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SS Golf Industry

# Background Information from an Independent Perspective

2,4-D is not approved for turf in Denmark, but it is approved in the European Union ( E.U. ), of which Denmark is a member.

Of course, the Environmental-Terror-Activists wish to give the false impression that things are so much better in Denmark.

In 2005, the respected Pest Management Regulatory Agency of Health Canada ( P.M.R.A. ) responded to the issue of the Denmark prohibition with following statement —

*<< 2,4-D is [ ... ] severely restricted in Denmark. Environmental effects are cited as the primary reason for these actions as 2,4-D has the potential to enter groundwater, the primary source of drinking water in these countries. However, subsequent to these actions, the European Commission, upon completion of their re-evaluation of 2,4-D on October 1, 2001, concluded that it was acceptable for continued use in the European Union, of which both Sweden and Denmark are members. >>*

*<< It is important to recognize that of the many studies published, some report associations between adverse health effects and 2,4-D exposure, while many others report a lack of association. >>*

*<< [ The PMRA ] relies on the more scientifically exact method of quantitatively estimating risk by comparing exposures to the results of toxicity studies in laboratory animals. The proprietary studies used are conducted to internationally accepted standards and include toxicity studies done on a number of laboratory animal species for comparative purposes, as well as studies of exposure from all routes and methods of exposure. Safety factors ( typically 100 to 1000 fold ) are built into the assessment to account for different sensitivities between humans and experimental animals and among humans ( age, gender and individual sensitivities to pesticides ). In general, this is the same approach that is currently utilized by the various international pesticide regulatory authorities, including the US EPA and other OECD countries. >>*

Denmark has prohibited more than just 2,4-D. IPRADIONE ( Rovral ) has been prohibited in Denmark since 1998, but still approved by the European Union ( E.U. ) since 2003. Denmark is a member of the E.U. Moreover, THIOPHANATE-METHYL ( Senator ) is also prohibited in Denmark since 1990. Of course, the Enviro-Terror-Activists have protested by employing the weak argument that if such chemicals can be prohibited in Denmark, then WHY NOT in Canada ?

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

## EUROPEAN UNION TO BAN PESTICIDES !?!?

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January 2010

Fine Golf

Web Site

You may not be aware ... but the European Union is in the process of trying to eliminate pesticide use on golf courses.

This is a time bomb waiting to happen that will affect your daily game of golf much more than you might imagine.

It is indeed a sorry fact that *Poa annua* ( annual meadow grass, or annual bluegrass ) is the grass species present on the vast majority of all golf greens in the United Kingdom, and it is, unfortunately, HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE TO DISEASE.

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*The prohibition of pest control products  
in the Golf Industry seems unavoidable.  
It is already in force in Denmark,  
and will be extended across Europe,  
should the European Union have its way.*

Without pesticides to control the diseases, these putting greens will develop DISEASE SCARS ( SIMILAR TO THOSE SHOWN IN THE PHOTO ) all over them, particularly during the months of autumn and winter !

Is there anything that can be done to avoid this ?

The ban seems UNAVOIDABLE; it is already in force in Denmark, and will be extended across Europe, should the European Union have their way. When Brussels wants something, they tend to get it these days.



# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



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*The way forward was to go back  
to the way greens used to be maintained  
forty years ago, before the invasion of  
« target » golf and the over-watering of greens*

## GREENKEEPERS IN DENMARK MAY HAVE THE ANSWER ...

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The following story is told by one of many greenkeepers in Denmark, who has made a phenomenal transformation of his golf course through the application of SUSTAINABLE TRADITIONAL GREENKEEPING. He says :

*<< In 1999 my club played host to the finals of the SAS Invitational. The cream of world golf played, with Tiger Woods the main draw. Following this competition the greens died, having been scalped for the tournament to produce fast putting. Members played winter greens for the next nine*

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*months ! The grass on the greens was 100 per cent Poa annua – a grass that is the least disease resistant species, which requires high applications of chemicals, water and fertiliser to survive, and a grass that quickly builds up a layer of dead roots called « thatch » which can lead to wet and soft putting surfaces. >>*

*<< I was appointed Head Greenkeeper in 2000. An enormous task lay ahead to turn these old clay based greens around. The most urgent situation was the fact that in January 2003, the Danish government was imposing the European-Union-inspired pesticide ban in Denmark on golf courses. The way forward was to go back to the way greens used to be maintained 40 years ago, before the invasion of « target » golf and the over-watering of greens. >>*

