dent of the Chemical Producers and Distributors Association, "you would find you'd have to notify 25,000 people for one application of pesticides."

Stickle suggested the bill include a requirement for a registry list, much like the registry now used in seven states.

As an alternative to the 1000 feet provision, Mc-Clure recommended to Sen. Reid that the treated property be posted, adjacent residents be notified, and a registry of chemically sensitive persons be established.

McClure opposed the mandatory contract provision in the proposed bill on two grounds. One, customers don't want to be bound to a contract; and, two, because of the part nature plays in the business.

"We are dealing with something that is alive and changing," said McClure. "The weather is variable, and it's very difficult to say that every first week in June, we will apply something."

Senator John Warner (R-Va.) pursued the issue of homeowner qualifications, questioning McClure in detail about the training requirements for commercial applicators. He then asked whether homeowners are subjecting themselves to risk through misapplication.

"I happen to think the homeowner is subjected to risk, and has the potential to subject his neighbors to risk," responded Fred Hundt, vice president of marketing for the Ringer Corp., a maker of organic lawn care products.

"I would just offer that the only instruction the homeowner may receive is from what's on the bottle, assuming he or she reads it," said William Roberts, vice president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association.

"Beyond that, I'd wonder about time of application and rate of application. Do homeowners actually take the time to go out and calibrate equipment so that it's applied properly?"

Said Stickle: "There are a number of companies spending millions of dollars to look at alternatives to pesticides. In the 1990s, we may very well see some of these products come on the market. In the long run they will provide an opportunity to those who want organic or biological control product to avail themselves of that kind of product. We will see a balance between the synthetic pesticides and the new bioshe compared to "having Dracula guard the blood bank."

Thomas Latimer of Dallas testified he was poisoned and disabled by the interaction of the prescription drug Tagamet and diazinon insecticide he applied to his lawn.

"I do not want diazinon banned, nor do I want Tagamet removed from the market," said Latimer. "I am simply requesting that the corporations and government agencies work to



Warren Stickle, left, president of the Chemical Producers and Distributors Association, and Mike Stevens, chief executive officer of Howard Johnsons Enterprises, presented information on the benefits of lawn care products when they are used safely.

logical control type products."

"Business is driven by the market," said McClure, who said some PLCAA members have been receiving more inquiries from customers interested in organic products.

The other side

Dr. Janette Sherman of Alexandria, Va., a specialist in internal medicine, said America was at risk of fostering an "impaired population: with respiratory problems, neurological problems, learning disabilities, kids who can't go to school."

"The widespread use of chemical means to prevent or to rid a building of insects is also suspect when the corporations pushing these chemicals are also those that benefit from their sales."

Sherman expressed great mistrust of chemical company research, which kinetic chemical weapons Saddam

get the labelings correct and understandable to the general public."

Other witnesses campaigning against pesticides were Jared Arminger, an 8year-old from Baltimore, Md.; Katherine Shannon of Boulder, Col., and Christina Locek of River Grove, Ill. All said that they experience major health problems due to pesticide exposure.

None of the witnesses called for a ban on lawn products. What they say they want is better labelling and posting.

Sen. Warner expressed concern that the issue could turn into another Alar or agent orange scare. Testimony by witnesses during the hearings said that because certain lawn care products are organophosphates, they resemble the chemicals used in Nazi prison camps, the Vietnam war, and the chemical weapons Saddam Hussein threatened to use during the Persian Gulf war. That prompted Warner to caution the group to go easy on the sensationalism.

"We have a duty not to unduly scare the public," cautioned Warner. "Alar was depicted as the killer of all children. And let's be very careful in our references to historical military use. There is a non-partisan bureaucracy struggling to get to the issue."

Balance and sense

Tom Delaney, PLCAA director of government affairs, said later that he thought the hearings went "fairly well," and that Senator Warner brought "some balance and common sense to what's going on. He interviewed each of the witnesses, and asked what kind of advice they would give to people using the products. Just about without exception, they said they want (users) to read and follow the labels," not totally eliminate the products.

"We're not against regulation," said Delaney. "We could work on every one of Lieberman's points, but not the way he wants them. We were very strong on the point that these are the same products homeowners are using. I think I got the point across."

Next item on the agenda is negotiations among industry representatives and the committee, to see if they can reach a compromise. "In its present form," said Delaney, "not even the senators were agreeing that it could work."

Sources inside industry say the Lieberman bill will not pass, thanks to intensive company lobbying, and the possibility that homeowners might themselves come under scrutiny. For any law to be fair and practical, homeowners who apply control products would have to obey notification and posting requirements as well, which might sour them from buying products altogether.

