

If you want to see how tough our new bluegrass is, you better step on it.

If you want Northrup King's new Aspen or Trenton Kentucky Bluegrass varieties in your next turf mix, you better get moving. Because now that they're finally available in Medalist® mixtures and blends, word is spreading fast.

And understandably so. Considering how well Aspen and Trenton performed in the USDA National Trials, every turf professional will be demanding Medalist mixtures and blends. Both varieties displayed superior disease resistance, winterhardiness, heat tolerance, excellent color and texture, and wide adaptability. All the signs of a sure seller.

So the next step is yours. Order Aspen and Trenton in Medalist Turf Products through your Northrup King Medalist distributor today. Or contact Northrup King, Medalist Turf Products Division, P.O. Box 959, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440.



DOWN BUT NOT OUT

If your business is in trouble, Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code may be the answer.

by Rudd McGary and Ed Wandtke

Because of our economy's rapid growth and the room for more business, many new companies have popped up in the green industry. This sudden influx of competitors has caused some successful companies to experience financial trouble for the first time.

Most businesses in financial trouble have alternatives: they can do nothing and hope for the best; they can attempt an out-of-court debt workout; or they can file a bankruptcy petition in court. Filing bankruptcy is necessary only if business owners can't see their business worsening and, therefore, take no corrective action.

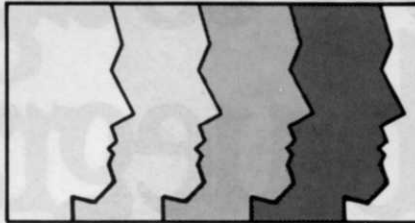
Generally, businesses facing extreme financial difficulties should pursue one of the following:

- closing up the company and going out of business;
- selling the company;
- merging with another company; or
- restructuring the company inside or outside of a bankruptcy proceeding.



Wandtke and McGary are senior consultants with All-Green Management Associates in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. McGary focuses on marketing and management issues. Wandtke focuses on operations and financial questions.

MANAGEMENT



IN BUSINESS

Since a crisis atmosphere usually exists under such circumstances, it is important that the owner use key personnel inside the company. He or she must also supplement that team with outside personnel, such as industry consultants and financial help from experienced legal and accounting firms.

Using the bankruptcy law to assist you in turning around your company may be the best solution for your company, but it is expensive. What are your options prior to bankruptcy? When a business person realizes that the company is in financial trouble, the following pieces of information must be determined as accurately as possible:

- total amount and age of accounts payable;
- total amount and age of accounts receivable;
- current financial statements (month and year-to-date);
- total amount of revenue that will be received between now and the end of the business year;
- evaluation of the use of personnel;
- determination of the need for all of the assets currently owned or being financed;
- weekly cash flow needed to keep the company viable; and
- listing of potential customers and the amount of business that might be obtained.

Armed with the above information, company owners need to determine the chances for a turnaround of

their company. If the prospects look bleak, you may seek help from the courts under the federal bankruptcy law in order to save your company.

Bankruptcy law options

The most common action under the bankruptcy law is to have a company go out of business. This is known as liquidation, which is done under Chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code.

However, another section of the Bankruptcy Code, Chapter 11, allows a business to restructure its finances so that it may continue to operate, pay its creditors, provide employment and eventually provide a return to its shareholders.

The most famous Chapter 11 of the 1980s is that of Chrysler Corporation, when using various forms of credit from both the private sector and the federal government rescued the company.

Chapter 11

This is a Bankruptcy Code action done in a Federal Court and is available to C or S corporations. It is an opportunity for a debtor to freeze debts while developing a plan to repay these debts over an extended period. This process protects the going-concern value of the company. Ultimately, the program is designed to repay debts and financially rehabilitate the debtor.

Here is how a Chapter 11 works:

Filing a petition with the bankruptcy court. This information will include debtor's list of creditors, schedule of assets and liabilities and a statement of the affairs of the debtor. This action may be done voluntarily or involuntarily. If it is involuntary, three creditors holding claims aggregating \$5,000 or more must allege the inability of the debtor to pay debts as they mature. If this involuntary action proves to be wrong, the courts will dismiss the action and the court may grant the debtor costs, and attorneys' fees. If a trustee was appointed and took possession of the debtor's property, the debtor may be entitled to damages.

continued on page 44

UNLEASH THE BIG CATS.

