

RESEARCH INDICATES FUNGICIDE'S EFFICACY

BASF's pyraclostrobin demonstrates broad-spectrum control of many turf diseases, including suppression of dollar spot.

A new report covering field trial results on Insignia™ fungicide, to be introduced early this year, indicates that it offers broad-spectrum control of a wide-range of turf diseases, in addition to significant suppression of dollar spot. Registration of pyraclostrobin by the EPA is pending. According to the research, trials in several U.S. sites have shown that pyraclostrobin is highly effective in controlling gray leaf spot (blast), anthracnose basal rot, Pythium foliar blight, brown patch, gray snow mold, pink snow mold, red thread, rusts, take-all patch, leaf spot and summer patch.

The new compound is a strobilurin, a class of systemic fungicide that has gained wide acceptance in the turf industry. Strobilurins feature low use rates and relatively longer application intervals.

BASF/800-545-9525
For information, circle 167



ANIMAL REPELLENT

The Repellex brand controls and repels a variety of pests including deer, rabbits, voles, squirrels, moles, gophers, and other burrowing animals. Depending on whether you choose systemic tablets, liquid concentrate, or ready-to-use spray, the product becomes active in 4-6 weeks or immediately.

The new mole and gopher repellent includes castor oil, the emulsifying agent lauryl sulfate and hot pepper resins and bitter agents, and is effective around all kinds of turf, flower beds, and ornamentals.

Gro-Power/800-473-1307
For information, circle 169

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Circle 114 on Inquiry Card



GRANULAR INSECTICIDE

FMC Corporation has introduced a proprietary granular insecticide formulation that uses new technology for long lasting control of lawn pests, says the company.

Talstar EZ granular insecticide's new technology allows the particles to disperse upon wetting, providing increased coverage when applied. With excellent handling characteristics, Talstar EZ's larger particle size makes it easier to see where it's being spread, says FMC. The particles will not stain concrete or damage plants.

Talstar PL Granular Insecticide that is recommended for applications when a smaller particle size is preferred.

Both products have good handling characteristics and are broad spectrum offering long lasting control of pests, such as ants, centipedes, fire ants, mole crickets, ticks, pillbugs, sow bugs, fleas, and chinch bugs.

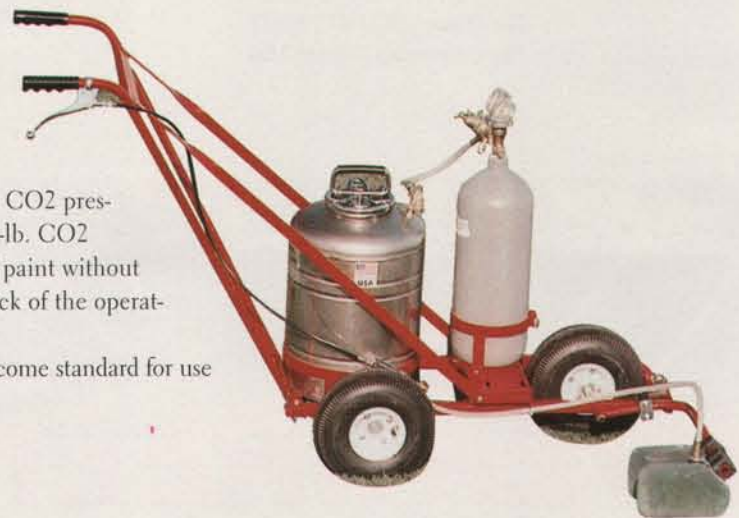
FMC Corp./ 800-321-1FMC
For information, circle 171

FIELD STRIPER

Brite Striper 1400 from Pioneer is simple to operate. Fill up the paint tank, turn on the CO2 pressure and start striping, says the company. Ten-lb. CO2 cylinder lets you stripe more than 30 tanks of paint without refilling, and a dual gauge regulator keeps track of the operating pressure in the paint tank.

A 12-ft. handhose and adjustable spray box come standard for use in end zones, out of bounds areas, and stencils.

Pioneer Manufacturing/800-877-1500
For information, circle 174



FIELD MARKING TRAILER

You can convert your tractor to a ride-on striper with Newstripe's ProSpray trailer. A universal hitch allows the self-contained unit to be connected to almost any small tractor or maintenance vehicle that is up to 60-in. wide.