-Terry McIver

LEGISLATION

No predictions on case being reviewed by the Supreme Court soon

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Green industry representatives who sat through oral arguments in the Supreme Court case of Mortier v. Town of Casey were unwilling, as LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT magazine went to press, to make any predictions on the case's outcome.

Implications of the case will affect how professional pesticide applicators go about their business.

"We've had a hard time getting people in the industry to realize how significant this case is," says Steve Hardymon of ChemLawn. He and Tom Delaney of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America both attended the Supreme Court arguments here.

"The judged seemed

very interested in this case," says Delaney. "They were asking some common-sense questions and not high-tech legal stuff.

"The majority of us (who were there) think we'll win 5-4, just based on the questions asked by the judges."

The case hinges on the Town of Casey (Wisc.) claim that it can pass and enforce its own pesticide regulations. From 1981 through 1985, it enacted five separate pieces of pesticide regulation. Industry insists that pesticide use restrictions are a function of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

"It's a wait-and-see situation until the decision comes out," says Chem-Lawn's Hardymon. □



Teddi Davis of The Garick Corp. (left), Bob Andrews of PLCAA and Tom Garber of ALCA.

Green Expo set thru 1995

C L E V E L A N D — Representatives of three turf and landscape organizations met here May 14 to sign an agreement that guarantees the existence of the Green Industry Expo through the year 1995.

"It's been an ordeal, a rocky road, but it's been a rewarding experience," said Bob Andrews, who represented the Professional Lawn Care Association of America.

The agreement was needed largely to define the role each of the organizations will play in the expo. Under its terms, the PLCAA will be the trade show manager through 1994; in 1995, a third party can be hired in its stead, if the organizations so decide.

Tom Garber represented the Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA). "The industry as a whole can relax and count on this show through 1995 now," he said. "The show will develop a life of its own as 1995 approaches." Under the agreement, the PLCAA will receive 55.0%

continued on page 62



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800-233-0628 BAYLETON* is a Registered Trademark of Bayer AG, Germany for triadimeton. © 1991 Lebanon Chemical Corporation. A GREEN YEAR?...Lesco chairman Jim FitzGibbon sees a good future continuing in the green industry, according to an article in the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*. He told the newspaper that Lesco should have a record year, with perhaps 20 new service centers opening up nationally. The service centers, which opened up five years ago, now account for almost 40% of the company's business.

EXHIBITING EXHIBIT... Exhibit insecticide is the first product to be marketed following an agreement between Ciba-Geigy and Biosys to market biological insecticides. It works on turf surface feeders, Ciba-Geigy says. "It was the most effective biological product we reviewed," notes product manager **Scott Moffitt.**

CLIPPING SAVINGS... Using a mulching mower to cut a typical half-acre lawn each summer can return nearly 5,500 pounds of grass clippings to the soil, and eliminate up to 465 bags of clippings as waste disposal, based on recent tests announced by Garden Way Inc. and the Rodale Research Center. Although **Dr. Terry Schettini** of Rodale says it's too early "to receive definitive data from soil core samples," he indicates that grass cut with mulching mowers has a healthy appearance with no clumps of grass or visible thatch buildup.

ON THE FUTURE...Forecasting International has been commissioned to conduct the first comprehensive research study on the future of the landscape industry. The research will forecast major consumer trends through the remainder of the 1990s and into the next century. Forecasting president **Dr. Marvin Cetron** is personally heading up a team of five research professionals.

THE NAME IS BOND...Bond—James E. Bond has won a \$12,000 scholarship from the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation for his work at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Bond is a doctoral candidate working on developing techniques to transfer desirable traits from one plant to another.

IN SEARCH OF A TREE...The National Arboreal Emblem Bill is a long way from becoming law, but it holds high hopes for Harry Banker of the International Society of Arboriculture. Banker, who is chair of the ISA's National Tree Committee, is pushing the arboreal emblem bill, which would make the oak the national tree. At presstime, only 23 co-sponsors have lined up to support the bill, while 218 are required.□

YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE.

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ATHLETIC TURF

Too much synthetic?

The Seattle, Wash., area has become a haven for synthetic turf manufacturers. According to a series of articles in the Seattle synthetic football fields at the high school level are booming there.

One article, written by P-I reporter Greg Brown, notes that the 14-team South Puget Sound League has just three teams still playing on real grass. The city of Bellevue has four high school synthetic fields, valued at \$2.8 million each. Twenty-five Washington high schools, most of them in the greater Seattle area, are now synthetic.

However, another article, also written by Brown, questions the safety of synthetic fields.