*<< The grasses on the greens needed to change to the finer grasses of Fescue and Colonial/Browntop Bent. These grasses are naturally more disease tolerant than Poa annua, and certainly more economical to maintain as they require minimum amounts of fertiliser and water to flourish. >>*

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

*Disease damage is what to expect  
when prohibition arrives*

<< For the next three years, we worked hard to remove the 6 centimetres of dead thatch which existed, and applied 500 tonnes of top dressing per year to dry out and firm up the playing surfaces. Unfortunately the pesticide ban from 2003 found us with still a lot of *Poa annua* grass in the greens, and the disease damage IN THE PHOTO is what to expect in the UNITED KINGDOM if a ban arrives there. >>



<< We continued forward with our programme to change the grass types during the following years. As a result, we have

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

*taken seventy-three-year-old clay based greens that used to be closed five months of the year, riddled with disease, and very costly to maintain, and turned them into firm dry greens, open 12 months of the year that have a high percentage of fine fescue/bent grass in the sward. >>*

*<< This has allowed us to maintain the green mowing height at 5 millimetres, and still have a green speed classed as fast for regular membership play by the USGA. We no longer need to scalp them to 2 millimetres to obtain putting speed. Scalping stresses the grass, and takes you back to the downward spiral of needing to fertilise and over-water which in turn encourages the Poa annua back and drives out the fescue grasses. >>*

*<< Target golf is a thing of the past as we now try and keep the greens dry so allowing the « bump and run » shots to be played. >>*

*<< I believe that it is very important to get behind your Course Manager and his green staff NOW, and support them in their efforts to change the grass types on your greens whilst they still have the necessary chemicals available to*

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



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*combat fungal diseases as they go through the grass conversion process. You could also just bury your head in the sand, and say it will never happen, and carry on blindly with your Poa annua grass, but the day a ban arrives those clubs with the foresight to implement such a change now, will be the clubs with a full membership, playing golf on firm healthy greens, twelve months of the year, whilst your greens are bumpy, disease ridden playing surfaces. >>*

SO IS IT POSSIBLE FOR GOLF TO SURVIVE A PESTICIDE BAN ?

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*<< In Denmark, we are proof that golf carries on despite such legislation in place. How good are the greens ? Here are some comments from two of Europe's best agronomists who visited the club last year. >>*



*<< The greens have been turned from nothing short of annual meadow grass bogs in 1999 to what can only be described as healthy bent fescue dominated surfaces in 2008. >>*

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

<< *Everybody who has been involved in the process since 1999 deserves real credit for facilitating one of the most dramatic agronomic success stories I can recall. The success of these operations has been first class, bringing the putting surfaces close to the standards required for the British Open Championship in terms of green speed and trueness.* >>

## COMMENTS

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Ian Tomlinson's story, from Rungsted Golf Club, is typical of the success of many other golf clubs across Denmark. Under great pressure, their greenkeepers swapped information, and formed discussion groups, calling themselves the « *Sons of Golf* ».

It is heartening that following this lead, two discussion groups have formed in the United Kingdom, calling themselves « *The Gingerbreads* ». One is in the North West, led by Stuart Yarwood at Lymm Golf Club, and Paul Lowe at Bromborough Golf Club, and the other is in the Midlands, led by Jonathan Wood at Enville Golf Club.

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

*The Golf Industry in the United Kingdom  
may be able to more successfully resist  
a pesticide ban than in Denmark*

The most astonishing thing is that the Danish are developing « *fine* » grasses on clay and in parkland settings, and not just on free draining links and heathland sites.

The Golf Industry being more « *significant* » in the United Kingdom than in Denmark, may be able to resist more strongly the implementation of a pesticides ban.

Nevertheless, though the remorseless momentum behind the theory of « *man-made global warming* » that has built over two decades may be stalling post-Copenhagen, who would bet against either main United Kingdom political party caving in, if the World Wildlife Federation, Greenpeace, and Friends of the Earth, the shock troops of the « *Green* » movement, deciding that golf is a TOFF'S GAME in England ( i.e. a game for the wealthy ), really campaigned for a pesticides ban ?

# The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck !



The struggles of the European Golf Industry with the prohibition of pest control products

*Golf clubs must start going down the  
sustainable greenkeeping route NOW ...  
while taking advantage of the benefit of  
lower golf course maintenance costs*

The whole issue of pesticides is just one more argument for all clubs to start going down the SUSTAINABLE GREENKEEPING route **now**, while picking up the benefit of lower course maintenance costs and encouraging « *fine* » golf in comparison with « *target* » golf.

