

BIOTURF NEWS

For the Latest Developments in Biological, Organic and Natural Turf Care!

With our October premier publication of *Bioturf News*, we at *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT* magazine continued our commitment to give you the best possible coverage of green industry happenings.

Bioturf News is our new, bi-monthly review of current research and development in "biological, organic and natural" turf care. In 1993, it will exist independently of *LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT*.

Alternative turf care products can't be ignored. University research has determined them to be viable forms of insect, weed and disease control.

Many of our readers have also

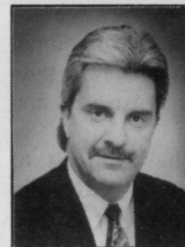
formed opinions of biological and organic products.

Some say biological and organic products are too expensive and take too long to show results. Others believe customers should have a choice. And still others are probably wondering what all the excitement's about.

Our job, as an industry information source, is not to tell you what to think, but to simply relay the information to you—as soon as we can and in the best way possible—and let you take it from there.

There are two sides to every story. Your opinions count, and we want to know what you think of

these products. Have you tried alternative products? If so, what were the results? To make *Bioturf News* the most useful news source it can be, we will always welcome your questions and comments.



Jon Miducki
Publisher



Terry McIver
Editor

Bioturf News will be a bi-monthly newsletter reporting on biological, organic and natural products for the specialty turf market. But you have to subscribe in order to receive it. To receive your free one-year subscription, please return the coupon below to:

Jon Miducki, publisher
LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT
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Cleveland, Ohio 44130

Bioturf News will appear independently of Landscape Management beginning July 1993. You must be a subscriber to receive it! We've had a terrific response so far. If you haven't sent for your free subscription yet, please do!!

BIOTURF NEWS

Bio-Turf: The Basics



Biological alternatives to conventional chemical control products are more than 30 years old, but are only recently receiving attention.

Biological control agents are organisms that attack and kill or otherwise harm a pest. They are used to control pests in agriculture, forestry, and turfgrass.

Biological control agents are used to control pests in agriculture, forestry, and turfgrass. They are used to control pests in agriculture, forestry, and turfgrass.

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HOT TOPICS

Bystander exposure to 2,4-D is not big threat, study claims

Canadian study reaffirms importance of reading the label, wearing protective clothing.

GUELPH, ONT. Canada—Professional applications of 2,4-D to home lawns pose little exposure risks for homeowners and bystanders.

That was one of the findings of researchers at the University of Guelph. Directing the study were Dr. Keith Solomon, Dr. G.R. Stephenson, Shelly Harris, and Dr. Christopher Hall.

Hall, director of the Guelph Turfgrass Institute, recapped these findings at the PLCAA Convention this past November.

His message was encouraging to the 150-plus lawn and landscape professionals in the room. Most use products containing 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid, a popular broad-leaf weed control.

"If you do things right, there's not a lot of (2,4-D) exposure risk," emphasized Hall.

Actually, the Guelph studies investigated more than bystander exposure. They also measured 2,4-D exposures received by applicators—both homeowner and professional.

As part of the project, some of the volunteers applied 2,4-D materials as a layman might, with scanty instruction. They

wore regular regular clothing. The other group of applicators received detailed instruction and wore protective clothing—rubber gloves and boots, coveralls, etc.

A granular formulation of fertilizer (10:6:4) with 1% 2,4-D was used for the spring application, and a liquid formulation of 2,4-D for the fall application. Then for 96 hours following the applications, the researchers collected urine samples from the volunteers to measure 2,4-D exposures.

Measureable exposures occurred to applicators who hadn't worn protective clothing during hose-end applications. Only in a few cases could 2,4-D be detected in those who had worn protective clothing while working with liquid 2,4-D.

"The take-home message is to wear protective clothing," said Hall.

It didn't seem to matter much in applications of the granular product, since 2,4-D couldn't be detected in

either group.

"If you are an inexperienced applicator, probably the best way to go is with the granular formulations," Hall suggested.

