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 **RHÔNE-POULENC**

Circle No. 145 on Reader Inquiry Card

Connecticut users, DEP find harmony

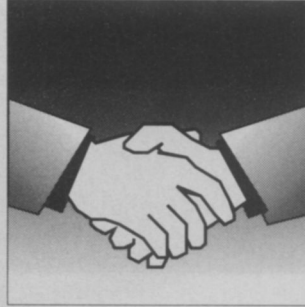
HARTFORD, Conn. — New pesticide application posting laws in Connecticut have not only led to a precedent-setting requirement for homeowners, but apparently to new-found harmony between industry users and state environmental groups as well.

The statute took effect this year. Among the law's highlights:

- A requirement to post a 4-by-5-inch sign, including the company's name and telephone number, at the time of exterior application of any pesticide. The law applies to homeowners and lawn maintenance companies.

- A requirement for golf courses to erect a 12-inch square sign at a conspicuous location, and on the first and 10th tees.

- A state-maintained registry of those who want to be notified in advance of an application. To be placed onto this registry, a persons property must abut and be within 100 yards of the affected area's boundary.



The state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will yearly publish a list of those seeking advance notification. (About 83 have applied for advance notification.)

Steven Blum, a spokesman for the Professional Pesticide Users of Connecticut (PPUC), says the new regulations are "workable," and will not affect the cost of doing business. They came about through tough but pragmatic negotiations with the Clean Water Coalition (CWC), an environmental association of 16 state organizations.

Blum says regulations "could have been a lot worse." What has emerged,

he says, is a "balanced bill that can be a model for other states to follow.

"The key is that applicators may post when they arrive on the job," he says. That keeps costs down by eliminating an extra trip to the site. Other states have 24- and 48-hour advance notification requirements, Blum says.

Bradford Robinson, a senior analyst with the DEP's pesticide division, says that including homeowners could be a first in the U.S. Exemptions for homeowners include areas less than 100 square feet or fenced-in areas.

But the registry and homeowner requirements have Robinson somewhat concerned; not for their intents, but in practical terms of administration and enforcement.

"We have no idea how this (new law) is going to work. It is our first year. There are all sorts of potential problems enforcing it," Robinson says.

Meanwhile, PPUC executive director Don Kiley, also a state lobbyist for the pesticide industry, says 1987 discussions between the PPUC and the CWC and the following cooperation between the two groups as the law was shepherded through the state legislature, nets a "mutual respect."

"There was some good hard bargaining, yes. But all of us were very satisfied to put this potentially contentious issue to bed.

"We feel this is a landmark agreement that goes way beyond the issues themselves. We have now established a lasting mutual respect," says Kiley, who was an industry negotiator when the two groups jointly approached the Connecticut legislature.

—Jack Simonds □

in a depressed market, and in a state of (the Persian Gulf) war, we can raise \$105,000 from the industry in three weeks. We (solicited) the majority of companies," says Wade, "and they came back swinging. They realize the importance of the horticulture curriculum for the industry."

Chipping in for the cause were landscape contractors, sod farmers, irrigation companies, garden centers and state landscape and gardening associations, many of whom are SUNY alumni.

"Now all we've got to do," says Wade, "is get the politicians to put the money back in the budget."

—Terry McIver □

SUNY from page 14

"State university systems in general are getting the ax from our illustrious governor," explains Wade. "I don't know whether (Cuomo) is playing political handball; I think that's what it's boiling down to." Wade also notes the adversarial relationship between Cuomo and Republican Senate leader Ralph Marino as a motivating factor.

"I think," suggests Wade, "Cuomo is hammering Long Island educational institutions to get Marino to bend on something else."

The good news is the support for SUNY by the Long Island horticulture/landscape industry.

"It's really amazing, that

EVENTS

APRIL

15-16: Southeastern Turf Conference. Contact: Karen White, (404) 769-4076, or write Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association, P.O. Box 683, Watkinsville, GA 30677.

15-18: First International Conference on Turf, Sheffield University, Sheffield, England. Contact: Institute of Groundsmanship, 19-23 Church Street, The Agora, Wolverton, Milton-Keynes, Buckinghamshire, England MK12 5LG; or call Elaine at (0908) 312511.

18-19: GreenTech '91, Long Beach, Calif. Contact: California Landscape Contractors Association Seminars, 2021 N Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA, 95814; (916) 448-2522.