"In the debut of Bellevue High School's field Sept. 21 (1990), Mike Camlin was the fourth Redmond player sidelines in the first half in what Redmond Coach Jim Sampson calls the most injuries he's seen in a half in 12 seasons," Brown's article notes. The injuries were torn knee ligaments and cartilege (to Camlin), a bruised rib, a bruised shoulder and loss of breath.□



Florida County officially adopts IPM practices

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Sarasota County officials say they have officially adopted integrated pest management practices to decrease pesticide use on all county government properties.

But is this anything more than a publicity stunt, a jumping on the IPM bandwagon just to keep the wolves away from the door?

Michael Holsinger, director of the County Extension Service at the University of Florida's of Institute Food Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), says IPM is "the wave of the future. Citizens want environmentally safe pest control, the cost of research and registration for new pesticides continues to climb and there's a lot less liability involved with integrated pest management than with pesticides that are toxic to humans and animals."

Holzinger describes IPM as a practice that uses as few chemicals as possible. "When chemicals are necessary," writes the IFAS, "the least toxic are used."

After six months of preparation, the IPM mandate was made effective on April 2, following a vote by county commissioners and an 11-member citizens' advisory committee on environmental pest management.

"There's been a lot of rhetoric written about IPM over the past few years," says Holzinger, who admits that many of those who promote IPM have conflicting definitions for the practice. "The guidelines are somewhat limited," admits Holzinger, "but the general guidelines say you don't destroy the beneficial predators, and you should try to use pestresistant plants."

The extension service news release describing the program uses the words "toxic" and "least toxic," when describing chemicals. But is toxicity an issue when chemicals are used correctly? Yes and no. says Holzinger. "Say you have a selection of 10 different materials." he explains. "You want to select the least toxic of those. There are degrees of differences. I would consider Orthene and Dursban a lot more toxic than insecticidal soaps or horticultural oils, and diazinon more toxic than Orthene and Dursban."

Bacillus thuringiensis (bt)—a biological control agent that has proved to be the most effective of the asyet limited biological products—is part of the county plan, as are nematodes for mole cricket control.

Structural pest control is included in the county IPM plan. Precor and Gencor growth regulators are used against fleas and roaches.

Even though many professionals are prudent when it comes to chemical use, Holzinger says they face the scrutiny of suspicious customers when chemicals are not used.

"The average customers feel they need to have something applied to feel they are getting their money's worth," Holzinger realizes. "The biggest problem with the way IPM is presented is that it's difficult for people to see concrete steps they can take to implement an IPM program.

"We need to develop appreciation for the fact that we're not going to eradicate insects," he concludes. "We have to set thresholds before treatment."

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ASSOCIATIONS

New PLCAA dues structure a definite plus

MARIETTA, Ga.—The Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA) reports a two percent gain in new members, and believes its new rate structure will bring more into the fold.

"Response has been excellent," says Ann McClure, PLCAA's executive vice president.

"Many LCOs are responding favorably to the change in dues. The association hopes this means PLCAA will have far broader national representation."

PLCAA adjusted its dues to encourage more companies—large and small—to come aboard. More than 10 percent of renewing members paid their dues early this year, reports PLCAA, encouraged by an early payment discount.

EVENTS

JUNE

12-16: AAN Annual Convention and Nursery Industry Exposition, Nashville, Tenn. Contact: AAN headquarters, 1250 I St. NW, Washington, DC 20005; (202) 789-2900.

17-20: "The Technical Arborist." San Francisco, Calif. Contact: The Arbor Day Institute, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410; (402) 474-5655.

18-19: Jacklin Seed Company Discovery Tour, Post Falls, Idaho. Contact: Jacklin Seed Co, West 5300 Riverbend Ave., Post Falls, ID 83854; (208) 773-7581.

19-22: National Rails-to-Trails Conference, Baltimore, Md. Contact: National Office, 1400 16th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 797-5400.

20: Professional Grounds Management Society, facilities management Seminar, Long Beach (Calif.) State University. Contact: PGMS, 10402 Ridgland Rd., Suite 4, Cockeysville, Md 21030; (301) 667-1833.

20-21: "Media, Fertility and Water Quality Management" seminar. Contact: The Ball Institute, (708) 231-3600.

25-26: "Diagnosing, Managing and Complying with Regulations," applied to insect and disease control. Fee of \$500. Contact: The Ball Institute, (708) 231-3600.

26-27: Cornell University Field Day, Ithaca, N.Y. Contact: New York State Turfgrass Association, (800) 873-8873.

27: "A Look at California Irrigation: Water Management for the 1990s and Beyond," UCLA Riverside campus. Contact: Hartley Bennett, (602) 684-7308.

JULY 1: "Japanese Landscape Architecture." Contact: UCLA Extension Service, (213) 825-9414.

