

# TURF TALES

February 2008  
Newsletter

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### Important Dates To Remember:

- **Canadian International Turfgrass Conference and Tradeshow.**  
Calgary, AB March 1 - 4
- **MGSA Curling Event.**  
The Heather Curling Club  
March 18, 2008.
- **Pesticide Applicator Exam** March 6th & 27th  
April 10th & 24th  
Headingley, MB.
- **Even-Spray Annual Spring Seminar.**  
Windsor Park Inn.  
March 27th 8 am. - 3 pm

**even-spray**

1-800-665-3836

## Sunburn and Fertilizers

*Chris Bloom shares his recent experiences at the Golf Industry Show in Orlando...*

This was my first appearance at the GIS and my first time in Florida as well. For those of you that were there as well you know how wonderful the weather was. As I recall, the timing of my trip to Florida coincided with some extreme weather here in sunny Manitoba. Good timing. What an amazing experience!

Wednesday afforded me a leisurely start to my day and I attended the Grigg Brothers "University", an informative afternoon for their distributors that included reviewing the research Grigg Brothers funded in 2007.

The afternoon included Dr. Brandon Horvath (Virginia Polytech) who spoke on his research on phosphates and summer Bentgrass decline. Dr. Roch Gaussoin (University of Nebraska) reviewed his research on nutrient uptake in turfgrasses. Finally Dr. Gordon Kauffman III (Grigg Bros R&D) revealed where the company was going forward in new research. It was a very informative afternoon and a *per-*

*sonal* highlight of the GIS conference for me.

Thursday and Friday were trade show days. I knew the show was big but was astonished at the scope that this show offers. The Agrium Advanced Technologies (AAT) booth was expansive and had a corporate magician performing card tricks and other slight of hand illusions. Very entertaining. AAT was launching their latest technology *XCU*, which we'll see in Canada some time late in 2008. John Bladon will be introducing this new technology at our upcoming spring seminar on March 27th.

I was struck by the number of "me too" products being represented at the GIS. It really brought to light the importance the name-brand products in our industry and how their leadership in research, development, and innovation drive the golf business.

The Thursday evening distributor reception that Syngenta hosted was first class. I've got pictures from the Toro event that I'm certain Vince Solimka would pay handsomely for (we'll talk Vinny!).

There was simply too much to see and do at this event and although I had planned my time carefully I was scrambling to see everyone I wanted to visit with. A great experience and I understand the event is in New Orleans 2009. I'm packing already!



Agrium Advance Booth - Orlando GIS

## Heritage Maxx Registered for Take-All

Mention the words "Take-All Patch" in the golf industry and it causes great concern amongst Superintendents across Canada.

Until now, "caregivers of the turf" north of the 49th had to depend on cultural practices and holistic approaches to manage this potentially lethal disease to Bentgrass putting greens.

Officially as of October 2007, golf course Super-

intendents can turn to Heritage Maxx as the only registered turf fungicide in Canada to help in the suppression of Take-All Patch.

Rates and timing of application for suppression of Take-All Patch are important. Please consult the new Syngenta product label for complete details on the Even-Spray web site, follow the "Labels / MSDS" link.

## TeeJet AIXR Spray Tips Limit Drift

Until now obtaining excellent drift resistance required a compromise. Tips that produce very coarse droplets do minimize drift, but don't provide the same surface coverage as tips that produce smaller droplets. In some applications, inadequate coverage decreases the effectiveness of the applied chemicals.

The new AIXR tips have been designed to overcome this obstacle and provide some additional benefits to the golf course Superintendent.

A perfect balance of drift control and coverage - precisely-sized, large, air-filled droplets stay on target and cover the entire plant. This is especially good with systemic products when quick uptake by the plant is essential.

A wide operating pressure range of 15 to 90 psi for ease of use with fewer driftable droplets at higher pressures than most other tips.



**TeeJet Air-Inducted Extended Range Spray Tips**

TeeJet AIXR spray tips are constructed of a proprietary UHMWPE polymer material that provides significantly longer wear life and better acid-resistance than other plastic tips.

The compact design of a TeeJet AIXR spray tip means less likelihood of damage when being used.

The air-induction design enhances coverage of larger droplets due to air-inclusion. The air-filled droplets literally explode on con-

tact with the target plant.

The pre-orifice two-piece design of the AIRX tips means they can be easily taken apart for quick maintenance.

Finally, TeeJet AIXR tips fit standard TeeJet caps (QJ25611 series) for easy replacement of your existing spray tips. Available in "015" to "06" sizes to meet most spray applications, AIXR tips sell for only \$6.20 each.