The Jacobsen Turfcats family . . . the rugged breed that thrives on tough conditions.

Tall, thick grass. Undulating terrain. Even snow. You name it. Jacobsen Turfcats do more than survive tough operating conditions. They master them. Quickly and efficiently.

Pounce on one of seven gutsy Turfcats from 17-hp to 36-hp, in 3-wheel and 4-wheel models. Exclusive 2-speed, full-time, limited-slip transaxle delivers maximum power and traction in low range, to cut more and climb higher. Shifting to high range increases transport speeds, so you lose less time between jobs.

For superior stability, Turfcats have a low center of gravity and a hill-hugging, wide-track stance. Plus, quick, easy steering lets these agile cats dart around trees and in-and-out of tight spots.

The largest Turfcats give you an exclusive hydraulic implement drive system that eliminates belts, drive shaft and universal joints for

reduced maintenance. And the harder you work this power delivery system, the better it works.

Tackle mowing tasks with your choice of durable 50", 60" or 72" rotary decks. The rugged Deep-

Tunnel rotary decks channel clippings out faster to increase cutting capacity without windrowing or clumping.

In areas where thrown objects and noise are a concern, use the 50" or 60" fine-cut flail decks with downward

discharge and a cut rivaling reels.

Turfcats won't hibernate once your mowing's done. Blades, brushes, snow blowers and a variety of other attachments keep these cats producing year-round.

So take a Turfcats for a run. Arrange a free demonstration with your Jacobsen distributor today. Attractive lease and finance plans available. Or for more information contact: Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc., Racine, WI 53403.



JACOBSEN TEXTRON

Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc.

© Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc. 1988

J-6-8

Circle No. 118 on Reader Inquiry Card

The effect of this filing is to immediately create an "automatic stay" to restrain all interests from continuing or commencing any action against the debtor which could have been filed prior to instituting the "automatic stay."

Appointing a trustee. The courts may appoint a trustee or may allow the debtor to operate the business pending a further plan of workout to be prepared by the debtor. This second practice is known legally as a "debtor in possession."

Establishing a new company. After a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition has been filed, in essence a new corporation is formed. A new set of accounting records and new bank accounts are started. This is necessary in order to separate transactions prior to the Chapter 11 filing from those after the filing.

Appointing a creditors' committee. As soon as possible after a Chapter 11 petition is filed, the Federal Court is required to appoint a Committee of Unsecured Creditors. This committee is usually composed of the seven largest unsecured creditors. The purpose of this committee is to protect the interests of the unsecured creditors and, if necessary, to petition the Federal Court to appoint a Trustee.

Additional options of the debtor. Just because a debtor has filed a petition under Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy code, he is not prevented from changing his mind and converting his petition to another chapter of the bankruptcy code. He is limited in his options if he is in an involuntary Chapter 11.

Filing the plan and disclosure statement. Any time after or at the time of filing the Chapter 11 petition, a debtor may file a plan of reorgan-

ization. The debtor does retain the right to file the plan for up to 120 days from the filing of the voluntary petition. If an involuntary petition is filed, the debtor has 120 days to file the plan from the entry of an Order for Relief.

Contents of a reorganization plan. The seven elements of a plan of reorganization are known as mandatory provisions. They are:

- Plan must designate classes of claims and classes of interest. In addition it requires that it must provide equal treatment for similar interests.

- Plan must specify any class of claims that are not impaired under it. Impaired means that the rights of a creditor after the plan are lesser than before the plan was filed.

- Plan must specify the treatment any class of claims or interests that are impaired under the plan.

- Plan must provide the same treatment for each claim or interest in a particular class, unless the holder agrees to a less favorable treatment.

- Plan must provide adequate means for its execution. The plan must have sufficient income to pay the debts as proposed in it.

- Plan requires that a debtor or a related corporation may issue equity securities as consideration for the claims of certain creditors. It may not issue non-voting stock to the creditors.

- Plan can contain only provisions consistent with the interest of creditors, equity security holders and public policy. This is also known as the "catch-all" provision of the law.

Accepting the Plan of Reorganization. The law provides that every class of claims or interests is either impaired or unimpaired in a Plan of Reorganization. Depending on the status of a specific creditor (impaired or unimpaired), they have the right to accept or reject the Plan of Reorganization.

