BOGUS Green Products

Despite claims to the contrary, overall, there are NO viable, efficacious, or economical Green Alternative Products to replace conventional pest control products.

Virtually all Green Products are BOGUS, displaying negative characteristics such as the following —

- **BOGUS** Green Products may be ALMOST TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE except under specific circumstances.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may be PROHIBITED in some jurisdictions because of concerns about safety.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may be QUESTIONABLY HIGHER IN TOXICITY, and pose HIGHER ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may be STUNNINGLY MORE EXPENSIVE to use when compared to conventional pest control products.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may be supplied by the same For–Profit–Enviro–Terror–Businesses that sought the prohibition of conventional pest control products.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may have negative side-effects like CORROSION, PHYTO–TOXICITY (adversely affecting desirable plant growth), RODENT–ATTRACTION, STAINING NON–TARGET SURFACES or STINGING–BEE–ATTRACTION.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may require EXTREMELY–HIGH–INPUTS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENT since they will otherwise be less effective, or ineffective.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may require MORE PERSONAL PROTECTION for the user.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may be because they are STUPID IDEAS.
- **BOGUS** Green Products may not be SAFER, NOT BETTER, and NOT MORE EFFECTIVE.

By comparison, conventional pest control products are EFFECTIVE, INEXPENSIVE, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, and WIDELY AVAILABLE! They require VERY LOW INPUTS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENT, have FEW SIDE–EFFECTS, and require MINIMAL PERSONAL PROTECTION. Overall, when they are used properly, there are NO harmful, irreversible effects to health and the environment!

ALL Enviro–Maniac–Activists who promote these BOGUS Green Products DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT! They are NOT TO BE TRUSTED!

General Description of Fiesta Herbicide

Fiesta is a so-called Green Alternative Product to three–way phenoxy turf herbicides such as Killex. Fiesta contains 4.43 per cent Fe (iron present as FeHEDTA, a chelated iron). It is NOT a «natural» or «organic» product. Professional Lawn Care Companies that have employed these inaccurate terms in their advertising campaigns have been instructed by Health Canada to DESIST.

Issues with Fiesta Herbicide

**COST** — Fiesta is STUNNINGLY MORE EXPENSIVE than conventional pest control products. The cost of an application of Fiesta may range from 13 TO 26 DOLLARS per 1000 square feet. This represents a cost that is 31 TO 62 TIMES HIGHER THAN KILLEX, a three–way phenoxy herbicide used for conventional broad–leaved weed control. The material cost of Fiesta may range from 50 to 100 DOLLARS per average 4000–square–foot lawn, depending upon the application rate. Consequently, Professional Lawn Care Companies have had to DOUBLE or TRIPLE the customer cost of an application of weed control.

**EFFICACY** — Fiesta may be ALMOST TOTALLY INEFFECTIVE on many weed species, and SLIGHTLY EFFECTIVE on DANDELION and BLACK MEDICK. Weed species such as Clover, Broad & Narrow–Leaved Plantain, Chicory, Ground Ivy, Mallow, Oxalis, and Thistle respond to application with MINOR DAMAGE ONLY, and RECOVER RAPIDLY, even when the label rate is DOUBLED. Many weed species recover from an application of Fiesta WITHIN TWO WEEKS. Consequently, TWO SUCCESSIVE APPLICATIONS will likely be necessary in most situations. Additional applications are NOT permitted by the label, which allows a maximum limit of TWO APPLICATIONS PER SEASON with no less than four weeks between applications.
Overview from an Independent Perspective

USE — Fiesta may be better suited for LIMITED SPOT APPLICATIONS in Professional Lawn Care programs because of its STAGGERING COST, and LACK OF AVAILABILITY in the market-place. It certainly cannot be a major component in a weed control program. Problems with supply and cost have forced Professional Lawn Care Companies to UNWISELY select the LOWEST RECOMMENDED RATE of application, which is LESS EFFECTIVE. Some companies have even resorted to the use of FERTILIZER- GRADE sources of iron.

INPUT — Fiesta requires EXTREMELY–HIGH–INPUTS OF ACTIVE INGREDIENTS when compared to conventional pest control products. The exceedingly high a.i. rate of Fiesta seems to fly in the face of the desired environmental objective of reducing the amount of active ingredient being applied in pest control product programs.

SKIN EXPOSURE — Fiesta may be QUESTIONABLY EQUAL OR HIGHER IN PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH SKIN EXPOSURE when compared to products like Killex, a three–way phenoxy herbicide used for conventional broad–leaved weed control. According to the Fiesta label, prolonged or frequently repeated skin contact may cause ALLERGIC REACTIONS in some individuals. According to Health Canada, the signal words for Fiesta are « potential skin sensitizer » and « may cause skin sensitization ». By comparison, Killex may cause severe irritation to the eyes, and irritation to the skin and mucous membranes.

TOXICITY — Fiesta is NOT safer when compared to conventional pest control products like Killex, a three–way phenoxy herbicide used for broad–leaved weed control. Both Fiesta and Killex have a LOW TOXICITY, with Oral LD50 greater than 5000 mg per kg. This value indicates that BOTH products, in their concentrated pre–diluted form, are safer than household items such as baking soda, caffeine, ethanol, and table salt.

PERSONAL PROTECTION — Fiesta may require SLIGHTLY MORE PERSONAL PROTECTION for the applicator, especially the EYES. Fiesta requires protective EYE–WEAR, as well as waterproof gloves. By comparison, Killex requires overalls over a long–sleeved shirt, long pants, chemical–resistant gloves, socks and shoes, but NO eye–wear. Fiesta cannot be considered safer when compared to conventional products like Killex.

