

lawn care companies, manufacturers, retailers, university extensions services and associations offering community events and educational programs to increase public awareness.

In marking the special week, the association offers

these grasscycling tips:

- Keep mower blades sharp.
- Mow at proper intervals so no more than one-third of lawn height is trimmed at each cutting.
- Maintain proper water and fertilization levels. □



RESEARCH

Thatch, weed cure: longhorns on lawn?

AUSTIN, Tex. — Eleven Texas longhorns have taken up residence at the National Wildflower Research Center to help researchers find the best method of restoring native prairie land. The cattle, which arrived last November, will be used at first to reduce the amount of thatch in the center's 15 vegetated acres, as well as to control bermudagrass.

"There is a major push to restore and maintain prairie land," says Alison Hill, Wildlife Center community ecologist. "Cattle have been a natural part of the tallgrass prairie in Texas. This long-term study is to discover the best way to rehabilitate the land from a monoculture to a greater diversity of plant species."

Wildflower Center researchers will study the effects of grazing as a tool to

control exotic grasses so native prairie grass species can be re-introduced and encouraged to grow.

In a non-related study, the research center has developed soil fungi experiments aimed at more successfully re-establishing nursery-grown native plants into landscapes.

Center personnel have found that plant seedlings grown in the soilless medium often used by nurseries grow better and don't require as much fertilizer when inoculated with mycorrhizae, fungi that help them absorb more nutrients and water. Once some plants have been inoculated, they remain so, benefiting from the fungi throughout their lives and requiring less water and fertilizer. The fungi are also re-introduced into the soil, where other plants may benefit from them. □

NEWS BRIEFS

THE SUBJECT WAS BENTGRASS...at the recent Wisconsin Golf Turf Symposium in Milwaukee. **Dr. Joe Duich** advised seed buyers to make careful note of seed lot numbers and retain all records "to insure they get what they pay for." **Kevin Dushane**, superintendent at the Bloomfield Hills Country Club in Union Lake, Mich., said that, "golfers—principally lower handicap players—would like to have a fairway lie where the ball sits up on the turf. Mowing at 1/2-inch with a good stand of bentgrass can deliver that playing condition."

FLOWER GUIDE...A full-color 28-page booklet designed for the golf/landscape professional is being offered by the Professional Plant Growers Association. It contains valuable information on planning, planting and maintaining flowering annuals:

- a herbicide tolerance chart;
- a list of 63 popular flowering annuals with photos; and
- a chart describing each plant with regard to spacing, ease of maintenance, height, light, moisture and temperature requirements, degree of hardiness.

To order, send \$2 to: PPGA, P.O. Box 27517, Lansing, MI 48909.

IN THE WORKS...An "Envirotron" is in the works at the University of Florida in Gainesville. The structure, already approved by the Florida Turfgrass Research Foundation Board of Directors, is a field laboratory with components for rootzone, greenhouse and other controlled environment features. The complete Envirotron will consist of 3,172 sq. ft. of phytotron, head, house, storage, wet laboratory, rhizotron with automatic retractable rain shelter, and living quarters. Funding for the \$700,000 project is expected to be completed by April 1.

THE FUTURE IN VIDEO..."Growing Futures," a career video, is soon to be released by the Green Industry Council of Sutton, Mass. Careers in landscape architecture, design and construction; interior landscaping; turf management; arboriculture; and nursery and greenhouse management are among those highlighted in the 18-minute video. "There is definitely a positive future," says **Byron Gechtel** in the video. To order the videotape, send \$49.95 to: Green Industry Council, P.O. Box 171, Sutton, MA 01590 or call Phyllis Gillespie at (508)476-3007. Along with the tape, you get a color poster and booklet on career opportunities and educational programs.

LAWN CARE

May take 3 years to integrate TruGreen and ServiceMaster

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Integrating Waste Management lawn care divisions into ServiceMaster operations could take up to three years, ServiceMaster president Carlos Cantu told members of the National Pest Control Association at its convention here late last year.

The decision came after ServiceMaster completed a deal last year acquiring the pest control and lawn care portions of Waste Management, said to be among the biggest transactions in both industries. ServiceMaster will be adding 270,000 of Waste Management's TruGreen lawn care customers through the deal.