Confirmation and hearing. After the disclosure statement is approved, the Clerk of the Court mails out notices to all creditors and equity security holders advising them of the plan, a ballot to vote and a disclosure statement. In order to have a Plan of Reorganization confirmed, 11 separate standards need to be met by the plan:

1. Comply with all applicable sections of the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy code.

2. Proponent must comply with the disclosure provisions of Chapter 11.

3. Plan must be proposed in good faith and cannot be used to defraud creditors.

4. Plan must disclose any promise to pay or payment to be made by the proponent.

5. The court will have the right to know and confirm all officers of the debtor company and any affiliated companies.

6. All regulated companies continue to be bound under those regulations for rate approval.

7. Court must determine that each class and each holder of a claim will receive the value of his claim upon liquidation of the plan.

8. Each class of claims or interests must accept or not be impaired under the plan.

9. Priority claims must be paid in full unless the claim holder consents to a different payment plan.

10. One class of claims must accept the plan without any acceptance by an insider.

11. Confirmation of the plan will not be followed by a subsequent liquidation of the company under a different Bankruptcy Code action.

Post-Confirmation Matters. Once a Plan of Reorganization has been confirmed, all of the property of the estate vests in the debtor unless otherwise provided for in the plan. Any claim not filed in the court prior to the confirmation hearing is likewise discharged once the Plan of Reorganization is accepted. Any debt that cannot be discharged via a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy likewise cannot be discharged in a Chapter 11 action.

Summary

When a business starts to find itself in financial trouble, it is important to get the full picture before undertaking corrective action. Only by knowing the severity of the financial condition can an advisor provide the guidance needed to choose a course of action. Most businesses can be saved if corrective actions are undertaken. Only after all avenues of relief are exhausted should the company be placed in either Chapter 11 or 7. **LM**

Chapter 11 allows a business to restructure its finances so that it may continue to operate, pay its creditors, provide employment and eventually provide a return to its shareholders.

ization. The debtor does retain the right to file the plan for up to 120 days from the filing of the voluntary petition. If an involuntary petition is filed, the debtor has 120 days to file the plan from the entry of an Order for Relief.

An Order for Relief is entered in an involuntary case only if the debtor does not respond to the involuntary petition, creditors can prove that the debtor is not paying his debts or a receiver has been appointed by the courts. An additional 60 days is given

Disclosure Statement—creditor advice. A Disclosure Statement is similar to a stock prospectus except that it does not go into the depth of information disclosure. Each class of creditor is provided the necessary information about the Plan of Reorganization which will enable them to vote on the plan.

Approval of the Disclosure Statement is obtained by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of each class of creditors who choose to vote.

Contains pendimethalin.

It's easy to understand why.

- active ingredient pendimethalin provides broader spectrum weed control
- registered for use on both northern and southern turfgrasses
- application flexibility permits programming to control both early and late germinating weeds
- increased profitability due to lower product cost
- convenient packaging requires less storage, simplifies shipping and handling

And LESCO understands the lawn service business. That's why we offer an innovative selling program with terms designed to improve first-round cash flow.



LESCO PRE-M 60DG Herbicide. The pre-emergent weed control standard. Order today.

(800) 321-5325 (800) 686-7413
NATIONWIDE IN OHIO

LESCO

LESCO, Inc.
20005 Lake Road
Rocky River, Ohio 44116
(216) 333-9250

CYANAMID
Agricultural Division
VPC Ventures
Wayne, NJ 07470

LESCO PRE-M[®] 60DG Herbicide

is the standard for
pre-emergent weed control.

Circle No. 124 on Reader Inquiry Card

SOIL FERTILITY AND FERTILIZERS

The backbone of any good turf care is a well-designed fertility program. All lawns need fertilizer applications to produce density and color. Here are some factors to consider.

by Bill Bedrossian, Servicemaster MLP

The turf condition that Americans try to develop is not a natural system. Natural turfgrass stands are mixtures of plants including weeds. These plants are both unattractive and may not cover the soil from year to year. The density of plant population is also unnatural. We are trying to develop a turfstand with many times the normal plant population. The ideal lawn is dense and uniform in both color and texture. It is only through good nutrition of the turf plant that we enable it to outcompete the constant encroachment of weeds.

The only reliable method of determining the fertilizer needs of a lawn is through a soil test to reveal the soil's native fertility. The test will pinpoint potential problems you could not be aware of.

The nutrient requirement for good turfgrass growth is usually much less than the soil's total nutrient content. However, much of the nutrient supply is stored in the soil's mineral and organic matter fraction. In order for a soil nutrient to be available to the plant root, it has to be in solution.

