PESTICIDE INDUSTRY UNITES TO COORDINATE DEFENSE

Tired of facing battles with regulatory agencies alone, manufacturers, distributors, and users of specialty pesticides have united to form Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE). Established as a committee within the National Agricultural Chemicals Association (NACA), RISE will act as an umbrella organization to address environmental, health, and safety issues facing the $1.3 billion industry.

“We are constantly bombarded by federal, state, and local issues, regulations, legislation, and misinformation,” said Bill Liles of Ciba-Geigy. “This constant attack on our industry has cost us all valuable resources. In most cases, our defense has been weak and poorly focused due to a lack of a central, coordinated effort.”

Allen Haws of Mobay Specialty Products Group, said, “It is extremely important that we work together as an industry for an improved environment and a standard of living that we all enjoy. User group association working in cooperation with RISE will be the key to the success and the future of the specialty pesticide industry.”

RISE’s efforts will support the position that judicious use of pesticides can prove positive in the care, maintenance, and protection of public health and property in the urban, suburban, and industrial environment, said Haws. “It is our mission to be responsible to the public and support the industry.”

The organization will serve as a clearinghouse of information on specialty markets, and will dispense this information to promote and expand opportunities for the industry. It will lobby at all levels of government, develop an intensive education campaign aimed at the public, and create end user programs on proper pesticide uses and handling.

A membership drive has begun in order to seek industry support and to create a large, strong voice of authority in the public and private sectors. Membership categories include basic manufacturers, formulators, distributors, end users, associations, media, and equipment manufacturers. Those joining before January 31, 1991, will hold charter member status. Participation in RISE will help pool the resources necessary to present a strong defense during future challenges.

Information about joining RISE is available from Newton Royyster Ciba-Geigy, (919) 632-7059; Allen Haws at Mobay, (816) 242-2364; Paul Mengle at Lebanon Chemical Corp., (717) 273-1687; Joe Wolf at Fermenta, (216) 354-4264; or Owen Steven at Knox Fertilizer, (219) 772-6275.

NCA INTERVENTION RESULTS IN TAX SAVINGS

Recent intervention by the National Club Association (NCA) with the IRS may save tax-exempt private clubs thousands of dollars in penalties under the U.S. Supreme Court’s Portland Golf Club decision relating to Revenue Ruling 81-69. According to the NCA, a trade association which represents directors, officers, and owners of clubs nationwide, the savings for an average club with a $10,000 unrelated income tax liability could range up to $4,500 annually.

According to a recent reply from the IRS to the organization, private clubs will escape estimated tax liability if they filed a Form 990 or 990-T showing net investment income for tax years ending before the June 21, 1990 Portland Golf Club opinion. The IRS also ruled that the estimated income taxes paid in the subsequent year must at least equal the tax liability reported on the Form 990-T for the preceding year.

The instructions from the IRS should cancel all underpayment penalties if a club files a statement that it relied on the Cleveland Athletic Club decision for not making estimated tax payments, the NCA said.

“I am pleased that NCA has succeeded in obtaining this fair enforcement of the Portland Golf Club decision,” stated Harold Berman, chairman of the NCA’s Legal/Legislative Committee. “This is another example of NCA’s continuing efforts to represent our members’ interest before the government.”

JANOSIK JOINS GOLF CORP.

Jim Janosik has been appointed West Coast director of agronomy for Golf Corp., Inc., Dallas, TX. The company operates 40 golf facilities nationwide. Janosik will be responsible for 12 facilities in California and Arizona, with two more under construction.

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