## It's PCP Time!

If you haven't started to think about it yet, you will be soon. Yes, time to post the PCP numbers of the products you plan to use as part of your pesticide program in 2008.

To help out, we have compiled a list of many of the popular products, but if you don't see it, just give our office a call or visit our web site and look under the "Labels / MSDS" link.

Aliette T&O	27557
Arrest 75W	13431
Banner Maxx	27003
Cadence WDG	27496
Compass 50WG	27527
Daconil 2787	15724
Daconil Ultrex	28354
Dursban Turf	24945
Eagle WSP	26585
Ecoclear	25528
Heritage Maxx	28393
Malathion 500EC	4709
Mecoprop	10915
Merit 75WSP	25932
Par III	19810
Polydex	27770
Premis 200F	28387
Primo Maxx	26989
Pro Fungicide V	11466
Pro Fungicide X	23494
Pro Systemic Fung.	16660
Prox 120	15565
Quintozene 75W	11425
Reward	26271
Rovral GT	24379
Scimitar	28499
Senator 70WP	25343
Sevin T&O	26873
Subdue Maxx	27055
Terraclor FF	27691
Terraneb SP	10886
Truban 30WP	11460

## MacKenzie Creeping Bentgrass Now Available for 2008

New to the Canadian market for 2008 from Even-Spray and Pickseed Canada is MacKenzie Creeping Bentgrass.

Developed in line with the demands faced by modern day Superintendents, MacKenzie Creeping Bentgrass is the new choice for overseeding and new greens construction in Canada.



Overall turf quality of MacKenzie is excellent with high density in all seasons, which provides for a uniform putting surface with excellent wear tolerance even in the hot summertime.

Stress tolerance, high resistance to Dollar Spot, Brown Patch, and Fusarium Patch. Excellent performer in 2003 NTEP trials.

## What's Under Your Snow Cover?

We're still some time away from losing our snow cover, but potentially every year Superintendents can face a layer of ice on their putting greens. Ice, as we all know is not a friend of turf and removal of it in the springtime is very important.

So, how do you get rid of it? Mechanical removal at the risk of damaging the turf? Use a product like Milorganite; but do you really need the nutrient load when your only goal is to break down that layer of ice?



*Green Topdress/Divot & Early Green Sand*

Introduced in the spring of 2007, Superintendents do have another option in "Early Green" sand from Even-Spray and

Agrium Advanced Technologies. A 2004 Penn State study proved that Early Green sand improved turf tillering by 29% compared to a standard poly turf cover. Copies of the study are available from your Even-Spray sales rep.

Black in colour, Early Green sand will help cut through ice effectively without the risk or need of applying unwanted or unneeded nutrient. Available in 50 pound bags, this dry sand flows freely through a drop or rotary spreader.

Product pricing and specification sheets available, please contact your Even-Spray sales rep.



## Grigg Brothers adds respected USGA Agronomist to Technical Staff

Grigg Brothers Foliar Fertilizers has signed a leading agronomic light to its technical staff with the addition of United States Golf Association (USGA) Green Section senior agronomist Matt Nelson. Nelson, who spent three years in the Green Section's Northeast office and the last nine at its Northwest headquarters, joined the Grigg Brothers team on January 16.

"The Green Section's involvement with championship golf, turfgrass research and environmental programs contributed to a very rewarding experience there," said Nelson, whose new role at Grigg Brothers is that of technical representative and agronomist. "From the thousands of people I've met along the way, and the opportunity to problem-solve at so many diverse golf operations across 6 U.S. time zones, I have nothing but positive comments with respect to my tenure with the USGA. If any organization in golf has its finger on the pulse of this industry, it's the USGA Green Section."

Nelson holds a bachelor's degree from Willamette University in Oregon and a master's degree in crop science from Washington State University. He worked on the maintenance staff at Whitefish (Mont.) Lake Golf Club and as a biologist with the U.S. Forest Service before joining the USGA.

"We are elated to have Matt on board," said Grigg Brothers President and co-owner Mark Grigg. "His hiring continues our tradition of recruiting talented individuals who can bring

value to the industry. We try to provide service to superintendents, to help them with their jobs and course conditioning. Matt will be one of our technical representatives. He will assist distributors in product knowledge, lead seminars and undertake some technical writing."



