

# TURFTALES

February 2007

## Pursell Farmlinks Truly An Experience

*Agrium's Purchase of Pursell Technologies Presents Nu-Gro Distributors With Chance to Visit Research Facility ...by Todd Thompson*

It couldn't have come at a better time -- -47? Celsius with the wind and not a shred of space left to pile more snow from my driveway. Chris Bloom and I had the recent opportunity to attend sales meetings with our fellow Canadian Nu-Gro distributors at the Pursell Farms research facility called The Experience at Farmlinks. And what an experience it was...

Farmlinks is a public golf course located in Sylacauga, Alabama, which is about an hour's drive south of Birmingham. The course, located on the 3,500 acre Pursell family farm is totally dedicated to ongoing turfgrass research with industry partners such as Syngenta, Agrium (Nu-Gro), Profile Soil Amendments, and Toro.

Some research is dedicated to the development of new products, while competitive trials are also conducted. Currently, "Nitroform" 38-0-0 MU nitrogen from Nu-Gro is being trialed with favourable results to date. Many of the holes are also seeded with different and new hybrid varieties of turf for development and testing before they are sold.

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## Syngenta Registers New Products For Turf Use in Canada

*New, Improved Versions of Trusted Turfgrass Fungicides Available in 2007*

Syngenta Crop Protection Canada continues to lead the way in the development and improvement of industry-leading pesticides used by golf course superintendents across the country. Making their debut in 2007, Even-Spray is pleased to offer Heritage Maxx Fungicide, Daconil Ultrex Fungicide, and SCIMITAR CS Insecticide. Heritage Maxx will replace the familiar Heritage fungicide, while Daconil Ultrex will likely see the exit of Daconil 2787 fungicide. SCIMITAR SC is a completely new insecticide for control of ants in turfgrass.

Heritage Maxx is a new, improved liquid concentrate formulation of the very popular WDG Heritage fungicide. Utilizing the same active ingredient, *Azoxystrobin*, the new Maxx formula still offers unequalled systemic activity, the control longevity of its predecessor, yet now gets into the plant faster due to its sub-micron particle size. Faster entry into the plant means better efficiency, less lost product due to washing, and a more rapid start in controlling diseases. Heritage Maxx will be sold in a 3.78-litre container like Banner Maxx.

Daconil Ultrex, which has been available to the U.S. market for years, will now replace Daconil 2787 starting in 2007. Considered one of the industry's staple fungicides by many, the new dry formulation has a built-in surfactant, adjuvant, and compatibility system called WeatherStik. It provides superior adhering power for extended coverage on the crown and sheath of grass blades.

Daconil Ultrex is almost double the concentration of the

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### **Pursell Farmlinks - Cont'd...**

Pursell's mark in the turfgrass industry came with the development of the polymer-coated urea called "Polyon". The thin, yet tough polymer coating, which is bonded to the urea particle using a proprietary method, ensures very predictable release rates under a wide range of environmental conditions.

One fairway at Farmlinks is used to demonstrate just how stable Polyon is. It is fed five pounds of actual nitrogen in a single spring application that lasts over 12 months. The turf shows no signs of burn and surge growth is not a concern.

This proprietary polymer coating is also used on other macro and micronutrients, as well as pesticides. Pursell also produces another nitrogen product called "Tri-Kote", which is similar to *Poly-S* and features a poly-coated sulphur-coated urea base.

Watch for more information on the availability of products from Pursell Technologies in 2007 ☞

## **GRIGG BROTHERS PRODUCTS PERFORM WELL AT 2006 P.T.R.C. TRIALS**

Grigg Brothers continue to perform well at independent research trials conducted at universities, colleges and test facilities in Canada and the U.S.A.

Recent results from trials conducted at the Prairie Turfgrass Research Center in 2006 were recently released and the new granular fertilizers from Grigg Brothers finished tops in many categories, as did their *6-Iron* liquid formula. The new Grigg "Green Spec" fertilizers are not yet available in Canada, but have gained critical acclaim by superintendents in the U.S. after only being on the market one year, continuing in the tradition and reputation that Grigg Brothers "Tru-foliar" products have earned.

Grigg Brothers leads the turfgrass industry by supporting its product performance claims with independent scientific research data from trials on turfgrass. Review the research for yourself at the Grigg Brothers web site ([www.griggbros.com](http://www.griggbros.com)) and see why so many superintendents in North America trust their turf with Grigg Brothers.

Still looking to compare? Visit a competitor's site and click on their "**Research**" link...if you can find it.

## **Nu-Gro Now Agrium Advanced Technologies; Adds New Products to Portfolio**

*Company Changes Business Name; Adds New Blends for 2007*

Nu-Gro has announced that in the aftermath of its acquisition by Agrium Incorporated, the professional turf division will now be called "Agrium Advanced Technologies". Although the division will officially adopt the name, they will continue to market their products under the Nu-Gro brand name.