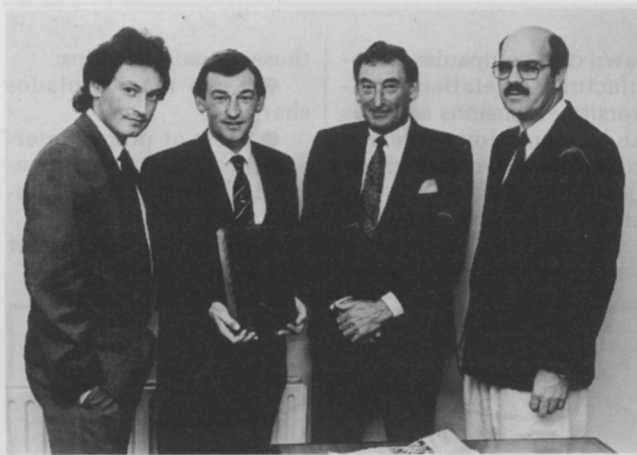
"There is a lot of brand awareness in the marketplace for Waste Management, and for the names of the companies before Waste Management ac-

quired them," Cantu said during a press conference.

"The last thing we want to do is detract from that awareness, so we want to do it in such a way as to retain the names," he said, adding the Terminix pest control division could assume the Terminix name systemwide "in a subtle fashion."

TruGreen's 70 nationwide locations will continue as company branch operations while ServiceMaster's 165 lawn care franchises will operate under franchise arrangements as before, Cantu says.

"At this point, we don't anticipate any changes. The TruGreen (outlets) will continue as company-owned operations," says Cantu, while TruGreen branches will receive support from ServiceMaster franchises. Acquisition of



World Dealer


LINCOLNSHIRE, England — Gannon U.K. Ltd. was winner of Glenmac's World Dealer Award for 1990 for sales of the Harley Power Rake, used in golf, athletic fields, and landscaping. Photo shows, left to right: Guy Overton, Richard Overton and Derek Overton of Gannon accepting from Mac McPherson, president of Glenmac, Jamestown, N.D.

Waste Management's lawn care service is expected to net more than \$80 million in customer-level revenues while the pest control portion of Waste Management, also being folded into ServiceMaster operations, could add another \$90 million.

All ServiceMaster home and commercial services including lawn care, pest control and maid and cleaning services, also under franchise arrangements, may be reached through the central (800) 937-3783 network telephone number. □

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Don't gamble a 'super' job for green speed

NOVI, Mich. — Getting the maximum ball speed from a putting green doesn't mean golf course superintendents have to run the risk of damaging the turf and losing their jobs.

Jacobsen product manager Bill Kinzer says that using a greens conditioning machine can provide good green speed and healthy turf without jeopardizing the super's livelihood.

"When superintendents were rolling the greens, drying them out, double-cutting, topdressing frequently, reducing nitrogen and dropping the height of cut below $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch to increase ball speed, they were literally putting their jobs on the line," says Kinzer. "Now you can reduce or eliminate a lot of those practices by going with a greens conditioner."

Kinzer notes that, in addition to reducing the frequency of these potentially

Jake's
Bill
Kinzer



stressful turf practices, one of the main advantages of greens conditioners like Jacobsen's Turf Groomer is that they allow superintendents to go to a higher cut.

"I know a number of superintendents who are cutting at $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch and have a good root system and the same ball speed they had when they were cutting below $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch," Kinzer says. "Four or five years ago, everyone wanted to see how short they could mow their greens. The premise was: the shorter the grass, the faster the green. Everybody wanted the

thinnest bedknife possible on their greens mowers so they could get the lowest cut possible on their greens.

"Some supers lost their jobs over it, because when spring came around, there was no grass left on the green."

Kinzer says that the higher cut and the resulting increase in the amount of leaf surface on the plant means a healthier grass plant with deeper roots, and makes the turf more resistant to certain diseases.

Along with improving the turf, Kinzer says greens conditioners improve the putting surface by eliminating or reducing a number of undesirable aspects of plant growth.

"Number one, the grain is removed from the grass," he says. "That's what slows the ball down. You get a smoother surface. And number two, it helps control thatch, to a degree." □

Newman pledges high standards

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Lebo Newman, new president of the California Landscape Contractors Association, has formed an Environmental Committee to explore ways the landscaping industry can be gentler on the environment.