20-30: American Society of Golf Course Architects annual meeting, England. Contact ASGCA, 221 North LaSalle St., Chicago, IL 60601; (312) 372-7090.

22-24: Golf Development Expo, Palm Springs, Calif. Contact: John Ecklein, Crittenden Research Institute, P.O. Box 1150, Novato, CA 94948; (415) 382-2486.

MAY

4-7: Menninger Sunbelt Tree Conference, West Palm Beach, Fla. Contact: P.O. Box 6524, Clearwater, FL 34618; (813) 446-3356.

18-19: Florida Landscape Certification Program, Valencia Community College, Orlando. Contact: Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association, 5401 Kirkman Rd., Suite 650, Orlando, FL 32819; (407) 345-8137.

18-21: International Society of Arboriculture Western Chapter Conference and Trade Show, Modesto, Calif. Contact: Allen Lagarbo, (209) 577-5344.

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Circle No. 143 on Reader Inquiry Card



The entrance to Blue Hills Country Club in suburban Kansas City provides a foretaste of manicured perfection. Dave Fearis, right, CGCS at Blue Hills, tells Everett Mealman how he uses Ferromec in the late spring to keep color in his zoysia without excessive growth; and how he uses it again in the fall to protect against winterkill and toughen it up to withstand the winter play the club gets on its dormant zoysia.



Terry Seebach, operations manager of the spray division of R.B. Stout Inc., of Akron, shows off the color they get with Ferromec. Stout is one of the nation's premier landscape management companies, and their calling card for new customers is a surprise spray of Ferromec. Seebach says that first impressions are lasting impressions, and that when new customers see the vibrant green that Stout imparts on the first visit, they never forget it, and they always tell their friends.

Fast, dependable green-up without unwanted growth

Read how golf course superintendents, commercial landscape managers, and residential lawn care operators are using Ferromec® AC Liquid Iron to improve turf color; strengthen its roots; reduce exposure to disease; and minimize unwanted growth.

Everett Mealman, President
PBI/Gordon Corporation

"I want the green but not the growth," says Dave Fearis, CGCS of the prestigious Blue Hills Country Club in suburban Kansas City, "and that is certainly one of the reasons why I use Ferromec."

As you may know, Kansas City is in the transition zone. Bermuda can frequently winterkill, and bluegrass cannot abide both the summer heat and a horde of golfers. So for a course like Blue Hills, zoysia is the answer for tees and fairways.

Zoysia loves hot weather, and requires only a relatively small amount of water. But it characteristically has required nitrogen to maintain its color. Zoysia, however, is very responsive to nitrogen, and it must be *spoon fed* or excessive growth will occur which is not only back-breaking to the mowing crews but also exposes the turf to disease.

Jim Sweem, of Professional Grounds Management, shows off a mixed stand of bluegrass and fine leaf fescue he has sprayed with Ferromec. Sweem tank-mixes Ferromec AC with Trimec Plus to do everything at once — provide uniform green for the mixed bluegrass and fine leaf fescue, without excessive growth; and knock out nutsedge, crabgrass and broad-leaves at the same time.

"Ferromec is the answer," says Fearis. "We apply Ferromec on the fairways, tees, and greens about June 15, and we get beautiful color that lasts seven or eight weeks without excessive growth. Interestingly, we get a surprising color contrast between the playing surface of the bentgrass greens and the frog hair, which the golfers like very much."

Of course, in the transition zone, you also have winter. It can get so cold that zoysia has been known to winterkill. But in between arctic blasts, there can be some super days that bring out the golfers in droves.

"We want the zoysia to go into winter in the strongest possible condition," continues Fearis, "so it can stave off winter damage as well as absorb the intermittent play on the dormant turf."

Consequently, we come back again with Ferromec at the 4-oz. rate about September 15. We have never had any winterkill, and the dormant turf holds up very well regardless of how much play we get."

Ferromec on mixture of bluegrass and fescue

If Kansas City is in the transition zone, then Omaha is in the "mixed grass" zone, according to Jim Sweem, of Professional Grounds Management, and knowing about Ferromec activity in this zone has not only opened up some meat-and-potatoes opportunities for him . . . it has also put some frosting on his cake.

You need to know that Sweem has built his business by working with commercial landscape contractors who are involved in mowing. Understandably, such landscapers



would rather not have their schedules interrupted with intermittent spraying chores during times of extreme mowing pressure.

And that's how Sweem gets his foot in the door.