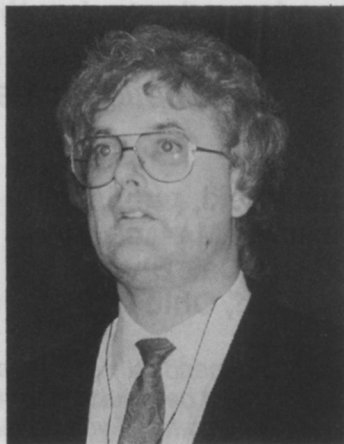
In related investigations, 10 volunteers (five in long pants, short-sleeved shirts, socks and shoes, and five wearing shorts and barefooted) alternately walked, sat and lay down on 2,4-D-sprayed turf an hour after application.

Four days later, detectable residues were found in urine samples supplied by three of the barefooted people.

When the volunteers waited 24 hours after a spray application to repeat their activities on the treated turfgrass, no detectable residues were found on any of them.

Hall said that people can reduce their potential exposure to essentially zero by staying off treated turf for a period of 24 hours or until after rainfall or irrigation.

—Ron Hall



Dr. Hall: 'In Canada, like the United States, we had a lot of trouble with people's perception about the health risks associated with 2,4-D.'

Give clients a say in how, how much pesticide used

CINCINNATI—Dr. Frank Rossi says bowling injures more Americans each year than pesticide applications. Yet nobody protests recreational bowling.

Why?

The answer lies in the makeup of the collective human psyche which sees voluntary and familiar risks—even obvious ones such as smoking and drinking—as somehow less threatening than less-well-understood risks, says Rossi, an experienced environmental educator.

Bowling, therefore, is the type of risk the public is willing to accept. Pesticide use sometimes is not.

"People are not certain about what we're doing, and that's what makes them uneasy," says Rossi, a New York City native and former golf superintendent. "We want people to have a better understanding of what we do."

In fact, Rossi feels it's not chemicals themselves that frighten the

ELSEWHERE

Industry events for, February and March, page 54

Books and literature for the green industry, page 55

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public. "Most of the public will not have the ability to decipher technical or toxicological information anyway," he says. What generates outrage is the perception by some individuals that they "don't get to choose how our chemicals get into their lives," says Rossi.

The solution: professional pesticide users must acknowledge the concerns of customers, and meet these concerns with accurate, easy-to-understand information, says Rossi. Then, to the extent that they can, they should give customers the power to choose how pesticides are used in their immediate environments.

Rossi is an assistant professor of turfgrass environmental management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He spoke at both the PLCAA Convention, Indianapolis, and Ohio Turfgrass Conference, Cincinnati, this past fall.

Dr. Rossi: professional pesticide users need to help the public understand that the dose makes the poison.



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GREEN INDUSTRY EVENTS

FEBRUARY

15: Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Assn. Spray Technician Seminar. The Standard Club, Duluth, Ga. Phone: (706) 769-4076.

16-March 16: Irrigation Association Short Courses: Feb. 16-17, Phoenix; Feb. 18-19, Los Angeles; Feb. 23-24, Denver; Feb. 25-26, Dallas; March 1-2, Houston; March 4-5, Seattle; March 8-9, Orlando; March 11-12, Connecticut; March 15-16, Toronto. Phone (703) 524-1200.

18: Turf & Grounds Exposition II, Holiday Inn, Suffern, N.Y. Phone: (800) 873-8873 or (518) 783-1229.

18-23: National Arborist Association Management Conference, The Registry Resort, Scottsdale, Ariz. Phone: (800) 722-2622.

22: Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Assn. Spray Technician Seminar, Doublegate C.C., Albany, Ga. Phone: (706) 769-4076.

22: New York Landscape Association Education Day and Trade Show, Holiday Inn Turf, Albany, N.Y. Phone: (518) 783-1322.