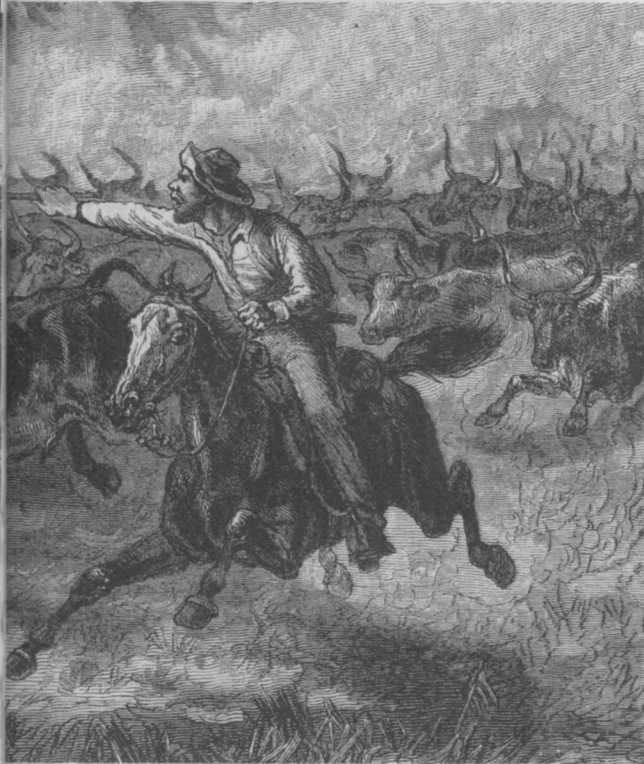
"We can educate people on better ways to apply (control products) or better ways to do our work without being a detriment," says Newman, who adds that the industry needs more ongoing management practices to prevent excessive application.

Newman, president of Redwood Landscaping in Santa Rosa, has been an active CLCA member since 1974.

"With passion, I pledge to maintain CLCA's goals and to improve the image of the landscape industry,"

continued on page 14

under pressure.



Your high-value turf will never need to withstand the punishment of a cattle drive, but there's another kind of pressure your turfgrasses are facing right now: increased traffic. And it can make even the hardiest varieties more vulnerable to disease damage.

That's why more turf pros rely on CHIPCO® brand 26019 fungicide than any other disease control.

Even turf-killer diseases like Helminthosporium Leaf Spot and Melting Out, Dollar Spot, Brown Patch, Fusarium Blight, Red Thread, Pink and Gray Snow Mold and Fusarium Patch knuckle under to the power of CHIPCO® brand 26019.

And the long-lasting protection of CHIPCO® 26019 makes it the perfect foundation for a season-long disease management program. Just one application protects turf for up to four full weeks.

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Fungicide



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Circle No. 133 on Reader Inquiry Card

CLCA's
Lebo
Newman



NEWMAN from page 13 Newman says. "We face challenging times: recession, drought, new regulations on employees, clean air, chemical use. I intend to position CLCA at the forefront of these issues."

Newman wants to see more industry support of bio control research.

"I think we can be fore-runners in assisting the colleges with looking into additional use of microbes and natural biotics to help promote natural activities in the soil," says Newman.

Chairman of CLCA's environmental committee is Francisco Peccorini of Landscape Management Services, San Rafael. □

New control products

'Barricade,' 'Sentinel' introduced by Sandoz

CHICAGO — Sandoz Crop Protection expects to introduce two new turf products in 1991, Barricade pre-emergence herbicide and Sentinel fungicide.

Both products have undergone extensive testing in the field.

"All in all, I had better results with Barricade than with my normal treatment program," says Tom Dale of Radnor Country Club, Philadelphia. Dale claimed longer residual control of goosegrass in his bent/poa fairways.

Other golf course superintendents satisfied with

Barricade:

● Ben Stagg (ryegrass fairways at Hog Neck Golf Course, Easton, Md.)

● Mike McNulty (ryegrass fairways, Ashborne Country Club, Cheltenham, Pa.)

● Fred Meda (bermudagrass fairways at Myrtle Beach (S.C.) National Golf Club)

"Barricade is the first herbicide that I'm aware of that lengthens the maximum residual control of the major problem grasses (crabgrass, goosegrass) up to a 12-month season," says Meda.

Sentinel is a new systemic fungicide that controls a broad spectrum of major turf diseases including dollar spot and brown patch. Meda, who tested it, claims it is "the product of the future" and Stagg, who used it on rye fairways and bent greens and tees, says he was "very impressed."

Sentinel has growth regulating properties that include turning the turf a darker green and thickening it, tests prove.

