products TECH CENTER

Prune with power

Echo Inc.'s Power Pruners feature 25.4-cc Echo engines and telescoping shafts and optional ex-



tensions allowing operators to trim branches up to 22 ft. high. A new Oregon Intenz side-access chain tensioning bar ensures proper bar positioning. For more information

contact Echo at 800/673-1558 or www.echousa.com / circle no. 250

How stimulating

Bio-Plex technical concentrate and plant enhancer is a biostimulant liquid complex of seaweed extract, humic acid extract, enzymes and a non-ionic wetting agent. When applied to turf and ornamental plants, the company says, it reduces transplant stress, increases fibrous root mass and photosynthetic capacity and antioxidants, and speeds up plant establishment.

For more information contact Bio-Plex at 800/441-3573 / circle no. 251

Quick fix

NIBCO's Slip-Fix in-line repair coupling for broken water lines offers tight, permanent sealing since it has no threaded connections to

> work loose and a deep socket female end. It also has a built-in recess that keeps the

O-ring lubricated to hold pressure. Its telescoping design eliminates digging out long sections of pipe to mend a break.

For more information contact NIBCO at 888/446-4226 or www.nibco.com / circle no. 252

Spray head for less

Rain Bird's UNI-Spray was designed with affordability in mind. It's available in 2-, 4- and 6-in. pop-up heights, and its slim profile makes it virtually invisible. The pressure-activated, multi-function wiper seal limits the flow-by during pop-up to allow more heads to be installed on a valve. It's also available with 10-, 12-, 15- or

18-ft. factory installed variable arc nozzles adjustable from 0 to 360 degrees for watering standard or irregularly-shaped turf areas.

For more information contact Rain Bird at 800/247-3782 or www.rainbird.com / circle no. 253

Keep plants cozy

Reemay, Inc.'s lawn and garden blankets are made of lightweight, spunbonded polyester that floats over plants and, the company says, retains warmth and moisture to protect plants during cold spells and to help boost germination and growth when temperatures begin to rise. The blankets are 12 ft. by 15 ft.

For more information contact Reemay at 800/321-6271 or www.reemay.com / circle no. 254

Net a problem

Tipper Tie-Net has a biodegradable netting perfect for turf reinforcement. Made from natural cotton yarns, it ranges in size from 22- to 96-in. wide. Life expectancy ranges from between 60 and 180 days or longer, depending on whether or not a natural wax is introduced to the yarn. For more information contact Tipper Tie-Net at 800/736-0990 / circle no. 255

Water control

Hunter Industries' Pro-C mid-sized controller for residential and light commercial applications handles up to 12 stations. It's sold as a 3-station base unit that can be expanded with snap-in zone modules. It also has a removable face pack so contractors can perform programming functions from many locations.

For more information contact Hunter at 800/733-2823 or www.hunterindustries.com / circle no. 256

Get in control

Caterpillar Inc.'s new 420D and 430D backhoe loaders feature standard pilot



operated joystick controls. The 420D has 85 net hp and backhoe digging depth of 14 ft., 5 in. The 430D has 94 net hp and digging depth of 15 ft., 3 in. An extendable stick increases digging depths of 420D and 430D to 18 ft., 1 in. and 19 ft., 11 in., respectively. Both machines can handle applications involving pallet forks, material handling arms, brooms and buckets.

For more information contact Caterpillar at P.O. Box 10097, Peoria, IL 61612-0097 or www.cat.com / circle no. 257

Plant power

Growth Products' new micronutrient blend Big Fore (4-0-0) contains 4% of each of the following elements: nitrogen, sulfur, iron and manganese. According to Growth Products, it can be safely tank mixed and sprayed with herbicides and insecticides. Big Fore is ideal for both foliar and soil applications to correct compound deficiencies

For more information contact Growth Products at 800/648-7626 / circle no. 258