out overnight when vandals spread a toxic chemical (not related to golf) on those parts of the courses. Flushing was first tried unsuccessfully. Eventually, three inches of soil had to be replaced and 6,000 yards of prime bentgrass sod was installed. More about this mammoth task will appear in a future issue of LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT.**

**IF YOU NEED MILORGANITE...In 61 years, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District has sold more than 3.7 million tons of Milorganite fertilizer. Demand continues at a fast pace, so the MMSD is expanding its plant to boost production by 25 percent to 75,000 tons a year. The company is also planning over-the-counter sales to the consumer market.**

**POTASH PRICE HIKES...A duty on potash imports could make some fertilizer blends slightly more expensive, suppliers say. The U.S. Commerce Department recently announced steps to prevent Canadian dumping of potash in response to suits filed by U.S. potash producers. As a result, potash prices have jumped 35 to 40 percent for wholesale buyers. Paul Mengle of Lebanon Chemical says the impact on the turf industry will be long-range. His company has planned no price increase for fertilizer blends containing potash this coming fall. Mengle estimates the eventual increase for blends at two or three percent. Peter Machin of The Andersons says his company plans no price increases either. Eventually, he sees a possible increase of one to three percent. The impact is expected to be much greater in the agriculture industry.**

**THE PRINCE VISITS...Kansas State University, home of the first graduate and undergraduate horticultural therapy programs, greeted the crown prince and crown princess of Japan last month. The horticultural therapy program, under Richard Mattson of the horticulture department, prepares students to work with the mentally and physically disabled, the aged and with persons in correctional facilities. It was begun in 1971.**

**BREEDING SUCCESS...Kevin McVeigh, Ph.D., and his wife Rose formed Willamette Valley Plant Breeders of Brownsville, Ore. earlier this year. Purpose of the new company is to test, evaluate and develop varieties of turfgrass that have been released to Cascade International Seed by the Rutgers University Agricultural Experiment Station. McVeigh received his doctorate in plant breeding from Rutgers. Cascade is a subsidiary of Jonathan Green, which markets turfseed.**