The ProSpray features two, 12-gal. tanks with continuous paint agitation pressurized by either carbon dioxide or an engine and compressor. A bi-directional spray head mounted to a pneumatic swivel caster produces consistent 2-6-in. wide lines in one pass on any terrain. A handgun with 12-ft. hose is included for stencil work.

Newstripe/800-624-6706
For information, circle 173



OMNI-DIRECTIONAL SURFACTANT

Aqua-MAXX is an omni-directional surfactant with an enhanced kelp extract that scientifically puts down water, wetting agent, and growth stimulant in one application, says the manufacturer.

Field applications have shown that sod treated with the product knits down in one-third the time of untreated sod, so repairs take root faster. Users also have noted that this turf takes up more nutrients, recovers faster, and is more drought-resistant, says the company.

Pellets can be applied without measuring or mixing; the company's PRO-portioners can be connected to almost any water gun irrigation system. The product will not burn or discolor turf.

Aqua-MAXX/800-394-1551
For information, circle 175

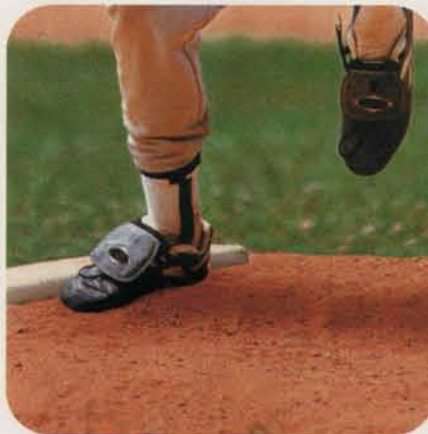
MOLE CRICKET BAIT

FMC Corporation's has introduced Talstar insecticide mole cricket bait to help stop turf damage caused by large mole cricket nymphs and adults and reduce the overwintering adult population that will cause damage the following spring.

Product features include: pleasant odor, no phytotoxicity, and cost competitiveness.

Product specialists at FMC recommend a three-season treatment program. In spring, they recommend using either Talstar GC flowable insecticide/miticide or Talstar lawn & tree flowable insecticide/miticide to control overwintering adults. In summer, during peak egg hatching season, customers are encouraged to use either Talstar GC granular or Talstar PL granular insecticide. The new product is for use in specific areas or over wider areas during the late summer/early fall to control larger nymphs and adults.

FMC Corp./ 800-321-1FMC
For information, circle 172



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Circle 115 on Inquiry Card

Three ideas for running the best operation

BY MEL LANFORD

The new millennium has uncovered a new consciousness toward athletic fields and their maintenance, with groundskeepers at the center of this evolution. Over the past decade, the "maintenance men" of athletic fields have grown into athletic field managers who ensure the quality of the athletic field and accept all responsibility for the safety and professional look of the facility.

Professional athletic field managers have taken on the responsibility of spearheading these operations and providing safe and playable athletic facilities. We have also come to understand that we are liable for all incidents and damages that occur on our fields. The issue of liability is frightening in our judicial system where anyone can sue anyone for anything anytime.

There are three main concepts that athletic field managers should incorporate in running their operations: educating decision-makers; communicating and implementing ideas; and, smart recordkeeping.

#1

Educating decision-makers

To evolve into this new responsibility as athletic field managers, we must work efficiently to educate the people who approve the field projects and financial budgets of athletic facilities. It is vital that athletic field managers inform executives about what it takes to provide a superior and safe playing surface and also the consequences of failing to reach such standards. In too many cases, athletic facilities are not using the valued products, equipment, and efforts to create reliable fields that can withstand the "wear and tear" of numerous contests.

In the reverse role, athletic field managers need to be open-minded and allow the executives to teach them the business aspects of running an athletic facility. This two-way communication constructs a strong management where all sides of the party understand and respect each other's decisions. In many cases, athletic field managers will better understand the financial situation of the facility and work to conserve resources and increase productivity. Together, athletic field managers and executives can incorporate a communication model that will benefit the playing field, players, and fans.

#2

Communicating and implementing ideas

Succeeding at educating the decision-makers builds great momentum in communication among all employees at your facility. Good communications will initiate the process of adding new budgets, products, and services to the facilities and make the process easier and more productive.

The next major strategy is to effectively communicate different ideas and needs concerning facility maintenance. Through this communication, we want to remember to offer our ideas as coming from an expert in the field of groundskeeping. Athletic field managers have a special passion for their work and we must display this in our strategies and ideas that we present to executives. When meeting with them, we need to express an involved and zealous attitude, which shows how much we care about our profession and our projects. This tactical communication is extremely persuasive and it allows us to promote a dedicated feeling to our leaders.