23-24: Landscape Industry Conference and Trade Show, Hammons Trade Center, Holiday Inn I-70 East, Denver. Phone: (303) 757-5611.

23-26: International Erosion Control Assn. Conference & Trade Expo, Indianapolis Westin Hotel. Phone (303) 879-3010.

24: New Jersey Landscape '93, Meadowlands Convention Center, Secaucus, N.J. Phone (201) 664-6310.

24-25: Landscape Industry Show, Long Beach (Calif.). Phone: (916) 448-2522.

24-26: Landscape Design Short Course, Sheraton Inn, Mars, Pa. Phone: Michael Masiuk at (412) 392-8540.

24-26: "Diversity: Recognizing Reality" Workshop of the Landscape Contractors Association of Md, DC, Va; Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Rockville, Md. Phone: (301) 948-0810.

27: Long Island Arboricultural Association Annual Tree Conference, SUNY Farmingdale, Long Island, N.Y. Phone: (516) 783-1001.

MARCH

4: Midwest Chapter/STMA Annual Meeting, Elk Grove, Ill. Phone: Mike Schiller at (708) 439-4727 or Mike Trigg at (708) 360-4750.

4-5: USGA Golf Course Wastewater Symposium, Newport Beach, Calif. Phone: Dr. Kim Erusha at (908) 234-2300.

4-5: Muni-Golf Course Developments,

Atlanta Marriott Marquis. Phone: (800) 285-2332.

6: Association for Women in Horticulture Conference, Bellevue (Wash.) Conference Center. Phone: Terri Arnold at (206) 935-7951 or Deb Powers at (206) 524-1672.

6-7: Tampa Bay Hort. Trade Show, Tampa Convention Center. Phone: (813) 920-4393.

9: USGA/Carolinas GCSA Conference, Forest Lake Country Club, Columbia, S.C. Phone: Roger Harvie at (404) 951-0766.

9-10: Healthy Urban Trees Conference, Iowa State University, Ames, Ia. Phone: (515) 294-6223.

9-10: Spring Training Conference/Colorado Assn. of Lawn Care Professionals, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Colo. Phone: (303) 224-2293.

9-10: Sports Turf Management Course, Riverside, Calif. Phone: (714) 787-5804, x624.

12: Turf Management Seminar, Cuyamaca College, El Cajon, Cal. Phone: (619) 670-1980 x262.

15-21: Pacific Rim Golf Conference & Show, Internat'l. Merchandise Mart, Singapore. Phone: (800) 422-6381 or (913) 841-2240.

17-18: Reinders Brothers Turf Conference & Equipment Show, Waukesha (Wis.) Expo Center. Phone: Ed Devinger at (414) 786-3301.

23: Sports Turf Institute and Exhibition, California State Polytechnic Univ., Pomona, Calif. Phone: Dr. Kent Kurtz at (909) 869-2219.

25-28: Golf Asia '93, World Trade Center, Singapore. Phone: (714) 673-3596.

30-31: Turfgrass and Landscape Institute, Buena Park, Calif. Phone: Linda Knoche at (619) 723-0255.

INFO CENTER

Useful literature and videos for LM readers

GOLF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES..."Golf Course Management & Construction Environmental Issues" is now available through Advanstar Marketing Services. Contributors to the USGA publication include Dr. Bruce Branham, Dr. Vic Gibeault, James T. Snow, Dr. Jim Watson and Dr. Michael Kenna. To order, phone (800) 225-2569, ext. 839 or fax to (216) 891-2726. Cost \$65 plus tax, shipping and handling. MasterCard, Visa and American Express accepted.

ON WEED CONTROL..."Nursery and Landscape Weed Control Manual" provides the tools to effectively control weeds in nurseries, landscapes and turf, using an integrated approach of physical, environmental and chemical means. 290 pages for \$29.95. To order, write Thomson Publications, P.O. Box 9335, Fresno, CA 93791; or phone (209) 435-2163.

