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DEERE from page 8

products, at an open house at the Horicon works Sept. 17-18. The company has introduced more than 100 new products in the consumer division in the last five years.

Deere was once known strictly as a tractor manufacturer. Mark C. Rostvold, vice president of consumer products recalls, "I was at a golf course in Los Angeles recently. A young man at the course heard I was from Deere and came up to me and said, 'John Deere—you're the lawn mower people.' Such has been the growth in that division.''

Rostvold notes that outdoor power equipment industry sales double about every five years. Which is why Deere has been heading in that direction. According to Raymond E. Gregg, general manager of the Horicon Works, last year consumer products accounted for \$700 million of the company's \$3.5 billion in sales. Horicon operations accounted for two-thirds of that \$700 million.

The Horicon operation has put into practice a number of measures to keep manufacturing costs down. They include computer-aided design and manufacturing of equipment; timely delivery of parts to reduce inventory; and a computer-controlled, timed automatic guided vehicle system which basically carries each vehicle to the next assembly station for further construction, instead of a traditional assembly line operation.

To keep up with the company's expansion in consumer markets, in 1987 Deere has or is adding about 1,000 more dealers to its network of 3,000 dealers in North America.

A.A.N.'s Lederer passes away at 59

Robert F. Lederer, executive vicepresident of the American Associa-

tion of Nurserymen, died Sept. 26 in Fairfax, Va. following heart surgery. He was 59.

Lederer joined the A.A.N. staff in February, 1959, serving as an administrative assistant. In 1965, he was named executive vicepresident. He had

planned to retire in August, 1988. A close ally of Lady Bird Johnson during the First Lady's National Beautification Program in the 1960s, Lederer more recently served as vicepresident of the board of the National Wildflower Research Center, which Mrs. Johnson founded.

Lederer's most recent professional activities were chairman of the Washington Youth Gardens Council and chair of the National Council for Therapy and Rehabilitation Through Horticulture steering committee.

REGISTRATIONS

Elanco names EL-107 Gallery and Snapshot

"Gallery" will be the trade name for the 75 percent dry flowable formulation of a new product from Elanco. The pre-emergence broadleaf herbicide was known during testing as EL-107. The compound's active ingredient, isoxaben, represents a new chemistry, says the company. "We feel quite confident with this formulation," notes Benny Eaton, Ph.D., project manager for Gallery.

Elanco expects EPA approval for Gallery 75DF and technical isoxaben by next fall. Approval for the second main product, "Snapshot," with



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No matter what your height-of-cut requirements are, the Greensmaster 3000 gives

you cutting versatility from as low as 3/32" up to 11/16." Just what you need to cut your greens to tournament standards and deliver a precision cut to aprons and tees as well. And that's a measurable difference over the competition.

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Kit. It allows you to select a consistent ground speed while maintaining a constant, even clip.

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This standard feature is anything but standard. It ensures a consistent cut around uneven terrain such as edges of greens, tees, aprons and fairways.

For further versatility and productivity, Toro provides a full range of bedknives, rollers, Combs and brushes. Plus options that include backlapping, direct suspension, thatchers and spikers. Put them all together and you can see why more Golf Course Superintendents from around the world depend on the riding Greensmaster from Toro than any other riding greensmower. And why you should, too. More information available from your Toro Distributor.

Contact your local Toro distributor

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The professionals that keep you cutting.

ELANCO from page 12

formulations of 80DF (20 percent isoxaben and 60 percent oryzalin) and granular (isoxaben plus trifluralin in a ratio of 1:5) is expected in the first part of 1989.

All formulations have shown excellent results in over-the-top treatments of woody ornamentals in warm climates. In particular, application rates of 1 lb. active ingredient isoxaden plus 3 lbs. of Surflan (oryzalin) have shown excellent results.

EL-107 has broad spectrum control over 45 broadleaf weeds. It exhibits suppression of some grassy weeds, though it's not recommended for this task. The product works on germinating weed seed which normally occur in the top two centimeters of the soil.

Elanco had previously named EL-107 "Encore," but ran into trademark problems.

RESEARCH

New bermudagrass at New Mexico State

NuMex S-1, a bermudagrass developed by turf breeder Arden Baltensperger, has been released from the New Mexico State University Agricultural Experiment Station. The variety has shown good spring and summer color. Performance tests indicate better growth and appearance than common varieties used in the Southwest.

Baltensperger notes that the variety can be applied for general turf use throughout the bermudagrass "belt." It has medium texture, density and plant height.

The variety is seed propagated. Some breeder seed is available. Seed increase will be on a three-generation basis and grown under the supervision of the New Mexico Crop Improvement Association.

INSECTS

Termites, roaches enter 'green' picture

Formosan termites and Asian cockroaches, two relatively new but troublesome household pests, are riding the green industry to new homes.

Mike Chambers, a researcher at Clemson University, says that Formosan termites traveled the 12 miles from Charleston, S.C. to the posh Isle of Pines on used railroad ties incorporated into a landscape there. Used railroad ties brought up from the Gulf Coast are being blamed for an infestation in Auburn, Ala., as well.