Quality, Performance, Compatibility

"I think I bring diverse knowledge in terms of golf-turf maintenance and a tremendous network of end-users - superintendents, club managers and others involved in course maintenance. My new responsibilities will involve providing service to our distributors and clients, primarily technical knowledge and service regarding Grigg Brothers' products, nutrition programs and maintenance capabilities. I am extremely excited about joining Grigg

Brothers."

"Three years of university testing on foliar applications at four separate institutions, conducted on four different turf varieties, has shown that 90 percent of what is going into the plant is delivered there within an hour of application," Grigg explained. "That is considerably faster than a granular, which has to first work its way into the soil, then be absorbed through the roots. Foliars also bypass those soils with problems concerning pH and temperature.

Even-Spray will be welcoming Matt to Winnipeg for the first time as the Grigg Brothers technical representative when he presents at the Annual Spring Seminar on March 27th.

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## AAT Set To Launch New Nitrogen Products in Canada, More To Follow

Agrium Advanced Technologies (AAT) is set to launch two new nitrogen technologies— XCU and Polyon - into the Canadian turfgrass market in 2008 with more to follow, likely in 2009.

Agrium is the leading producer and innovator on nutrient technologies in the world. They currently produce and market IBDU, Nitroform, Nutralene, and SCU for the Canadian market. With the recent purchase of Pursell Technologies in the USA and partnership with an-



other niche producer, new technologies are now available or are in various development stages.

John Bladon, Agrium Advanced Technologies' Agronomist and IPM Specialist, will be in Winnipeg on March 27th as a presenter at the annual Even-Spray seminar and will be introducing

these two products and explaining their features, benefits, and how they can fit into your fertilizer programs.



Spread It,  
Forget It!



Finally . . . an easy way to fertilize planter boxes, hanging baskets, and display gardens on the golf course and around the clubhouse!

Balanced N:K formula with micro-nutrients is perfect for all types of plants. And it will last an entire growing season, so one application in the spring is all you need!

Topdress or incorporate into soil—safe on roots!

50 pound bag will feed over 6,000 ft<sup>2</sup> or over 900 hanging baskets!

We're on The Web!  
[www.evenspray.com](http://www.evenspray.com)

The logo for Even-Spray, featuring the words "even-spray" in a stylized, cursive font. The "e" and "s" are particularly large and decorative. The logo is set against a green background.

Even-Spray & Chemicals

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# Even-Spray Annual Spring Seminar

Canad Inns Windsor Park Inn

1034 Elizabeth Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Thursday, March 27, 2008

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## Guest Presenters Include:

**John Bladon, Agronomist, Agrium Advanced Technologies**

**Matt Nelson, Agronomist, Grigg Brothers Fertilizers**

**Kevin Falls, Sales Manager, Engage Agro Corporation**

**Paul Stevens, Manager, Professional Turf, Pickseed Canada**

**Plan To Attend! More Details To Follow!**

## The Poop On Milorganite

Milorganite has long been one of the turfgrass industry's most trusted and used organic Nitrogen fertilizers.

Since the late 1920's, it has not only been sold under its trademarked 6-2-0 analysis, but also used in various blends of fertilizers.

With 83% of its nitrogen classified as water-insoluble (WIN), it can provide a stable release with virtually no burn potential.

In recent years, Milorganite has faced some challenges that at one time threatened its place in our industry. Most noteworthy was the PCB contamination of product intended for domestic sales in the United States.

This contamination of product was the result of a thorough cleaning of their treatment equipment that released materials into the processing system. Acceptable PCB levels in finished product range from 0 to .5 ppm, but during contamination, these levels ranged from 18 to 140 ppm. The contamination stopped the production of Milorganite for a period in 2007, but all subsequently produced Milorganite has now met the required standards..

It should be noted that only product intended for domestic sales in the US was affected and not Canada as Agrium purchased and received their Canadian requirements before the contamination occurred.

All Milorganite sold in Canada is done so through Agrium Advanced Technologies and its distributing partners such as Even-Spray & Chemicals.

The only way to ensure you have "Canadian" product is to look at the bag size. All product sold north of the border is packaged in 20-kilogram bags, while all U.S. domestic product is packaged in 50-pound bags.

Also noteworthy is the exclusion of the percentage of Iron in Milorganite on newly pack-

age product. You will likely start to see this in the latter half of 2008 as existing inventory is depleted. While Milorganite is rich in Iron (over 4%), the levels can fluctuate higher as part of the manufacturing process. A recent CFIA ruling mandates that unless the Iron level in a fertilizer can be at a predictable level, it can not be part of the label guarantee. As such, new Canadian-sold product will not list the Iron content.



*Predictable, Safe, Rich in Iron*