FLOWER VIDEOS...The Professional Plant Growers Association is offering "Success with Bedding Plants," a 20-minute video that covers selecting, installing and maintaining bedding plants. It covers soil preparation, color considerations, watering, fertilization and more. To order, send \$100 (PPGA members) or \$130 (non-members) to PPGA, P.O. Box 27517, Lansing, MI 48909 or phone (517) 694-7700.

SOIL NITRATE TESTS..."Current Viewpoints on the Use of Soil Nitrate Tests in the South" is a 62-page book that offers a detailed examination of the practical and economic usefulness of soil nitrate testing in the southern U.S. Edited by K.L. Wells and W.R. Thompson Jr., it costs \$18 in the U.S. Send orders to the American Society of Agronomy, Book Order Dept., 677 S. Segoe Rd., Madison, WI 53711-1086.

LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT LITERATURE ROUNDUP

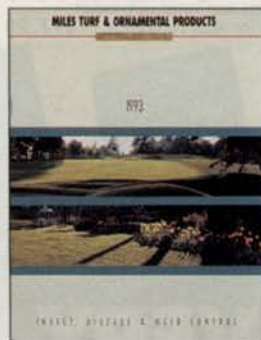
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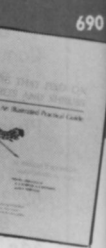
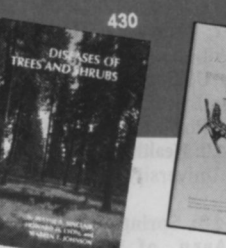
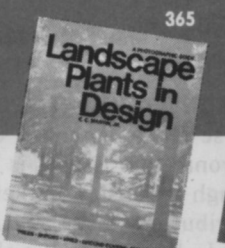
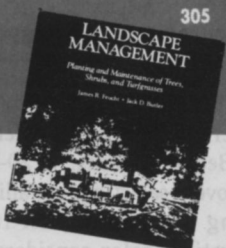


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by Norman L. Dietrich
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305 - LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

by James R. Feucht and Jack D. Butler
Learn important principles of installed landscapes - tree, shrub and turfgrass soils and fertilizers, improved planting and pruning techniques, integrated pest and disease management, spray-equipment calibration and care.

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370 - LANDSCAPE OPERATIONS: MANAGEMENT, METHODS & MATERIALS

by Leroy Hannebaum
Combines technical training in landscape science with easy-to-understand accounting, business management, marketing and sales techniques - all in one handy volume! Covers lawn installation, landscape planting and maintenance.

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by Edward C. Martin
Annotated photographic guide to aesthetic and functional use of ornamental plants in landscape design. Trees, shrubs, vines, ground covers and turfgrasses are illustrated with over 1,900 black and white photographs. Contains a quick reference guide to particular design qualities, growing conditions.

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102 - LANDSCAPE PROBLEM MANAGEMENT

by Balakrishna Rao, Ph.D.
Enjoyable and educational! Dr. Rao has revised and updated his popular "Problem Management" columns and arranged them in a convenient, categorized format. Dr. Rao sheds light on a wide range of questions.

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TREES & SHRUBS

430 - DISEASES OF TREES AND SHRUBS

by Sinclair, Lyon & Johnson
A comprehensive pictorial survey of diseases and environmental damage to trees and woody ornamental plants in the U.S. and Canada. Up-to-date developments in fungal biology, taxonomy, bacteriology, virology, and environmental stress.

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690 - INSECTS THAT FEED ON TREES AND SHRUBS

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TURF

220 - CONTROLLING TURFGRASS PESTS

by Shurtleff, Fermanian, Randell
No professional can be without this new comprehensive guide which provides the most recent information available on the identification, biology, control and management of every type of turfgrass pest.

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235 - LAWN CARE: A HANDBOOK FOR PROFESSIONALS

by H. Decker, J. Decker
An invaluable guide for playing field managers, golf course managers, lawn care practitioners. Written by turfgrass professionals, this handy reference covers all aspects of turfgrass management.