The Formosan, which has the ability to make nests in walls and ceilings of structures as well in the soil, can chew untreated wood structures into confetti in just a few short years. It is believed to have been introduced to the United States about 40 years ago, but until recently had been confined to Hawaii, southeast Florida and Charleston.

Researchers in Gainesville, Fla., however, are predicting a more rapid spread of the Asian cockroach from the Tampa area where it was first identified in June, 1986.

This species of cockroach is almost identical to the common household German roach except it can fly and lives outdoors as well as indoors. And that's where the green industry comes in.

Dr. Richard Brenner, a researcher at the Insects Affecting Man and Animals Laboratory in Gainesville, says Asian cockroaches have been found in sod grown in the Tampa area and transported elsewhere in the Southeast.

Florida exterminators are already offering outdoor lawn treatments in response to complaints of home



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owners who are being driven from their backyard barbeques by these Asian cockroaches, which have the annoying habit of taking flight just about sundown.

RESEARCH

Thick lawns appear to limit runoff speed

Thick lawns may well limit pesticide runoff, according to research being conducted by Dr. Tom Watschke at Penn State University.

"Thick lawns slow the velocity of runoff and allow the water to infiltrate," he notes. Infiltration into the ground is more desirable than runoff because microbes in the soil help break down the chemicals into harmless materials, he also says.

In one of Watschke's experiments, a sodded plot without soil patches showing through registered a rate of ½-gallon per minute runoff. On the other hand, another plot that was thinly seeded with a lot of bare spots registered a rate of 7½-gallons per minute runoff.

"The next step will be to add commercially available registered pesticides and nutrients to study their effects," Watschke claims.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

Pathologist 'in dutch' over a possible cure for Dutch elm

A researcher at Montana State University ignored federal regulations by injecting 14 elm trees with a genetically-altered bacteria.

Calling the regulations "ludicrous," plant pathologist Gary Strobel, Ph.D., injected the bacteria as part of an experiment to find a preventive treatment for Dutch elm disease.

He filed for EPA approval to conduct the experiment, but did not wait for an answer because it would have meant delaying his experiment a year.

Reaction to Strobel's action has been mixed within the industry. Harvard professor emeritus Bernard D. Davis, a bacterial physiologist, told the New York Times that many researchers will "secretly cheer" the action though the ramifications on the industry could be severe. While Davis was confident that Strobel's experiment was safe, he said "the law is the law."

EPA has yet to take any action against Strobel, but is evaluating the situation. Punishments could range from a warning letter to civil fines or even a prison sentence. Biotechnology critic Jeremy Rifkin announced that he would file petitions with three federal agencies seeking action against "this wanton, deliberate, intentional violation" of guidelines regarding genetic experimentation.

Strobel, commenting to a Montana State University committee investigating the situation, considered the use of genetically altered bacteria "minor." Following the meeting he said, "We can sit and talk about Dutch elm disease or we can do something about it. I chose to do something about it." The bacterium, of the species Pseudonomas syringae, produces an antibiotic that kills the fungus that causes Dutch elm disease. The bacterium is naturally occurring.

GOLF COURSES

Grass carp banned in 28 U.S. states

Grass carp, popular in the landscape market because they eat aquatic weeds, are illegal in 28 states, as of



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ficials at Madison (Wisc.) Maple Bluff Country Club found out recently.

According to a United Press International report, the course was fined \$88 for releasing 150 to 200 of the carp, also known as white amur, in its two ponds. Officials were also planning to kill the fish.

According to the report, the grass carp strip ponds of all vegetation and—more importantly—destroy plant species needed by other fish. Wisconsin law prohibits private introduction of any kind of fish in state waters without a permit.

Grass carp are also banned in Michigan, Indiana, North Dakota and 23 other states.

LAWN CARE

Why lawn care for expansion?

The nation's two biggest lawn care companies, ChemLawn and Tru-Green, were recently sold to Ecolab and Waste Management, respectively (see story, page 40). Why did these new companies venture into the volatile and controversial lawn care industry?

"We thought we could take advantage of our strength in the routing of trucks," says Bill Plunkett, spokesperson for Waste Management. "We wanted to use our expertise, and the lawn care industry was one of the industries that appealed to us.

"Some of the (controversial) issues did not dissuade us. Waste hauling is one of the most intensely-regulated industries in the country, so we've had experience handling problems relating to public concerns."

The case was much the same for Ecolab.

"We are the leading supplier of premium services to the lodging and food service industries," notes Mike Monahan of Ecolab. "We wanted to enter the residential services market. We felt that ChemLawn had an excellent service force, and a name that we could use in expanding to residential services.

"We took a careful look at the pesticide issues. We were well aware of the concerns of the environmentalists. We view ChemLawn as taking a leadership position in safe application and products, and as trying to communicate that to the public."

Monahan points out that Ecolab has experience dealing with toxic chemicals. Detergents used to "wearwash" dishes in restaurants and hotels contain phosphates. LM



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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

(signed) Joe Bilderbach

Vice President/Circulation

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