## THE TREND TOWARDS « *FINE GOLF* » GATHERS MOMENTUM ...

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There are three types of pesticides : fungicides, herbicides ( weed killer ), and insecticides. Contact fungicides are more useful than systemic ones, as most greens are attacked by disease in the colder autumn and winter period, when systemic fungicides will not perform.

In Canada ...

The leading  
Environmental  
Terror Organizations  
are demanding ...

**NO Prohibition  
Exception  
for Golf !**

# NO PROHIBITION EXCEPTION FOR GOLF



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (C.A.P.E.)



GREEN PARTY OF ONTARIO



CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY (C.C.S.)



NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ONTARIO (N.D.P.)



CANADIAN COALITION FOR HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT (C.C.H.E.)



PESTICIDE FREE ONTARIO (P.F.O.)



CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION (C.E.L.A.)



REGISTERED NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO (R.N.A.O.)



DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION



SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA

# THE GOLF INDUSTRY MUST IMMEDIATELY ADDRESS SIXTEEN CRITICAL ISSUES

◆ **WARNING** : Regardless of its Exception Status in many jurisdictions, the Golf Industry faces some huge challenges because of its HIGH DEGREE OF VULNERABILITY concerning several public affairs issues. In order to successfully deter the malicious efforts of all Enviro–Maniac–Activists, the Golf Industry must immediately address the following **sixteen** critical issues.

1. The Golf Industry must CEASE focusing on the ineffective INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT ( I.P.M. ) strategies as the solution to its public affairs problems. Unfortunately, I.P.M. has been designed to be applicable to the Agriculture Industry, and **NOT** the Golf Industry.
2. The Golf Industry must publicly DIVULGE to the public ALL scientific information that ascertains that its chemicals are definitely « *minimum–risk* » or « *reduced–risk* ».
3. The Golf Industry must publicly DENOUNCE the so–called green alternatives to conventional pest control products as **bogus**, and the biological–natural–organic methods, as almost INEFFECTIVE and NON–EXISTENT.
4. The Golf Industry must CREATE a FULLY TRANSPARENT database for right–to–know information concerning its chemicals.
5. The Golf Industry must directly and actively SUPPORT LITIGATION launched against those enviro–maniac–activists that have conspired to prohibit FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE, and ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE pest control products, and cease being a mere casual observer.
6. The Golf Industry must explain why some of its chemicals are prohibited by other nations, but not in Canada, and cease its wasteful « *Wag The Dog* » policies on irrelevant issues such as saving quintozene.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE — IN THE UNITED STATES, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ( E.P.A. ) CONCLUDED THAT THE RISKS WHEN USING QUINTOZENE WERE SUBSTANTIAL FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL STANDPOINT. THE E.P.A. CONCLUDED THAT THE RE–REGISTRATION OF QUINTOZENE WAS ACCEPTABLE PROVIDED THAT ALL TURF USES WERE TERMINATED. IN VIEW OF THE MANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SAFETY OF QUINTOZENE, IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE THAT THE GOLF INDUSTRY WITHDRAW ITS PETITION IN SUPPORT OF THIS INGREDIENT. MOREOVER, BY DEFENDING A PRODUCT ASSOCIATED WITH SERIOUS HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND TURF PHYTO–TOXICITY ISSUES, THE GOLF INDUSTRY HAS WEAKENED

ITS CREDIBILITY. THE PEST MANAGEMENT REGULATORY AGENCY OF HEALTH CANADA ( P.M.R.A. ) WILL FOLLOW WITH THE SAME DECISION AS THE E.P.A. BY PROHIBITING THE SALE OF QUINTOZENE BEYOND 2010, AND BY PROHIBITING THE USE OF QUINTOZENE BEYOND 2011. THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WILL NOT DEFEND QUINTOZENE. FURTHERMORE, THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WILL NO LONGER INVEST IN ANY PEST CONTROL PRODUCTS IN CANADA, SINCE IT ABHORS OPERATING IN MARKETS MADE UNSTABLE BY TERRORISM, WHETHER POLITICAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL.

