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January 14, 2003

Update — 'Floritam' and 'Bitterblue' ALERT

Distributors, Dealers and Users of SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide

This letter provides an update regarding our 'Floritam' and 'Bitterblue' ALERT dated November 13, 2002.

We continue to make progress towards investigating the limited reports of yellowing of lawns with 'Floritam' and 'Bitterblue' varieties of St. Augustinegrass. In some situations the yellowing reportedly occurs following fall applications of **SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide**.

Until further notice, PBI/Gordon Corporation currently recommends that turf professionals not apply SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide on 'Floritam' and 'Bitterblue' varieties of St. Augustinegrass. This alert *does not* include applications to other varieties of St. Augustinegrass or other warm-season species such as bermudagrass, bahiagrass, zoysiagrass and centipedegrass when SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide is used in accordance with label directions.

After viewing several lawns and commercial turf, the following pre-existing stress conditions were observed in areas where discoloration had occurred. The most common stress factors present were diseases such as 'Take-All Root Rot' and/or 'Grey Leaf Spot' and insect damage. The second most common factor was either drought stress or excessive moisture. Discoloration was also observed in densely shaded areas. In some instances, uneven spray patterns from broadcast applications and over application when spot treating were noted. In a few cases, these other stress factors were observed: improper mowing, applications possibly made above 90° F, use of fertilizer on disease-stressed turf and tank-mix combinations. Of the turf inspected, most had two or more of the above mentioned conditions present. The company is continuing to investigate the principal environmental factors that may be involved. The label for SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide warns of possible turf injury when the product is applied under such stress conditions.

Please advise your customers to use caution when applying SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide under any of the turf stress conditions noted above. PBI/Gordon Corporation cannot accept responsibility for any turf injury that is claimed to have been caused by an application of SpeedZone™ St. Augustine Formula Broadleaf Herbicide in a manner contrary to this Alert or the previous November 13, 2002 Alert or otherwise not in accordance with the product label.

Follow-up advisories will be made as information becomes available. For further information, please contact Gary Custis at 1-800-821-7925, ext. 215.