Remember that we chose this profession because we love the outdoors, the smell of freshly cut grass, and because we didn't want to sit around in an office all day. For the same reasons, the accountants chose their role in the cool setting of an office. Respect this and use this to your advantage while communicating.

#3

Smart recordkeeping

As you use persuasive and effective communication to implement your ideas, remember that you have put your reputation as a groundskeeping expert on the line. For this reason, it is vital to keep records of all applications and projects that occur on your fields.

With the evolution of athletic fields and the growing popularity of competitive sports, athletic field managers have seen their staffs grow exponentially and this causes a new system of delegation. By delegating duties, you are responsible for the work of others and this is the prominent reason why we should be keeping records of our projects.

Recordkeeping is also a key tactic because we deal with so many chemicals in our daily duties. To be in compliance with state and federal licensing, we must keep complete records on all chemicals used and stored on the job.

I have had instances where an outside contractor was hired to complete a specific project and did not fulfill his obligation. To alleviate this problem, I always have a camera on hand to record the progress of different projects. This keeps outside contractors honest and keeps me out of trouble. The dated photographs from a camera can easily show the history of a project and provide a concrete argument for your staff and yourself.

With these three concepts in mind, you can work better to advance our industry into the realm that it deserves.



Mel Lanford, the creator and host of the Ace of Diamonds Tour, here at Frontier Field, Rochester, NY.

Mel Lanford, a 30-year veteran of the groundskeeping industry, is the creator and host of the Ace of Diamonds Tour, sponsored in part by Diamond Pro Professional Groundskeeping Products, a division of TXI. Mel travels across the United States year-round presenting hands-on seminars, demonstrating the proper infield and sports turf maintenance materials, equipment and techniques to athletic field managers. For information, see www.diamondpro.com or call 336-210-9722.

ST

MAT DRAGS

Beacon Ballfields now offers cocoa mat drags in two sizes. The 6-ft. wide by 4-ft. deep mat is available with or without the Beacon leveling bar. The company also offers a 6-ft. by 2 1/2-ft. deep hand cocoa mat drag. The 1-in. thick natural fiber cocoa mats have a vinyl backing. The lead edge is steel reinforced. Cocoa mats give your field that major league finish and are affordably priced for the budget conscious groundskeeper. Call Beacon for pricing and a catalog.

Beacon Ballfields/800-747-5985
For more information, circle 176



PORTABLE MULTI-SPORT SCOREBOARD

The P-1 portable scoreboard features high-visibility 9-in. digits that provide time, home/guest score, and period/inning information. The unit is perfect for baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, and soccer.

The scoreboard includes an internal gel cell battery with charger, portable stand, operator's console, 40-watt speaker, microphone, 10 computer-generated sports tunes, and an ABS sign panel.

Colorado Time Systems/970-667-1000
For information, circle 177

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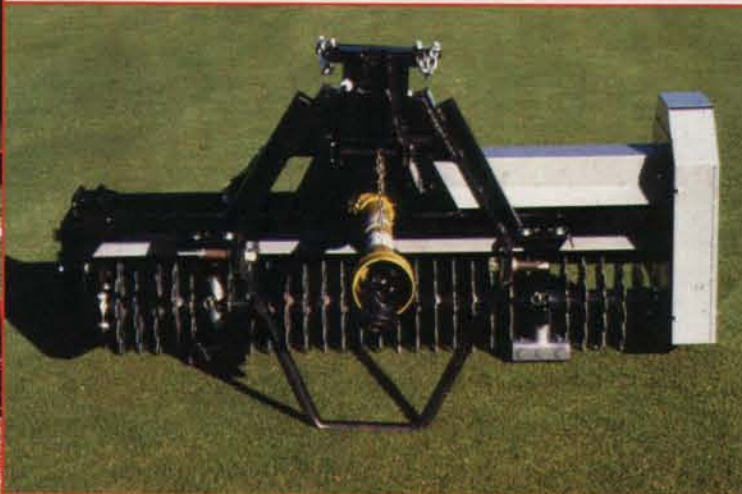
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Circle 116 on Inquiry Card



PORTABLE PRESSURE WASHERS

Tuff Pressure Washers has a new line of electric hot water pressure washers with vertical burner design and hand truck design. The TVT series has a cleaning range up to 4.2 gpm and 3,000 psi of pressure. There are 12 models, six with a belt-drive high-pressure pump and six with direct-drive or direct-coupled pump. All feature a Legacy high-pressure pump with 5-yr. warranty.

