

# NEWS+VIEWS

GREEN INDUSTRY EVENTS, TRENDS AND TIPS

## Syngenta acquires DuPont insecticide business

**S**yngenta has agreed to acquire the DuPont Professional Products' insecticide business for \$125 million.

Syngenta will receive the rights to Advion, Acelepryn, Altriset, Calteryx, Provaunt and Arilon branded products and end-use registrations, and a license under DuPont's patents and know-how for indoxacarb, chlorantraniliprole and cyantraniliprole related to their uses in the professional solutions market. DuPont will continue to manufacture indoxacarb, chlorantraniliprole, cyantraniliprole, as well as products containing these active ingredients, such as Coragen and Prevathon, in other markets.

"This acquisition will contribute to our objective of increasing profitability in the lawn and garden business through a focus on integrated solutions for our customers based on high value chemistry and genetics," said Robert Berendes,



Syngenta head of business development. "The products we are acquiring have an excellent environmental profile while providing superior control of insects in a wide variety of applications."

At press time, it's unknown how

many of DuPont Professional Products' more than 30 employees will join Syngenta. DuPont will continue to handle any issues stemming from the recall of its Imprelis herbicide.

The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2012.

"Innovations from our research and development pipeline are driving our Crop Protection business to an exciting, new position in agriculture," said Rik Miller, president of DuPont Crop Protection. "Strategic divestitures like this one give us more resources to focus on what DuPont does best—delivering science-based solutions that help our customers feed a growing population."

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# Ruppert buys N.C. firm

Ruppert Landscape Inc., Laytonsville, Md., has acquired New River Landscape, a Raleigh, N.C.-based company that provides commercial grounds management services.

In the transaction, Ruppert acquired commercial landscape management contracts as well as trucks, equipment and several employees.



New River Landscape has operated in the Raleigh metropolitan area for three years. Founder David Blakely will continue to run a related business he owns that services Charlotte and other markets. New River

Landscape's former minority owner Jeff Sosa, who has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the company's Raleigh operations, will stay on with Ruppert in a management capacity.

Ruppert also acquired Raleigh area company Eco Scapes in June. "These additions were part of a targeted plan to grow our business in this very vibrant market," said Ruppert President Chris Davitt. "New River Landscape represents a key piece of this plan as they brought to the table a very prestigious list of customers in the Raleigh area."

## Frank, Lied's partner on residential maintenance

**G**ermantown, Wis.-based David J. Frank Landscape Contracting acquired Lied's Nursery Co. to form a residential landscape division. The new entity will operate as Lied's-Frank Residential Landscapes, a division of David J. Frank Landscape Contracting. Terms of the agreement weren't disclosed.

Tom Lied will be president of the new division. Thirty of Lied's staff members will join the company, bringing it to more than 300 employees. David J. Frank ranked No. 73 on the 2012 *LM* 150 with \$17.8 million in 2011 revenue.

Lied's, formerly based in Sussex, Wis., closed its retail garden center in 2010. In July two of four Lied's properties were foreclosed, according to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

"We are both family-owned businesses, and we have families who have worked together for generations," Frank says. "We love that we have passionate fathers and sons working alongside one another, and their commitment to their work is incredible."

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