"The 'mixed grass' in Omaha is bluegrass and fescue," says Sweem, "and a problem is that, during the summer, a color differential occurs between the species that many property owners want corrected."

Sweem used to work full time for a fertilizer company, so it was only natural that some landscapers would call on him to straighten out the color with a light application of nitrogen.

"But when you put enough nitrogen on bluegrass to brighten up summer color, you can stress the dickens out of fine leaf fescue," says Sweem, "and it can cause browning, and that looks terrible."

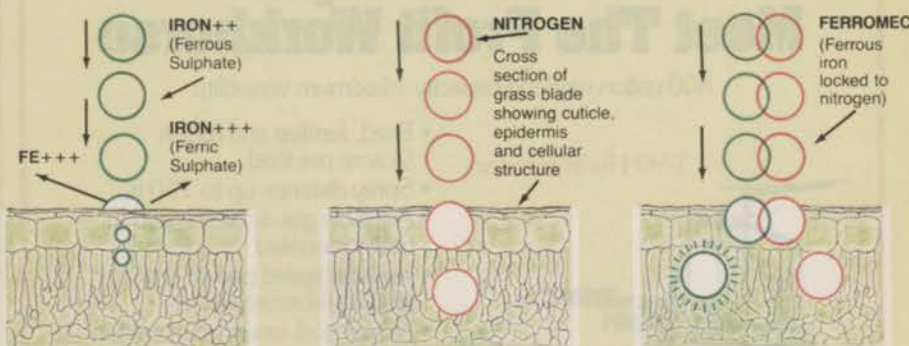
"When I found Ferromec, I found the answer," continues Sweem. "Six ounces of Ferromec and no nitrogen is the solution for summer color in mixed stands of bluegrass and fescue. It produces a beautiful, uniform color that holds for six to eight weeks . . . and it doesn't result in the excessive growth you get from nitrogen — you can imagine how mowing contractors love that!"

But here's the frosting on the cake:

There is a third *mixed grass* in Omaha — nutsedge. "There's really only one herbicide that will knock it out," says Sweem, "and that is Trimec® Plus. The frosting? Trimec Plus can be tank-mixed with Ferromec AC. So a summer green-up can also knock out nutsedge, crabgrass and, of course, broadleaves, if any are present."



Schematic drawings show why patented Ferromec iron works fast and is so dependable for turf green-up



Iron is essential for the synthesis of chlorophyll — no iron, no green. But grass doesn't like the *taste of iron* and is very reluctant to ingest it. Furthermore, iron must be in the ferrous ++ state to efficiently create green color, and it tends to revert to the inefficient ferric +++ state when exposed to oxygen.

On the other hand, turfgrass loves the *taste of nitrogen* and ingests it with gusto. Nitrogen-induced growth, of course, will pull iron out of the soil and thus create green color, but the amount required to produce color will result in abnormal growth, which in turn causes unwanted mowing and exposure to disease.

Ferromec is a Complex of ferrous sulphate and nitrogen, which locks the iron in the usable ferrous state. Grass loves nitrogen and readily ingests Ferromec, thus delivering the color-producing iron. But at the 5-oz. rate, only .063 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. is delivered by Ferromec, and excessive growth does not occur.

Dependability is important

Ferromec works! There's no doubt about it! It produces fast, dependable, long-lasting green-up without unwanted growth; but this is not necessarily true for all liquid irons.

To fully appreciate the difference between Ferromec and other brands of liquid iron, you need to visit with someone like Terry Seebach, operations manager of the spray division of R.B. Stout Inc., of Akron, Ohio.

As you undoubtedly know, R.B. Stout is one of the premier landscape contractors in the United States. In Cleveland and Akron, the name Stout is synonymous with sterling.

"We started testing liquid iron back in 1986," says Seebach, "and by 1988 we were pretty well convinced that it didn't have a place in our operation. Our problem with the liquid irons we tried was lack of dependability. We simply could not develop a repeatable program."

But in 1989, R.B. Stout was exposed to Ferromec for the first time as a result of some experiments they were conducting with Embark® Plant Growth Regulator. "Ferromec totally changed our viewpoint about liquid iron," admitted Seebach. "It works every time; it always works fast; and with 4 or 5 ounces, the color always holds up for seven or eight weeks."

"We know that first impressions are lasting impressions," says Seebach, "so we start off every new customer with a treatment of Ferromec. They never forget and they become the best new business getters we could ever have."