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640 - TURF IRRIGATION MANUAL

by James Watkins
Keep pace with the latest developments in turf and landscape irrigation. Rotary sprinkler and golf course design systems, and expanded engineering and reference material make this a great reference for engineers, architects, designers and contractors!

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by Howard Sprague
Practical guide to turf care under both healthy and poor conditions. Covers special turf problems in cool and warm regions, fertilizer use, regular turf care, weed and disease control. Includes useful seasonal schedules.

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630 - TURFGRASS: SCIENCE AND CULTURE

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110 - TURF MANAGERS' HANDBOOK

by Daniel and Freeborg
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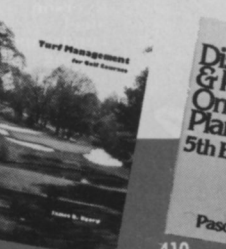
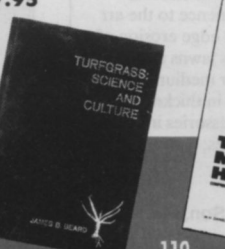
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GENERAL

410 - DISEASES & PESTS OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

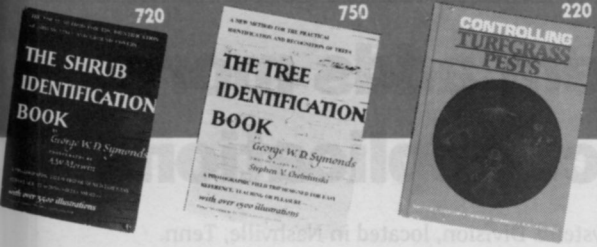
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Learn when and how to use the most effective fungicide, insecticides and other control methods on nearly 500 varieties of ornamental plants grown outdoors, under glass or in the home. This essential reference covers both diagnosis and treatment.

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Turfpak features a 15-gallon returnable container, electronic control module and dry-break couplings.

■ During the summer of 1992, Ciba-Geigy successfully tested its Turfpak packaging system, using Banner fungicide for golf course applications and Triumph insecticide for turf insect control.

According to the company, the dispensing system will be available to other regions. Subdue fungicide will be added to the arsenal of products available in returnable containers.

"This is a very slick system," says David Ward, superintendent of the Olympia Fields Country Club in Olympia Fields, Ill. "With the closed system, we have no contact with chemicals, it increases the speed and ease of loading a sprayer tank and there are no empty containers to rinse and dispose of."

John McLeod, Ciba-Geigy Turf and Ornamental Division Northern Region sales manager, says the most important benefit of Turfpak is increased applicator safety.

"According to research by our packaging group, 90 percent of pesticide exposure occurs during the mixing process," says McLeod. "By using a closed dispensing system like Turfpak, we've virtually eliminated that risk."

One Turfpak container replaces 15, one-gallon pesticide jugs.

The Turfpak uses patented Drylock Closed Dispensing System technology developed by Aeroquip Corporation's Fluid

Security Systems Division, located in Nashville, Tenn.

An applicator mounts the male half of the dry-break coupling on his sprayer tank lid. When applying pesticide, he snaps the female dry-break coupling on the dispensing hose to the male on the spray tank and enters the desired quantity of pesticide in a hand-held electronic control module. The Turfpak shuts itself off after that precise amount is dispensed.

Scott Moffitt, product manager in Ciba-Geigy's Turf and Ornamental Division, says such pinpoint accuracy is critical for pesticide products used in home turf applications.

"The Turfpak system calibrates to one-tenth of an ounce, which is what our customers need to meet their stewardship requirements," says Moffitt.

Charlie Jesky of the McHenry Country Club in McHenry, Ill. used the Banner Turfpak last summer and says it made pesticide application quicker and easier.

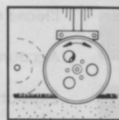
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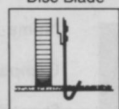
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Right Angle Blade

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