7. The Golf Industry must VIGOROUSLY EMBARK on a massive public relations campaign to stop the proposed scheme by Enviro–Maniac–Activists and National Democratic Party of Canada threatening a NATIONAL prohibition of pest control products. N.D.P. is the POLITICAL SHIELD for the Environmental–Terror–Movement.
8. The Golf Industry must review and justify its current and extensive array of chemicals.
9. The Golf Industry must plan for the INEVITABLE and TOTAL REVOCATION of its EXCEPTION STATUS in most jurisdictions across Canada, in two to four years. The Golf Industry will lose many or ALL of its valued and necessary pest control products.
10. The Golf Industry must provide the public with scientific information supporting the idea that its innovative management practices MAY SLIGHTLY reduce the use of pest control products.
11. The Golf Industry must develop and publish golf maintenance protocols and the performance standards EXPECTED by its playing customers. So far, the Golf Industry has been ridiculously inconsistent in defining « *suitable playing surfaces* ».
12. The Golf Industry must SCIENTIFICALLY DEFINE and PUBLICALLY DISCREDIT the misleading term « *Organic Golf Course* », and establish policies for expelling clubs using this INACCURATE and MISLEADING term from its trade associations.
13. The Golf Industry must VERY STRONGLY ADDRESS and DISCREDIT the misconceptions concerning imidacloprid, chlorothalonil, 2,4–D, and other chemicals.
14. The Golf Industry must TERMINATE all relationships with Environmental–Terror–Organizations like the Contemptible–Canadian–Cancer–Society, World Wildlife Fund, and others. All related charitable tournaments that provide financial donations and support to these Environmental–Terror–Organizations must be SUSPENDED and REDIRECTED.
15. The Golf Industry must OPPOSE the LOATHSOME and RIDICULOUS Golf Canada ( formerly R.C.G.A. ) that raises millions of dollars for the Millionaire–Canadian–Cancer–Society, an Environmental–Terror–Organization that uses this money in its conspiracy to prohibit of FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE, and ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE conventional pest control products.
16. The Golf Industry must openly and financially SUPPORT POLITICAL CANDIDATES that oppose any prohibition of pest control products.

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**Force Of Nature** is a series of e-newsletters destined for the Green Space Industry, the Environmental Terror Movement, Governments, and the Media, nationwide across Canada, the United States, and overseas. The information presented in **Force Of Nature** has been developed for the education and entertainment of the reader by providing a sequence of historical events **WITH COMMENTARY**. **Force Of Nature** presents **THE WHOLE TRUTH FROM AN INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE** ! **Force Of Nature** is **TOTALLY INDEPENDENT** of any trade association or business operating within the Green Space Industry. The commentary expressed in **Force Of Nature**, even though from an **INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE**, may not reflect those of everyone in the Green Space Industry. **Force Of Nature** may sometimes be very irreverent, and even appear to be Anti Environment, it is, in fact, simply a strong advocate **FOR** the Modern Green Space Industry. However, this position has not precluded **Force Of Nature** from criticizing the Green Space Industry itself, when appropriate. The events, characters, companies, and organizations, depicted in this document are not always fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, may not be coincidental. All document excerpts and pictures contained in **Force Of Nature** were found somewhere on the Internet. These documents and pictures are in the public domain, serving one of the following purposes : archive, education, promotion, publicity, or press release.

**Force Of Nature** **INSPIRES** people to believe that **ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM** can be **STOPPED** ! **Norah G** is an acronym for the stable of anonymous producers and writers that contribute to this e-newsletter and have now replaced Mr. Gathercole. They consist of people from the following industries : Distribution, Fertilizer, Golf, Lawn Care, Manufacturing, Municipal, Nursery, and Orchard. Many of these people are leaders in their own industries. Anonymity is essential in view of the constant threat of reprisals at every level except perhaps death. **Force Of Nature** is the instrument of **National Organization Responding Against Hujé** that seek to **TERRORIZE, HARM, and THREATEN** the Green Space Industry (**NORAHG**). **Hujé** is a term used for **Enviro Maniac Activists** that routinely concoct **FEAR MONGERING, FRAUDULENT LIES, MISCONCEPTIONS, COERCION, THREATS, DECEPTIONS, TERROR, and PARANOID CONSPIRACIES** that are **DESIGNED** to **SCAM and DECEIVE** the public into believing that families are in some **NON-EXISTENT** danger with conventional pest control products. **Hujé** also **SCAM and DECEIVE** Government Officials into the **NEEDLESS, SENSELESS, and MALICIOUS** prohibition of **FEDERALLY LEGAL, SCIENTIFICALLY SAFE, TOTALLY IRREPLACEABLE, and ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE** conventional pest control products.