Proper soil aeration is also necessary for roots to take up the fertilizer nutrients.

Nutrient uptake

Since fertilizers are one of the main expenses in a lawn care program, it is important to understand the factors influencing uptake to maximize the response. The depth and extent of rooting affects how well the plant picks up nutrients. Well-developed root systems are in contact with more soil solution and have greater surface area to absorb nutrients.

PH is a second factor affecting nutrient uptake. As the pH values move

Bill Bedrossian received his bachelor's degree in plant sciences from Haverford College. He currently manages more than 31,000 acres of turf at Servicemaster MLP as director of grounds management.



out of the 6 to 7 range, plant nutrients become insoluble compounds. Since the roots only absorb nutrients in solution, those insoluble materials are not available to the roots. A good example is that phosphorous, in either an acid or alkaline soil, becomes an insoluble compound in the soil after being applied as a fertilizer.

Essential nutrients

An element is essential if a deficiency of the element makes it impossible for the plant to complete its life cycle. The deficiency can only be corrected by that element. The following table lists the essential elements, their sym-

bols and the source.

Nitrogen

Nitrogen is used in turfgrass fertilization in greater amounts than any other element. It has a greater impact on the turfgrass plant than any other element and is a constituent in every living cell and part of the chlorophyll molecule that determines the green color of the leaf. Nitrogen results in a darker green color and improves the overall quality of the plant unless applied in excessive amounts.

Nitrogen applications accelerate growth of shoots, rhizomes and roots. However, excessive rates inhibit root and rhizome growth. Excessive shoot

growth at very high rates will deplete carbohydrate reserves for the rest of the plant. This leads to the death of the root system.

The nitrogen level directly relates to color and shoot density. As levels decrease, color lightens, and shoot density decreases.

Nitrogen nutrition also influences disease severity. High nitrogen levels increase the severity of brown patch, *Fusarium* blight, leaf spot and *Ophiobolus* patch. At low levels of nitrogen nutrition, dollar spot, red thread, powdery mildew and rust increase in severity.

Resistance of cold, heat, and drought stress can be modified by the nitrogen nutrition level. Very low or excessive rates will have a negative effect. High levels of nitrogen enhance wilting by decreasing root mass and increasing the leaf tissue's succulence.

Late fall fertilization with nitrogen has a dramatic effect on root growth. No other period in the year produces the same root response.

Even though the turf plant is surrounded by tons of atmospheric nitrogen (air is 78% N_2), this form cannot be used by plants. The most common form used by plants which the roots can absorb is the nitrate ion (NO_3^-).

Urea is the most common form of nitrogen used to fertilize turfgrass. If heavy rainfall occurs, it may be washed through the soil or leached. If soil aeration is poor, the anaerobic (no oxygen) bacteria will convert the nitrates to gaseous nitrogen. In both of these processes, leaching and denitrification, nitrogen is lost from the soil.

The last possible fate is immobilization back into the soil organic matter. Some groups of bacteria need nitrates as part of their nutrition. As bacteria die with nitrates in their bodies, we say the nitrates are immobilized but not lost from the soil.

Phosphorus

Phosphorous is an essential element found in every living cell. It is necessary for energy transfer in each cell. It is extremely important to establish new seedlings. Since it is very immobile in the soil, it accumulates near the surface.

Outside the 6.5 to 7.5 pH range, phosphorous ions become insoluble and unavailable to the plant.

Potassium is unique compared to the other major elements. It does not

continued on page 48

Granular fertilizers remain the most popular type of nitrogen source in the landscape market. Liquid fertilizers, which are sprayed on the grass, are second.



Table 1

ESSENTIAL MINERAL ELEMENTS FOR TURFGRASS			
Quantity Usage	Element	Chemical Symbol	Source
Macro	Nitrogen	N	Soil
	Phosphorus	P	
	Potassium	K	
	Sulfur	S	
	Calcium	Ca	
	Magnesium	Mg	
Minor	Iron	Fe	
	Manganese	Mn	
	Boron	B	
	Copper	Cu	
	Zinc	Zn	
	Molybdenum	Mo	
	Chlorine	Cl	
Macro	Carbon	C	Carbon Dioxide
	Hydrogen	H	Water
	Oxygen	O	Water
Macro Acronym	C HOPKINS	CaFe Mg	

become a part of the cell. However, large quantities are needed to ensure the development of the plant.

