

GREEN INDUSTRY SHOWCASE

Joint-venture subsurface products designed to save landscape water

Amid an industry-wide scramble for solutions to national and global water shortages, a new line of products from Toro Irrigation is designed to preserve landscape beauty and reduce water use.

"Water conservation and attractive landscapes are compatible," says Steve Snow, the company's retail and new business manager. "We think this is a major step in getting answers to irrigation problems from a single source."

Components of the new line are subsurface drip irrigation, drip irrigation, microspray, a high-flow shut-off device, a Rainswitch, new controllers, an adjustable

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stream rotor nozzle and Flo-Pro valves.

"We have formed strategic partnerships with a number of industry leaders so that we can offer a full selection of irrigation products," Snow relates. "Some of it is Toro technology. But the biggest part comes from strategic partnerships with companies like Netafim, the world leader in drip irrigation."

● Subsurface drip irrigation products put water at the plant rootbase, where it's most needed.

"Drip irrigation is coming up in conversations with contractors more and more," Snow contends. "There's a demand for irrigation solutions to odd shapes, against buildings and in high wind areas, for example. Square and rectangular landscapes are not as common as they've been in the past. And sprinklers are just not designed for some of those areas."

Both of Toro's surface and sub-surface drip systems offer a complete line of components, including fittings, pressure regulators, filters and tubing.

● The microspray is designed for use in

small or narrow planting areas with a radius of 3 to 10 feet, or in color beds with fragile plantings. Features include flush mount micro bases which retrofit to any Toro 570 pop-up body or shrub adapter. Other features are:

1) pressure compensation to provide uniform application over elevation changes and long runs;

2) low flow and precipitation rate to reduce runoff in tight soils; and

3) six nozzle patterns and color-coded bases.

● The high-flow shut-off device reduces water flow to a damaged or vandalized sprinkler without interrupting the remaining irrigation system. It delivers no more than 1/2 gallon per minute within 60 seconds and is easy to install.

● The Rainswitch, which requires no maintenance or cleaning, suspends irrigation during rainfall.

● Toro's new controllers include three commercial/government central control systems featuring radio capability. All controllers feature long run times for low volume irrigation.

● The new Omni adjustable nozzle for Toro's stream rotor sprinkler increases ease and flexibility in design and installation.

● And the company's Flo-Pro valves are

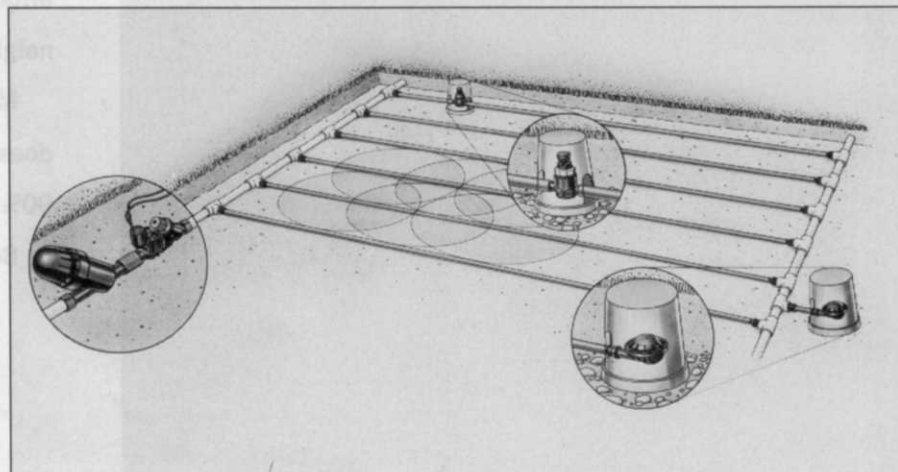
adjustable from 0.25 to 30 gallons per minute. Various body configurations are available.

"These give Toro Irrigation the most comprehensive product lines in the business," Snow concludes.

Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card



TechLine makes it possible to irrigate curved, angular, narrow median strips without overspray and water run-off.



Toro/Netafim's TechLine is typically installed in a grid pattern, 4- to 6-inches below the surface. Tubing spaces 12- to 24-inches apart with emitters every 12- to 24-inches creates an even distribution of water.