Why Ferromec works where other irons fail

Ferromec is a patented process in which a molecule of ferrous iron is locked on to a nitrogen molecule. When sprayed on turf, it is absorbed both foliar and via root uptake.

Foliar absorption takes place at the leaf surface, and thus green-up takes place very rapidly — usually in less than 24 hours. And because there is also root absorption, the color will last for a relatively long period of time.

To more clearly understand this ferrous iron/nitrogen complex, we urge you to study the schematic drawings on this page . . . or even better, try Ferromec in your own turf management program. Within 48 hours you'll know why Ferromec is number one. Call us for more information.

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Circle No. 114 on Reader Inquiry Card

Publication tells turfgrass benefits

DES MOINES, Iowa — Homeowners and green industry professionals in Iowa and Minnesota will soon have another source of information on pesticide safety: "The Surface Water Protection Plan."

Edited by Robert Mugaas, a Minnesota extension horticulturist, the reference source is a collection of articles on the proven benefits of turfgrass, and how proper care greatly minimizes the danger to surface water or underground water sources.

Mugaas uses information which has appeared in trade and scientific journals on what effect turf maintenance has on water quality.

"We want to pull some things together that will be helpful in answering questions," says Mugaas, who compares the protection plan with what has been done in some agricultural circles.

"It gives industry as well as the homeowner some idea of what they can do to act most responsibly."

"The Surface Water Protection Plan" will appear in a magazine-size format and as a newsletter. The project is being made possible by a leave-continued on page 30

CHAPTER I

GROWTH PRODUCTS LTD.

Nurse Flo, has just opened **Growth Products Turf Grass Clinic**. Meanwhile the guys at the **Blade Club** have their hands full ... OOPS and the **Weedy Waskies** are up to something devious.



to be continued ...

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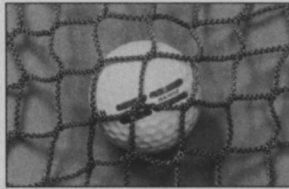
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BENEFITS

from page 26
study grant from the University of Minnesota Cooperative Extension Service.

Added support, Mugaas is quick to point out, comes from Drs. Michael Agnew and Nick Christians, both of Iowa State University.

For more information on publication dates and availability, call Mugaas at (612) 542-1420.

—Terry McIver□

CORRECTION

The "Jobtalk" feature in our February issue neglected to mention that New York golf course superintendents Dennis Flynn and John Carlone were applying Cutless 50W plant growth regulator under an Experimental Use Permit.

Their use of the product did not extend beyond 1987. Cutless 50W is not yet labelled for use in New York state. □

LETTERS

Thanks for the memories

To the editor:

As an old friend of Fred Grau, I want to thank you for your excellent article in the January issue.

Fred's drive and kindly manner will be sorely missed. He was certainly a driving force in our industry. His last dream, the National Sports Turf Council, is still in the formation stage. Those of us involved hope that we can successfully conclude all the organizational work necessary to make this a working organization.

It would be a fitting memorial for Fred.

Allan Shulder
Exec. Dir., PGMS
Cockeysville, Md.

Same name, different super

To the editor:

In the January issue of *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT*, your magazine printed a file picture of me in an article on golf course equipment ("Guide to Landscape and Golf Course Equipment"). Unfortunately, the picture identified me as superintendent of the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Course in Rock Island, Ill. This was a grievous mistake. The person interviewed was Jon R. Scott, not me.

I can understand how this can happen, though it seems to be shoddy editing, as you did, indeed, have a file picture of me from 1988, from a previous interview.

Obviously, no one checked to see if the two Jon Scotts were the same.

One can easily imagine the problems that develop from such a mis-identification. I have, for the past 2 1/2 years, been employed as a consulting agronomist by Jack Nicklaus Golf Services division of Golden Bear International. It is my business to travel most of the Midwest and Northeast region of the country servicing our accounts. It was quite a shock to my clients to learn that I had abandoned them for a position at Rock Island Arsenal! It was no less a shock to my employer, who had to wonder what I was up to, and then explain an apparent mistake in your magazine to upset clientele.

I think that an apology is in order. My confidence in your publication has suffered.

Jonathan L. Scott
Jack Nicklaus Golf Services
N. Palm Beach, Fla.
(You bet an apology is in order! That was, indeed, a file photo that was mismatched with the Jon Scott of Rock Island Arsenal, with whom we conducted a phone interview. Our sincerest public apologies to both Jon Scotts.—ED.)