Turfgrasses do not show the dramatic visual response to potassium that they do to nitrogen. Unless there is a great deficiency in the soil, you will not see color, density, or growth changes with potassium applications. However, potassium will have a positive effect on root growth, wear tolerance, ability to withstand environmental stress and disease resistance.

Fertilizers

All fertilizers, whether liquid or granular, require labeling mandated by state agencies. It is a legal requirement to state on fertilizer labels:

- The percent of each element; always in the same order, N/P/K (nitrogen/phosphorous/potassium (ie: 18-5-9 means that the bag contains 18% nitrogen, 5% phosphorous and 9% potassium).

- Under the nitrogen is a list of nitrogen carriers and their portion of the total nitrogen.

- The primary nutrient list describes the basic fertilizer materials used to make the fertilizer.

- The net weight stated at the bottom tells you the total weight of the fertilizer. This weight, multiplied by the percentage of each element, equals the weight of each element in the bag (i.e., .18 x 50 lb. = 9 lb. of N in the bag).

- Potential acidity statement tells you that the fertilizer, when applied to the soil, has an acid-forming reaction. In some areas, calcium carbonate (lime) is applied to neutralize the acid effect caused by fertilizer on the soil

With proper balance of water soluble and water insoluble nitrogen, you can achieve a quick green-up from the WSN and then a sustained color and growth from the WIN.

surface.

Complete fertilizers

Fertilizers containing all three elements, N-P-K, are called complete fertilizers. Incomplete fertilizers have one or more of the elements missing, such as 20-0-5. Straight goods fertilizers are one material like urea, 46-0-0. The question often asked is, "Why don't the percent numbers add up to 100?" These fertilizer materials are compounds instead of pure elements. For example, urea is a compound made of nitrogen, carbon and oxygen. The pure element is either unstable or maybe a form which is useless to the plant.

If excessive amounts or improper fertilizers are applied to the turf, you burn the grass. When fertilizer dissolves, it forms a salty solution which, if saltier than the solution inside the plants, will actually draw the water out of the plant. This dried, brown condition is actually a desiccation of water. If severe, the grass dies. However, burns normally are temporary and recover.

The higher the salt index, the greater the potential to damage the turf. The selection of materials is based partially on these salt indexes to give you a high degree of safety.

Carriers

Nitrogen sources can be broken down into water soluble and water insoluble materials. The water soluble materials (WSN) are generally inexpensive, fast-acting and have a high burn potential. Water insoluble nitrogen (WIN) is more expensive, longer-lasting and has a low burn potential.

With proper balance of WSN and WIN, you can achieve a quick green-up from the WSN, then a sustained color and growth from the WIN.

These combinations give you a high degree of safety from turf burns at a good price. Urea is the most common nitrogen carrier used as a water soluble source on turfgrasses.

Urea—Urea is used as a quick-releasing water soluble nitrogen source in many fertilizer applications. Although not in an available form as applied, it is quickly converted to NO₃⁻ in warm soils.

Urea formaldehyde—This is a nitrogen compound made by combining urea and formaldehyde to form various length compounds. The longer chain compounds take much longer to break down to NO₃⁻. These materials are insoluble in water and require soil bacteria to break them down to NO₃⁻. They will not break down in cold weather because the bacteria are not active then. Urea formaldehyde

MUSTANG

THE TALL FESCUE THAT LOOKS LIKE BLUEGRASS

KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

MUSTANG TURF-TYPE TALL FESCUE

BLUEGRASS QUALITIES WITH TALL FESCUE PRACTICALITY

You'll quickly notice Mustang's finer texture, rich dark green color and dense, uniform turf—and you'll understand why we say Mustang has bluegrass-like qualities.

But there's more to Mustang turf-type tall fescue than beauty; it's tough and durable. It's heat and drought tolerance, winter hardiness, and ability to endure low mowing heights are remarkable. Mustang even shows improved resistance to *Helminthosporium* netblotch and many other diseases.

Best of all, Mustang is practical, because it performs



DROUGHT TOLERANCE AFTER SEVEN WEEKS NO RAINFALL.

extremely well under low maintenance conditions like minimum fertilization, watering and mowing. National tests and actual applications in parks, golf courses and playing fields have proven it.



KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS



K-31 TALL FESCUE

That's why Mustang is becoming the favorite choice of professional turf managers, over K-31 and many other commercially available varieties.

For bluegrass qualities and tall fescue practicality, use the professional's choice—Mustang turf-type tall fescue.

Pickseed also produces



and



and other fine turf grasses available nationwide from quality seed suppliers.

Produced by:

PICKSEED®
PICKSEED WEST Inc.

P.O. Box 888 • Tangent, Oregon 97389
(503) 926-8886

Circle No. 137 on Reader Inquiry Card

Frankly my dear... I'll take grass

Both artificial turf and natural grass have advantages for the baseball player, but 90% of today's players don't prefer one to the other, says Hall of Fame outfielder **Billy Williams**. Grass, however, is more likely to sustain a career.

"We always say that artificial turf takes two or three years off a player's career," said Williams at the third annual Midwest Sports Turf Institute in Glen Ellyn, Ill. The first to go are a player's knees, says Williams, victims of continuous pounding on a hard surface.

He also reminded groundskeepers that "A good ground crew can mean the difference between a home team winning an extra five or six ballgames a year."

Match your turf with your sport

When planning to put grass down on your football, soccer, or baseball field, the most important characteristics to look at are a cultivar's growth and recovery rate, traffic and compaction tolerance, disease resistance and cultural intensity level, says Tom Voigt, assistant horticulturist at the University of Illinois, Urbana. Here's how Voigt sees each through the eyes of a groundskeeper in the Midwest:

Kentucky bluegrass has a good recovery rate, medium traffic tolerance (which can be improved by combining it with perennial ryegrass), medium to high compaction tolerance, medium disease resistance and a medium cultural intensity level.

Perennial ryegrass has a slow recovery rate but good traffic and compaction tolerance. "The newer varieties can be mowed lower and have improved disease resistance and cold/heat tolerance compared to the older varieties," says Voigt.

Tall fescue, despite a poor recovery rate, has good traffic and compaction tolerance, high disease resistance and medium cultural intensity and germination rate. A mix of 90% tall fescue and 10% Kentucky bluegrass may lead to one variety dominating the other. Voigt suggests mixing Tall fescues with a less aggressive bluegrass such as Bronco.

Creeping red fescues have a low traffic/compaction tolerance and disease resistance level. "I don't think fine fescues are going to play a big role in sports turf in the Midwest," concluded Voigt.

Creeping bentgrass, the "Rolls Royce" of the bentgrasses, recovers well but has poor traffic and compaction tolerance and low disease resistance. "This is a grass that you have to constantly work with to be successful."

breaks down over a period of three years on a schedule of 60% the first year, 30% the second year and 10% the third year. Urea formaldehyde can be finely ground to a powder to be sprayed as a suspension.

IBDU—Isobutylidene diurea is a slightly soluble nitrogen compound available in a coarse and fine granular form. It is a slightly soluble material releasing a little nitrogen each time it is exposed to water. As long as water is not freezing, it releases nitrogen independent of temperature. All of its nitrogen will be released the year of application.

SCU—Sulfur-coated urea (SCU) is not a truly water insoluble nitrogen source, but it is considered a controlled-release material. Water soluble urea is sprayed with molten sulfur and then sealed with wax. Since these coatings vary in thickness and imperfections, the coatings gradually break

Turfgrasses do not show the dramatic visual response to potassium that they do to nitrogen.

down over a 12- to 14-week period. This material is only applied as a granular fertilizer.

Potassium carriers—Muriate of potash (KCl) and sulfate of potash (K_2SO_4) are the two most commonly-used sources of potassium (K). Muriate is much cheaper, but it has almost double the salt index of K_2SO_4 . In sprayed materials where salt index is critical, the sulfate form is preferred. Often, high soil pH makes K_2SO_4 the preferred potassium source in a quality fertilizer.

Application

Application equipment is designed to apply granular fertilizers, liquids and suspensions. Insoluble fertilizers can be ground to a powder and sprayed as a suspension.

Sprayed fertilizer does not have to be strictly fast-acting. Since insoluble, slow-acting fertilizers can be suspended in solution, then can be applied by spraying.

Water soluble urea can be applied as a granular material or sprayed. The difference in quality between liquid or granular fertilizers is not how they are applied but what's in them.

Becoming familiar with the variety of ingredients available in a fertilizer will help you buy wisely and make the most effective use of your fertilizer dollar. **LM**