

Gore eases FQPA harangue; wants 'sound approach'

Vice President Al Gore, in apparent response to intense Green Industry and congressional concerns over implementation of Food Quality Protection Act mandates, has asked the EPA and the Secretary of Agriculture to work together to pursue a "sound regulatory approach," to the mandates.

"I am requesting that the EPA...and Secretary of Agriculture work together to ensure that implementation of the paramount public health goals of the new law is informed by a sound regulatory approach...EPA and USDA should provide an initial report to me on implementation of this memorandum within 14 days..." wrote Gore in his directive.

The four page memorandum to USDA Secretary Dan Glickman and EPA Administrator Carol Browner outlines a series of "Implementation Principles" which require decisions based on science, communication and public input. Many of the principles address specific problems the regulated industry has been experiencing in trying to work with the EPA, reports the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Prior to the directive, more than 30 key staff and volunteer representatives of 17 Green Industry-related associations were present at the Specialty Pesticide Association Leaders Conference, March 25.

Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) sponsored the meeting, which brought together executives with interests ranging from golf course management to residential and school pest control operators.

Those present expressed concern that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in an effort to implement Food Quality Protection Act mandates, will act hastily in the absence of pertinent scientific data, and cancel a number of food crop pesticides which have essential non-farm uses. □

ASGCA has free advice on remodeling a golf course

The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) offers a 12-page brochure for anyone who might be considering a golf course renovation. The brochure is entitled *Remodeling Your Golf Course*. It covers key areas to consider in a remodeling project. These include the rationale and benefits of remodeling; advice on drafting a remodeling master plan; and costs, funding sources and other factors relating to construction.

To obtain a free copy, send a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to the American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601. Phone: 312/372-7090, fax: 312/372-6160, Website:

www.golfdesign.org.

ASGCA supports foundation

ASGCA also announced its financial support of "Investing in the Beauty of Golf," a \$3.5 million initiative launched by the Foundation of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. The purpose of the initiative is to foster educational and applied scientific research programs on golf courses and the environment.

ASGCA elected three new associate members—Mike Benkusky, Marengo, IL; Ken Kavanaugh, Tucson, AZ; and John Fought, Aurora, OR.

Benkusky is an associate of Lohmann Golf Designs and his work includes Bishops Bay G.C., Middleton, Wis.; and Boulder Ridge CC, Lake in the Hills, IL. Kavanaugh, designed Southwyck GC, Pearland, TX; The Vistas at Westbrook Village, Peoria, AZ; and Seasons Ridge GC, Lake Ozark, MO. Fought is principal of John Fought Design/OB Sports LLC and is responsible for such layouts as Big Sky Golf & CC, Pemberton, B.C., Canada; Crosswater, Sunriver, OR; Langdon Farms GC, Aurora, OR; Rush Creek GC, Minneapolis, MN, and The Reserve, Portland, OR. □

Golf course construction rolls on

Golf course construction remains strong. The greatest activity is occurring on 9-hole daily fee courses, according to a release from the National Golf Foundation. Below is a recap of activity in 1997:

TYPE	PROJECT COMPLETIONS			PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION		
	18-hole	9-hole	total	18-hole	9-hole	total
New Facilities						
Daily Fee	78	148	226	97	390	487
Municipal	6	24	30	22	68	90
Private	6	23	29	6	72	78
Total	90	195	285	125	530	655
Additions*						
Daily Fee	100	8	108	159	31	190
Municipal	16	0	16	28	10	38
Private	20	0	20	35	14	49
Total	136	8	144	222	55	277
Grand Total	226	203	429	347	585	932

*Addition to existing facility