

## GOLF COURSE USE OF DIAZINON RESTRICTED

An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) administrative law judge, after hearing testimony from numerous golf course superintendents, has ruled that the use of Diazinon for insect control on golf courses and sod farms should be restricted but not cancelled. The judge rejected a 1986 proposal for cancellation that claimed the insecticide posed "unreasonable risks" to birds which may feed on grass and insects treated with the product.

Judge Gerald Harwood ruled that use restrictions proposed by Ciba-Geigy, a major supplier of diazinon, and the benefits of the insecticide are sufficient to justify its continued use on golf courses and sod farms. Golf course products containing diazinon will carry restricted use labels. Uses of Diazinon other than on golf courses and sod farms will not change since they were not part of the proposed cancellation.

Golf course superintendents, independent ecologists and avian toxicologists presented testimony and data showing that applications made according to the restrictions proposed by Ciba-Geigy do not cause unreasonable risks to birds. The restrictions include an application rate of no more than two pounds of active ingredient per acre with a maximum of four pounds per acre in any 30-day period. All applications must

be followed with 1/4-inch of irrigation. Liquid applications must be made with a boom sprayer with as little overlap as possible. The new label will contain geographic and timing restrictions aimed at protecting certain sensitive species of migratory waterfowl.

Bill Liles, director of the turf and ornamental department at Ciba-Geigy, said the company was pleased with the united support from the turf industry. "We are especially happy with the strong support we got from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America."

Diazinon has been approved for sale and use for more than 30 years and has been registered for the control of surface and sub-surface insects in turf for 25 years.

## AMERICAN GOLF PROMOTES HEACOCK

American Golf Corp., Santa Monica, CA, has promoted Michael Heacock to vice president of golf course maintenance. Heacock joined the company in 1983 as a regional superintendent. American Golf owns or operates nearly 100 golf courses in the U.S.

Heacock is a former president of the Southern California Golf Course Superintendents Association. He has 15 years of experience in golf course maintenance. He is a graduate in turfgrass management from California Polytechnic University in Pomona.

## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE VALUED AT \$3.5 BILLION

A joint report from the National Golf Foundation (NGF) and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has estimated the annual worth of the golf course maintenance industry in the U.S. in 1987 at \$3.58 billion. This figure includes the cost of labor, equipment and supplies needed to maintain more than 1.2 million acres of land occupied by the nation's 12,384 golf courses.

## GOLF SHOW BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORD

The 59th International Golf Course Conference and Show held in Houston, TX, in February broke all previous attendance and show records, according to Clay Loyd, director of communications for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. "More than 13,000 golf course superintendents and turf managers attended the conference," said Loyd.

Not only was the attendance a record, a new high of 416 companies exhibited at the three-day show.

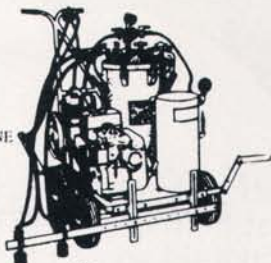
The 60th conference and show will be held at the Convention Center in Anaheim, CA, this coming February.

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