Announced at the recent National Distributor Sales Meetings held in Alabama at Pursell Farmlinks, the company has developed some new granular fertilizer formulas to enhance their already comprehensive offering. Here's a rundown of a few of the new products:

### **Organic K 4-1-12 Micro Grade (100 SGN)**

100% of the nitrogen in this formulation is derived from Milorganite, while the K source is Sulphate of Potash, making it very safe for use with minimal burn potential. The product also features a micronutrient package that includes Sulphur, Iron, Boron, Manganese, and Zinc. This fertilizer can be applied at any time of the year because of its micro-sized particle, but is very well suited for use in conjunction with core aeration – spring or fall. Based on one pound of applied potash, one 25-kilogram bag will cover just over 6,700 ft<sup>2</sup>.

### **CAL AS 4-0-5 Fine Grade (120 – 150 SGN)**

100% of the N is sourced from Ammonium Sulphate, while the potash is derived from K-Mag. A full micronutrient package that contains Mg, S, Ca, B, C, Fe, Mn, Zn, and Mo is also included. The added Calcium derived from Gypsum is excellent for helping flush excess sodium from root media. CAL AS is designed as a soil remediation tool and is well suited for "shoulder season" applications or in conjunction with core aeration - especially in the spring. Because the N source is Ammonium Sulphate, it is recommended that this product be applied at rates of no more than .38 pounds of actual nitrogen. At this rate, one 25-kilogram bag will cover 5,608 ft<sup>2</sup>.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Annual Even-Spray Spring Seminar is set for Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and day-timers and plan to be there. Representatives from Nu-Gro, Syngenta/Engage Agro, and Aquatrols will be on hand to update you on new products and discuss how to optimize your fertilizer, pesticide, and wetting agent budgets.

As well, we have tentatively booked a representative from the Province of Manitoba to bring us all up to date on the proposed Manitoba Water Stewardship Nutrient Management Regulation. This will be a good opportunity to ask questions, express your thoughts, and show the Province how progressive and professional our industry and Association is. Plan to be there!

Watch for specific information coming to you soon.

## 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

MONTREAL, QUEBEC  
MARCH 2 – 6, 2007

M.G.S.A. CURLING  
HEATHER CURLING CLUB  
MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2007

*See you there; come out to support our Association!*

EVEN-SPRAY SPRING SEMINAR

WINDSOR PARK INN  
MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2007

*Watch your mailboxes and e-mails for confirmed details.*

24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL M.G.S.A. TURFGRASS RESEARCH TOURNAMENT

ELMHURST GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2007

## Syngenta's New Products Cont'd...

flowable formulation, so less product is required to deliver equivalent amounts of the active ingredient, *Chlorothalonil*. It can be used as a stand-alone product or tank-mixed with many popular fungicides such as Banner Maxx, Heritage Maxx, Rovral Green GT as well as Primo Maxx plant growth regulator.

Daconil Ultrex will be packaged in a 2.27-kilogram bag with four bags per case. One case will cover .8 to 8 acres depending on disease applied for and rates used.

Scimitar SC, a new product in the Syngenta products family is registered for controlling ants in turfgrass. Based on unique pyrethroid polymer chemistry, Scimitar SC delivers immediate and long-lasting control. Virtually odorless, the liquid concentrate mixes easily and goes a long way. At a suggested application rate of 3.7 mls. / 100 m<sup>2</sup>, a 473 milliliter bottle will cover approximately three acres.

Watch for more specific product information on these Syngenta products in the coming weeks or visit Even-Spray's website ([www.evenspray.com](http://www.evenspray.com)) for product labels and MSDS sheets in the "Crop Protection" section.

### **New Agrium (Nu-Gro) Fertilizers – Cont'd... SOP w/ Micros 0-0-20 Mini (150 SGN)**

Replaces 0-0-17 K-Mag + micros in the Nu-Gro Professional line up. It is specially formulated to provide a concentrated source of many essential micronutrients including S, Mg, Fe, B, Mn, Zn, and Cu. Homogenous, uniform particle size for accurate applications. At the recommended rate, one 25-kilogram bag will cover 11,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.

### **Fairway 30-0-10 w/ Nitroform (200 SGN)**

A concentrated formulation suitable for applications when and where sustained nitrogen release is required. 70% of the N is derived from Nitroform, which provides 12 – 16 weeks of sustained feeding. Uniform particle sizing for accurate application. Based on 1 pound of applied nitrogen, one bag will cover 16,500 square feet (2.64 bags per acre)



[www.evenspray.com](http://www.evenspray.com)