HOT TOPICS

• Prices on Bov-A-Mura liquid organic fertilizer will be going down, thanks to **PBI/Gordon's** efforts to build a plant here in the United States. Bov-A-Mura was previously only available by importing from England. "Prices will definitely be going down," says PBI's **Gary Custis**. "All the savings will be passed on to the end-user." The new plant will be constructed in Pittsburg, Kansas, one hour south of PBI/Gordon's Kansas City headquarters.

• The Scotts Company, the official turf care sponsor for the U.S. Youth Soccer Association, will award \$25,000 in college scholarships to U.S.Y.S.A. high school seniors. It will also provide a program to help the association's member organizations improve and maintain their soccer fields.

• Tom Cook of Oregon State University has been honored with Seed Research of Oregon's "Research Excellence" award. Jim Reinertson of Dedham Country and Polo Club in Dedham, Mass. won SRO's "Golf Course Superintendent of the Year" award. Also, SRO is now the official seed supplier for SMA Services Corp., a subsidiary of the Stadium Managers Association.

• Tony Gustaitis, golf superintendent at Whitemarsh Valley Country Club in Lafayette Hill, Pa., won an expense-paid trip for two to the birthplace of golf— Scotland—from American Cyanamid earlier this year.

• Sandoz Agro has consolidated its Zoecon product line under the Sandoz Agro name. "[This] is a part of our strategy to become more aggressive and progressive in specialty markets," says Carl Tanner, director of marketing for specialty business.

Pennington Seed Co. recently received \$250,000 from the USDA for damages resulting from illegal actions against the company by the government six years. Because of a government order, Pennington had to destroy 200,000 pounds of its seed. It sought compensation from the government, which refused to pay.

Parker Sweeper's manufacturing facility has moved from Springfield, Ohio, to Hampshire, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. The new building has 200,000 square feet of manufacturing space, with plans for at least 50,000 more square feet.

• Scott Wanzor of Duluth, Ga., has joined Aquatrols as southeast territory sales manager. The University of Georgia grad has more than 18 years of experience in the turf and ornamental market.

Snapper Power Equipment is introducing a limited number of products into 31 Home Depot stores in Texas. "This move into high-end specialty retailing is just one more step for Snapper in its continuing growth course," says Snapper president and CEO Jerry Schewiner. **JaiTire** Industries and the City of Lancaster received the League of California Cities' Helen Putnam Award for Excellence for implementing Rebound Soil Amendment into the city's new athletic fields.

■ Jim Crockett is new to the W.A. Cleary Chemical Corp. as market development manager, horticulture products. The former ChemLawn employee holds a master of science degree from Auburn University.

• Winners of the Rain Bird Golf Division Freedom System Giveaway Contest: Manuel Delgado, Liano, Calif.; Robert K. Ellis, Vero Beach, Fla.; Doug Falk, Litchfield, Mo.; Howard Hamaoa, Aiea, Hawaii; Larry C. Handle, Paducah, Ky.; Dan Higgins, Winchester, Mass.

• A group headed by **Dick Cornelius** of Fort Collins, Colo. is new owner of **BlueBird International**, a lawn care equipment manufacturer. He bought the company from **Doug and Bev Zehrung**.

Ernest E. Cook, co-founder of Hypro Corp., passed away on April 7. He and **Harry J. Sadler** had started the company in 1947 and resigned in 1966.

■ Garden Way's new director of product management and research is Gregory E. Best; new product managers are Kevin J. Connolly, Paul F. Denimarck and Brian E. Miller; new associate product managers are Denis J. Bedard and Thomas J. Klein.

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