10-12: Environmental Regulation Course, Atlanta, Ga. (Info on the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Superfund, Right-to-Know, OSHA.) Contact: (800) 831-8333.

11-13: CLCA Summer Tri-Board Meeting. Contact: Micheyl Barnett, California Landscape Contractors Assn., (916) 448-2522.

11-15: American Association of Nurserymen Annual Meeting, Orlando, Fla. Contact: AAN, 1250 I St., Washington, DC 20005.

13: Equipment Field Day, Brookville, Md. Contact: Mike O'Hare, Maryland Seeding Assn., (301) 249-2008; John Lanigan, (301) 795-5980.

14-16: Mid-Atlantic Nurserymen's Trade Show, Baltimore. Contact: P.0. Box 314, Perry Hall, MD 22128.

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Model 67



Model 82



Model 826

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using Trimec® Plus Herbicide to help them cope with nutsedge, grassy and broadleaf weeds in today's environmental age.

Everett Mealman, President PBI/Gordon Corporation

f you think that controlling yellow nutsedge and goosegrass in turf is a tough assignment, you should have Tom Hilferty's challenge:

Hilferty is superintendent of the Tatum Ridge Golf Links in Sarosota, Florida and he has to control these pests with his hands tied behind his back. "At least that's the way it feels sometimes," laughs Hilferty.

Tatum Ridge is a semi-private course that also caters to affluent, discerning, fee-paying guests. The layout must be immaculate and the environmental constraints are monumental.

The course comprises 111 acres of bermuda turf, 30 acres of water, 54 acres of protected wetlands and is a refuge for wildlife and endangered species. Furthermore, it is only seven miles from the gulf shore, so excessive winds and high temperatures mean that there are very few days when suitable spraying conditions exist.

"Nutsedge and goosegrass and broadleaves love those protected wetlands," says Hilferty, "so we're going to have them

in our turf and, of course, that's unacceptable."

Hilferty goes on to say that he watches for that special day when the wind is down and the weeds are coming up, and it's then that he delivers his one and only wall-to-wall broadcast spray treatment of the year - a tank-mix of Trimec Plus and Ferromec® AC Liquid Sprayable Iron. "If you can only do it once, you better do it right the first time," insists Hilferty.

If any nutsedge or broadleaves ever show up after the broadcast - and they do show up - Hilferty goes after them with his trusty spot sprayer, loaded with Trimec Plus.

Does the program work? "Count the golfers and take an inventory of the wildlife," challenges Hilferty.

#1 for crabgrass control

If Trimec Plus is now the number one post-emerge for economical control of nutsedge and goosegrass, it is also number one for crabgrass. Just ask Paul Branon, who owns two Lawn Doctor franchises in the Acton, Mass. area, an upscale suburb of Boston.

Crabgrass used to be our number one problem in bluegrass," says Branon, "but since we discovered Trimec Plus several years ago, crabgrass has become our





late lawns - no crabgrass, and a minimum usage of chemical.

"Our goal is to create turf that is so thick and healthy there is little room for weeds to germinate or disease to get established," says Branon. "Consequently, we want to treat those lawns at least five times a year to properly space out the feeding and monitor for disease. We also need the revenue from five treatments to generate enough cash flow to maintain our level of service."

Branon goes on to say that before he discovered Trimec Plus several years ago, he was limited in the number of customers he could serve because his first treatment consisted of fertilizer, Trimec Classic, and a pre-emerge herbicide. Consequently, it was confined to the window after the broadleaves start to grow and before the crabgrass germinates.

So if the crabgrass germinated before we finished our first round," says Branon, "we simply lost the treatment because we had never found a postemerge for crabgrass that was economical enough and sufficiently reliable to justify our no-crabgrass guarantee. Today, if the crabgrass is there before we complete our first round, we simply change the postemergent herbicide to Trimec Plus. With one gallon covering an entire acre, the price is right."

How well does the Trimec Plus postemerge control of crabgrass work? There is no room in Branon's office for any more Performance Evaluation trophies from Lawn Doctor, and these trophies not only reflect the quality of his work, but also the profitability of his franchise.

Ideal spot treatment

When you read about the experiences of turf professionals like Tom Hilferty and Paul Branon, don't you have an urgent desire to give Trimec Plus a trial? Obviously, most of your peers do, because Trimec Plus is surely the most exciting and fastest-growing herbicide to enter the field in many years.

Tom Hilferty, Supt. of Tatum Ridge Golf Links in Sarosota, Florida has extreme environmental problems and is restricted to one broadcast post-emerge spray per year to get goosegrass, nutsedge and broadleaves. Trimec Plus has proven to be the answer.