Tuff Pressure Washers/800-772-8833

For information, circle 184

CARGO TRAILERS

Avenger Corp. has up-fitted its entire product line of Avenger, Avalanche, Competitor, Vindicator, VSR-7, and VNC series trailers. Changes include radius aluminum fenders on single-axle units, with new fender lights featuring two-toned orange and safety red lens; improved radius on aluminum fender flares for tandem and triple-axle units (no more exposed fasteners).

Trickle chargers on all breakaway kits is now standard on all units, and Avenger models have new automotive-styled, dead-bolt flushed-locked rear double doors and aluminum-wrapped rear ends. This system features a pin and chain release on the roadside door and flush-lock with deadbolt on the curbside door, all keyed to match other trailer doors. Rear ramp doors have been improved with two heavy-duty cab-lock handles with an internal locking latch mechanism.

Avenger Corp./616-641-7605

For information, circle 182



INDOOR & OUTDOOR BLEACHERS

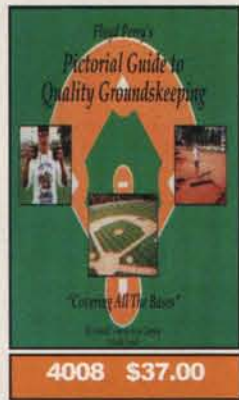
Easy Store tip-and-roll bleachers for gyms and Weatherbeater models for outside are available. Both styles come in 7 1/2- and 15-ft. lengths, in two, three, or four tiers. Indoor units have a welded steel support structure with silver powder-coated finish; outdoor units have a hot-dip galvanized structure and recycled plastic lumber ground runners rather than casters. All planks are capped.

Bison/800-247-7668

For information, circle 178

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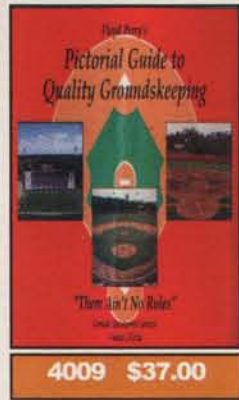
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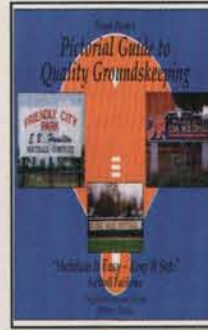
4008 \$37.00



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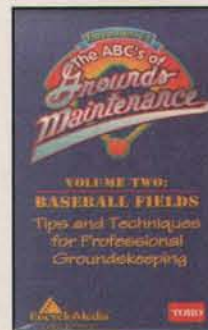
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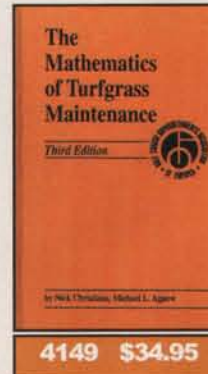
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The ABC's Grounds Maintenance: Volume II

Baseball Field Refurbishment,

by *Grounds Maintenance Service,*

Features setting/rebuilding; homeplate area; rebuilding pitchers mound; sodding dugout walkways; application of crushed; brick; rounding infield crescent; complete infield; repair of turf; fertilizing & overseeding, patterns; reducing infield lips; removal of dew from grass; water removal in clay areas; edging the running track. VIDEO. 55 Minutes.



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BROOM ATTACHMENT

Ideal for cleaning up many things, including dirt, leaves, snow, material spills, standing water, steel shavings, or water, the 72-in. long Mega 720 broom attachment is adaptable to most service vehicles, says the manufacturer. Mounting kits for forklifts, bucket lips, three-point hitches (class 1 & 2), and skid steer pivots are available.

TrynEx International/800-725-8377
For information, circle 179

NELSON'S GONE WIRELESS

With the SoloRain family of wireless control equipment, Nelson provides battery-powered irrigation products delivering reliable control without conventional wiring. Nelson's newest additions, the 8014 and 8014SR DuraLife valve actuators, operate on a factory-installed battery for up to 10 years of normal use on a Nelson valve. In addition, the 8014 and 8014SR, like all SoloRain actuators, are completely waterproof. Ideal applications include hard-to-reach areas or other spots where it is not practical or economical to install a hard-wired controller. It is also suited to retrofitting manual systems or repairing existing wired systems.

L.R. Nelson Corp./888.NELSON.8
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