**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 CHEMICAL INDUSTRY**, and has served in public affairs, workplace safety, and environmental compliance. Mr. Gathercole has supervised, consulted, programmed, and/or overseen the successful and safe execution of **HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS** of pest control applications in the urban landscape. He has trained, instructed, and consulted with **THOUSANDS** of turf managers and technicians. Mr. Gathercole has also been an agricultural agronomist. For many years, Mr. Gathercole was a contributing columnist for **TURF & Recreation Magazine**, Canada's Turf and Grounds Maintenance Authority. Mr. Gathercole is now retired from **Force Of Nature**, although his name continues to appear as the founder. Mr. Gathercole is personally credited for crafting the **Golf Industry Exception Status**, that endures to this day. He is also the creator of the signs that are now used for posting after application. His vast knowledge of our long journey with Environmental Issues is **UNDENIABLE** — hopefully ! For **FIFTEEN YEARS**, the strategies designed and implemented by Mr. Gathercole and his colleagues guaranteed the control of Environmental Terror for the entire Modern Green Space Industry across Canada. Mr. Gathercole's involvement in Environmental Issues reached a fevered pitch in the 1990s, when he orchestrated, with his colleagues, legal action against the **Forces of Environmental Evil** in the Town of Hudson, Quebec. Mr. Gathercole is the **ONLY TRUE RELIABLE WITNESS** of the Hudson Affair.

Mr. Gathercole and his entourage have followed the evolution of **ENVIRONMENTAL TERRORISM** for over a quarter century. Through **Force Of Nature**, **Enviro Maniac Activist Hujé** are identified on the basis of their statements, activities, affiliations, and whereabouts. Even though each **Enviro Maniac Culprit** is a misguided adversary, each still deserves our respect. The use of the terms **Maniac, Culprit, Terrorist, or Basterd** are not accusations of any legal wrong doing. **Force Of Nature** is simply holding **Enviro Maniac Activists** accountable for conspiring to change public policies that **TERRORIZE, HARM, and THREATEN** the Green Space Industry. Their pretentious prohibitionist rants have created **LOSS OF REVENUES, BUSINESS FAILURES, BANKRUPTCY, and UNEMPLOYMENT, inflicting DESPAIR and DESTITUTION** for **THOUSANDS** of hapless victims throughout the Green Space Industry. The **DEPRAVED INDIFFERENCE** of **Maniac Culprit Terrorist Basterd Hujé** is viewed as a form of **TERROR, HARM, and THREAT** against the Green Space Industry.

Read All About **Enviro Maniac Activists** and their **Environmental Terror Organizations** in **Force Of Nature** ! **The Whole Truth From An Independent Perspective** ! Ask for a copy of any back issue of **Force Of Nature**. The following editions of **Force Of Nature** are currently available. — • **A Look At** • **Alberta Conspiracy** • **British Columbia Conspiracy** • **Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment** • **Canadian Cancer Society** • **Canadian Environmental Law Association** • **Carnage** • **Consequences** • **Culprit** • **David Suzuki Foundation** • **Dating Services for Enviro Maniacs** • **DDT and Politicized Science** • **Death and the Environmental Terror Movement** • **Enviro Profit** • **Environmental Terrorists Unmasked** • **Famous Quotations** • **Fertilizer Terror** • **Hero** • **June Irwin, the Clown of Junk Science** • **Kazimiera Jean Cottam** • **Landscape Trades Capitulate** • **Lying Sac of Enviro-Maniac Cwap** • **Myth-Busting** • **Needless Hysteria** • **New Brunswick Conspiracy** • **Newfoundland Conspiracy** • **Nova Scotia Conspiracy** • **Ontario Conspiracy** • **Organic Fertilizers** • **Paranoid Theories** • **Pesticide Free BC** • **Pets and Lawn Care Chemicals** • **Positive Waves** • **Prince Edward Island Conspiracy** • **Quebec Conspiracy** • **Rachel Carson, the Queen of Junk Science** • **Reining a Terrorist Reaction** • **Salmon Arm BC Conspiracy** • **Satire** • **Terror NEVER Ends** • **Terror Talk** • **The 9/11 Era of the Green Space Industry** • **The Bin Laden of Enviro Terror, Paul Tukey** • **The Failure of Integrated Pest Management** • **The Looming Golf Industry Shipwreck** • **The Industry Strikes Back** • **The Misconceptions About Cancer** • **The National Annihilation of the Modern Green Space Industry** • **The Wisdom of Bill Bell** • **The Wisdom of Drysdale** • **The Wisdom of Health Canada** • **The Wisdom of Holland** • **The Wisdom of Lowes** • **The Wisdom of Mains** • **The Wisdom of the Solomons** • **Update** • **Warning** • **DON'T THANK US. IT'S A PUBLIC SERVICE. AND WE ARE GLAD TO DO IT.**

## The Whole Truth from an Independent Perspective



Get your  
head out of  
your butt !

*We must defend the industry,  
whatever the cost may be !*