For more information on either product, contact Howard Heffron at Sandoz: (708) 390-3750. □

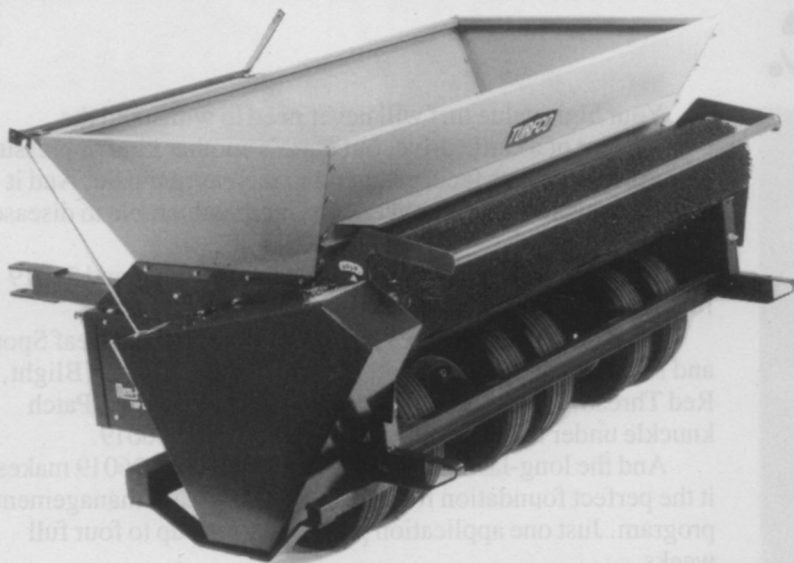
Hoechst-Roussel's 'Ignite,' 'Illoxan' due in '92

SOMERVILLE, N.J. — Hoechst-Roussel Agri-Vet Co. has announced the development of two control products designed for the

golf and landscape markets. They should be ready for the 1992 growing season.

Ignite herbicide, which currently boasts an EPA

Experimental Use Permit, is expected to get full registration later this year. The product is a non-selective
continued on page 18



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You know the story. The guys who swing an iron the way a lumberjack wields an ax are the same guys who yell the loudest when weeds give them a bad lie. So, with all the abuse your turf takes, the last thing you need is root-pruning from your herbicide. That's why you need CHIPCO® RONSTAR® brand G herbicide. University root pull studies show that CHIPCO® RONSTAR® G works without pruning turf roots. That means healthier roots and stronger, more durable turf. Best of all, just one pre-emergence application provides season-long

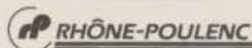
control of 25 tough broadleaf and grassy weeds—including goosegrass, crabgrass and Poa Annua.

You'll also appreciate the fact that CHIPCO® RONSTAR® G won't leach out or move laterally through the soil and is labeled for use on a wide variety of ornamentals, so you can keep more of your course weed-free with each application. CHIPCO® RONSTAR® brand G herbicide. It can't improve the quality of play on your course, just the quality of weed control.



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injects them below the surface of the grass. No other mower has this unique vertical discharge system. And, since it returns clippings back to the lawn, you won't have the hassle of taking care of clippings disposal.

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And, as long as you're there, have a cup of coffee.



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NEW CONTROL PRODUCTS from page 14

herbicide for use in orchards, vineyards and industrial areas. It can be tank-mixed with most residual herbicides used in non-crop areas. It will also be registered for use on grapes, palm fruits and tree nuts.

"Ignite has applications across the green industry where you don't have to worry about herbicide movement off-site," says Dr. Phil Robinson, product manager.

Illoxan herbicide, which has a 24C label in Florida, Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina, is expected to be registered some time in 1992. It is for control of goosegrass in bermudagrass turf—which is to say on golf courses. A 24C label is also pending in North Carolina and Texas.

"Illoxan will make a ma-



Golf course super Mike McNulty observes disease on the 15th fairway at Ashborne Country Club. (See article on page 14.)

for impact in the golf industry," Robinson notes. "We'll change the way people apply grass control herbicides." □

'Impact' gets EUP from EPA

RALEIGH, N.C. — An experimental use permit has been granted by the EPA to BASF Agricultural Chemical Group for an experimental turf herbicide to control broadleaf and annual grasses. The one-application herbicide will receive trials on more than 260 acres at sites across the country.

A full registration application is on file with the EPA for Impact, the herbicide which received testing last year on its control capabilities for crabgrass,

dandelions, clover and other weed species.

BASF specialty business manager Terry Hanson says that, after six years study, Impact will be tested under typical conditions and applications.

The firm also wants to determine the tolerant grass varieties for Impact. To date, bluegrass, ryegrass, tall fescue and bermudagrass have proved tolerant.

The product is formulated as a water soluble powder. □

'Snapshot' for ornamentals

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Snapshot herbicide from DowElanco has received federal EPA registration for use on ornamental plants, groundcovers, non-fruit- and nut-bearing crops, non-bearing vineyards and nursery stock.