PHYTO–TOXICITY — Fiesta may have the negative side–effect of PHYTO–TOXICITY, which occurs when the application of a product can adversely affect desirable turf growth. Predictably, since Fiesta is an iron–based product, turfgrass leaf blades may DARKEN, leading to the classic « blackening effect », which is caused by the oxidization of iron particles on the surface of the leaf. This effect is non–lethal.

CORROSION — Fiesta may have the negative side–effect of CORROSION. As with all iron products, including fertilizer–grade materials, Fiesta may be CORROSIVE to certain metal parts on the sprayer used for its application.

STAINING — Fiesta may have the negative side–effect of STAINING NON–TARGET SURFACES. As with all iron products, including fertilizer–grade materials, there are issues with STAINING of hard surfaces, such as white concrete and pressure–treated wood — such stains are extremely difficult, or nearly impossible, to remove. Moreover, in order to avoid the staining of by–stander shoes and clothing, the Fiesta label recommends waiting until treated area has dried before re–entry.

HEALTH CONCERNS — Since Fiesta contains a « metal ingredient », there will inevitably develop the same controversy that led to the demise of the fertilizer Milorganite in Canada in the 1980s and 1990s. The « heavy metal » content of Milorganite was falsely alleged by Environmental–Maniac–Activists to lead to health problems like Lou Gehrig’s Disease. Consequently, the product was withdrawn for several years. When the use of Fiesta becomes more widespread, MALICIOUS Enviro–Maniac–Activists may conjure HEALTH PROBLEMS associated with IRON … such as Hemochromatosis.

CONSEQUENCES — Since there are NO viable, efficacious, or economical Green Alternative Products to replace conventional herbicides, a large number of Professional Lawn Care Companies in the Province of Ontario are UNABLE to satisfy their customers with adequate broad–leaved weed control. These companies DO NOT have optimistic futures. SEVEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY BUSINESSES are expected to FAIL or suffer BANKRUPTCY within thirty–six months after the prohibition of conventional pest control products in the Province of Ontario. Consequently, a consensus is building among members of lawn care franchise companies seeking damages with a class–action lawsuit against any parent–company that did not adequately oppose or prepare for prohibition. These parent–companies FAILED to provide their franchise members with RELIABLE, EFFICACEOUS, and ECONOMICAL Alternative Green Products.
Fiesta™, the new iron chelate has been available for several weeks now.

I have had a chance to do some weed counts this spring on plots that were treated with Fiesta™ last fall.

It appears [that with the exception of] dandelions and black medick, that there is considerable re-growth of these weed species, back to similar levels before treatment.

In the fall, Fiesta™ was only applied once to the plots and it may be that at that time of year, two applications are necessary.

There are more research trials being conducted this spring at Guelph Turfgrass Institute to try to get a handle on the re-growth of broadleaf weeds after treatment with Fiesta™.

More Sarritor is being applied now. If it was applied late last week, the weather has been cooperating with all of the rain and cool temperatures this weekend giving the ideal conditions for Sarritor.

Again, I welcome feedback on this management update. You can reach me by phone or email at (519-824-4120 x 52597) or by email at pamela.charbonneau@ontario.ca
Force Of Nature presents THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE from National Organization Responding Against Hype that seek to harm or misinform the Green Space Industry (NORAH). It is a series of Reports destined for the Green Space Industry, the Environmental Terror Movement, Governments, and the Media, nationwide across Canada, the United States, and overseas. This Report has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader by providing TECHNICAL INFORMATION WITH COMMENTARY. The neutrality of the Report might be disputed.

The information presented in this Report is for preliminary planning only. Before making a final decision, the turf manager is expected to obtain trusted expert advice from extension specialists, local distributors and/or agronomists. All decisions must take into account the prevailing growing conditions, the time of year, and the established management practices.

All products mentioned in this Report should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's directions, and according to provincial, state, or federal law. For the official advantages, benefits, features, precautions, and restrictions concerning any product, the turf manager must rely only on the information furnished by the manufacturer. The mention of trade names does not constitute a guarantee or a warranty.

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Force Of Nature is the brainchild of William H. Gathercole and his entourage. Mr. Gathercole is a principal founder of the Modern Professional Lawn Care Industry in both Ontario and Quebec. He holds a degree in Horticulture from the University of Guelph, and another pure and applied science degree from McGill University. He has worked in virtually all aspects of the Green Space Industry, including golf, professional lawn care, and distribution. Mr. Gathercole has supervised, consulted, programmed, and/or overseen the successful execution of hundreds of thousands of management operations in the urban landscape. He has trained, instructed, and advised thousands of turf managers and technicians. Mr. Gathercole has also been an agricultural agronomist. Mr. Gathercole is personally credited for crafting the Exception Status that has allowed the Golf Industry to avoid being subjected to the prohibition of pest control products. He is also the creator of the signs that are now used for posting after application. Mr. Gathercole is now retired from Force Of Nature, although his name continues to appear as the founder.

The following editions of Force Of Nature are currently available — ● A Look At ... ● Environmental Terror NEVER Ends ● Environmental Terror Talk ● Environmental Terrorists Unmasked ● Famous Quotations ● Fertilizer Terror ● He-rows ● Myth-Busting ● Needless Hysteria ● Paranoid Theories ● Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals ● Positive Waves ● Provincial Conspiracies Prohibiting Pest Control Products ● Rachel Carson, the Queen of Junk Science ● Reining a Terrorist Reaction ● The 9/11 Era of the Green Space Industry ● The Failure of Integrated Pest Management ● The Industry Strikes Back ● The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck ● The Misconceptions About Cancer ● The National Annihilation of the Modern Green Space Industry ● Update ● Warning ●