

### PRODUCTS

# Toro unveils unique new greens aeration equipment

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Toro Co. introduced a revolutionary aerator that uses high velocity water to aerate putting surfaces.

The HydroJect 3000 "has the potential to cause significant change in the way cultural aeration practices are performed by superintendents today," says Mike Hoffman, director of commercial marketing. The aerator delivers water at 5000 psi to penetrate deeper into the soil than conventional hollow tine aerators with less injury to the plant and root, without disturbing the playing surface.

"The key is that play does not have to be interrupted," adds Hoffman. "In the past, aeration was generally limited to spring and fall application...because the HydroJect 3000 does not disturb the surface, you no longer have the problem of mixing golfers with aeration. Now both can occur on the same day."

The HydroJect is capable of reaching depths of four to eight inches with a single shot of water and depths of beyond 20 inches if multiple shots are used. The aerator uses about 150 gallons of water to aerate a 7,000 sq. ft. green. It has an aeration width of 33 inches, with 11 nozzles spaced every three inches. It is powered by an Onan four-cycle, air-cooled, 24-hp engine capable of four hours of operation without refueling. □



The Toro Company's new HydroJect 3000 (seen here) "has the potential to cause significant change in the way cultural aeration practices are performed by superintendents today."

### RESEARCH

## Company buys bio product

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Mycogen Corp. recently acquired the patent rights from Michigan State University for development of a biological control product for *Poa annua* (annual bluegrass).

The bacteria is called *Xanthomonas campestris*. Paul Zorner, director of bio-herbicide research, says, however, that the pathogen has not yet been identified.

"We have all of our permits submitted to the federal government and to each state where we want to release the organism," says Zorner. The company plans a 10-state/13-site

field testing program.

Current testing has been conducted in the company's San Diego and Ruston, La. laboratories and greenhouses.

Zorner says the xanthomonas is "very specific to annual bluegrass. Very few other species of plants are susceptible to this particular disease. That's the idea of bio weed control; it's very, very specific."

Zorner says that if all goes well, Mycogen would consider obtaining an experimental use permit next year, which would allow it to treat several acres of poa-infested turf.

In March, Mycogen reported receiving an experimental use permit for its MVP bio-insecticide, a product targeted for control of the diamondback moth and other caterpillar insects that attack cabbage, broccoli, lettuce and a range of other crops.

Based in San Diego, Mycogen also markets M-One insecticide, a *Bacillus thuringiensis* product for control of Colorado potato beetle larvae.

In January 1990 Mycogen purchased the Commercial and Agricultural Products Divisions of Safer, Inc. for \$2.25 million. □