Snapshot 80 DF (dry flowable) provides up to eight months control of 86 broadleaf and grassy weeds before they emerge. It can be applied directly over the top of established ornamentals and/or to wet foliage.

174 labeled species of ornamentals have excellent tolerance to it.

Snapshot 80 DF can be used alone or tank-mixed with other herbicides. Because it is a pre-emergent, applications should be made in the spring or fall before weeds emerge, preferably one to two weeks before weed germination. For best results, the herbicide must be activated by at least ½-inch of moisture within 21 days of application. □



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*J.D. Power and Associates 1986, 1987, 1988, 1990 Light Duty Truck Customer Satisfaction with Product Quality and Dealer Service.SM **J.D. Power and Associates 1989 and 1990 Compact Truck Initial Quality Survey.SM †Based on owner reported problems during the first 90 days of ownership. †Contact the National Fleet Sales Office for limited-warranty details.

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Of course you know that herbicidal activity is influenced by temperature, weed species, state of growth, and type of turfgrass. So a herbicide that would be effective in taking hardened-off spurge out of bluegrass would be totally out of place for treating dollarweed in bermudagrass.

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As a matter of fact, in order to maximize the efficiency of weed control throughout the U.S.A., we have developed seven different Trimec Turf Herbicide formulations.

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For a comprehensive explanation of how a Complex differs from a formulator tank mix — and why this difference is vital to you in coping with weed control problems today — we invite you to take a close look at the schematic diagrams on the opposite page, which were drawn up for us by one of the most prestigious university professors ever involved in ornamental turf.

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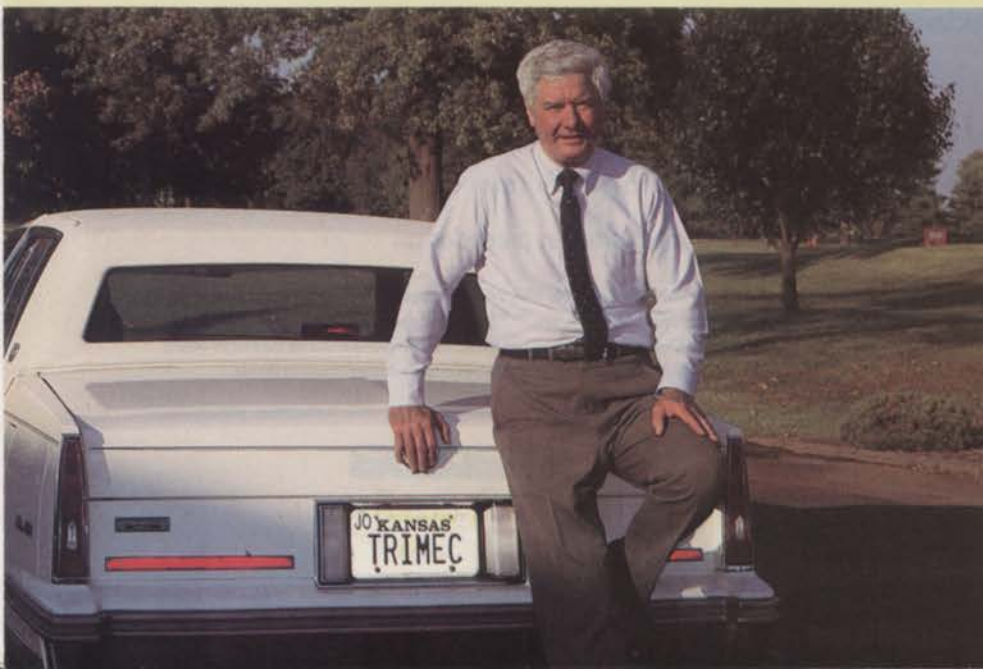
This not only enables you to get those over-wintering annuals at a time when you might otherwise have a void in your work schedule, but it also enables you to get them before their roots have a chance to compete with the turfgrass you are trying to thicken up . . . and you get *all* the broadleaves because Super Trimec has the broadest spectrum of any post-emergent broadleaf herbicide.

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. . . it is also friendly to the environment. It aids in the prevention of runoff, thus improving soil moisture retention; it helps to offset urban heat generated by pavement and buildings; it helps recycle auto emis-

sions into oxygen; it makes everybody feel better. I'm proud of the role Trimec plays in promoting weed-free turf.

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- Trimec 992:** The applicator's formula. Especially designed for tank mixing with liquid fertilizer and other multiple tank-mix combinations.
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- Trimec Bentgrass Formula:** Especially designed for use on bentgrass.