



# **STAYING IN CONTROL**

## **Annual Conference & Exhibition of the Amenity Forum**

**To be held on Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**AT LEICESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB**

**King Power Stadium, Filbert Way, Leicester, LE2 7FL**

# Welcome to our annual conference brochure for 2014

We believe that we have assembled an excellent range of speakers and an exhibition area to interest everyone with an involvement in the amenity sector

There are many challenges facing the amenity sector in terms of its approach to weed, pest and disease control. The impact of legislation linked to such things as the Sustainable Use and Water Framework Directive is significant as are the cost pressures and other technical challenges. The emphasis is very firmly on adopting integrated approaches and making the most effective use of pesticides. Amenity is in the spotlight. It is important that the sector itself shows it can rise to the challenge and get fully behind best practice and driving up standards. It is important that the sector does this itself and it is not imposed by others, which could have serious implications, hence our theme of staying in control. This conference will seek to address the hot issues, investigate the implications, the approaches available and hopefully find ways in which the challenge can become an opportunity.

The Amenity Forum conference and exhibition has become very much the must attend event for all with an interest in this area with key speakers, wide coverage of the sector and great opportunities to network and share ideas.

CHAIRMAN

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**Delegate Rates £50 for non members and £45 for members. If bookings are made before September 1<sup>st</sup>, a £5 discount will apply. To book, contact [conference@amenityforum.net](mailto:conference@amenityforum.net)**

**BASIS and NASoR CPD points have been applied for.**

## SPEAKERS



*GRANT STARK has worked in HSE's Chemicals Regulation Directorate and its predecessor, the Pesticides Safety Directorate, for almost 20 years. He has worked in a number of policy roles, liaising with industry and other stakeholders and providing advice on a range of pesticide-related matters. His most recent work has focussed on pesticide use, in particular the EU directive designed to ensure these chemicals are used sustainably. He was part of the UK team involved in negotiating the directive and latterly has played a key role overseeing its implementation. He has worked closely with the Amenity Forum for a number of years*

***Speaking on 'The implementation of the National Action Plan – priorities and progress to date'***



**JOHN MOVERLEY** has worked in the private, public and charitable sectors including some 20 years at CEO level. He has substantial experience of serving in board roles and as a chairman. He is currently Chairman of the Amenity Forum, Chairman of the West Midlands Forestry & Woodlands Advisory Committee, a member of the Severn & Wye Flood and Coastal Committee and a Trustee for the Community Forest Trust.

***Speaking on 'A response from the sector – establishing priorities'***



**RUTH MANN** manages the Research Department at STRI including the Soils and Pathology laboratories and all research on pests, weeds, diseases and associated disorders, including integrated management programmes (IPM), grass cultivar testing, product testing, such as plant protection products, fertilisers and wetting agents, turf maintenance machinery and application technology testing; surface performance and playability of all sports surfaces. Ruth also provides onsite advice and development of bespoke pest, weed or disease management plans detailing all aspects of control. Ruth is an Approved trainer for BASIS Amenity Horticulture and Guardian courses.

***Speaking on 'Making integrated control work in the sportsturf sector'***



IAN EDSER joined Amey in May 2010 and is currently Bid Director within the Government division leading on environmental projects nationally. Ian has over 26 years experience within the Government sector, primarily engaged in Environment, Waste, Highways and Streetscene service delivery. Ian has worked on a range of projects including business process reengineering of separate Waste, Highways and Environmental Services into a high performing integrated Streetscene Services with dedicated community based service delivery mechanisms.

***Speaking on 'Having a positive impact on the environment'***



ADRIAN DIXON is Head of the Policy Implementation Team in CRD's Regulatory Policy Group. He was directly involved in the EU discussions which developed the Sustainable Use Directive and subsequently the UK National Action Plan. Other responsibilities include the pesticides residues monitoring programme, usage surveys and management of the Defra Pesticides R & D programme.

***Speaking on 'Implementing policy change across the EU'***



ANNE METTE DAHL JENSEN is Senior Advisor in Turfgrass, University of Copenhagen, Forest & Landscape (Institute for Geo-science and Natural Resources, IGN). She has extensive experience in relation to implementation of the EU Directive on sustainable pesticide use in Denmark. She is a member of the Danish Environmental Protection Agency advisory group and closely collaborates with that Agency on different aspects in relation to pesticide free management on all amenity areas. She was responsible for producing the report "Pesticide use and pesticide load on golf courses in Denmark" and advised for the Danish Environmental Protection Agency in relation to the formulation of a law proposal regarding pesticide use on golf courses. She has been Involved in research regarding pesticide free weed management in lawn grass since 2006 and part of a research group for public areas, streets, pavements and STERF's IPM group. The group has produced a Research and Development program for IPM and a number of IPM fact sheets.

***Speaking on 'Pesticide regulations in Denmark and how they are being met'***



**DAVID WAIN** is the Environmental Technical Officer for the £2.2 billion Streets Ahead project in Sheffield, the UK's largest Highways PFI scheme, the marriage of a 25 year maintenance contract with ambitious goals to completely refurbish over 70% of Sheffield's roads between 2012 and 2017. With wide experience across the Street Scene sector including grounds maintenance, tree surveying and management in one of the UK's greenest cities as well as overseeing street cleansing services, David has also diversified in recent years into technical ground works, complex traffic management schemes and overseeing all soft landscaping and arboricultural elements of the Core Investment Phase of the Streets Ahead project.

**Speaking on 'Controlling weeds, pest & diseases – a case study'**



**MIKE CLOUGH** is Chairman of INNSA - the Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association and has been educating people about problem weeds for many years, regular audiences include the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, Architects, Housing Associations and Local Authorities. More recently, he travelled to the USA, talking at the Ecological Landscape Association seminar in Massachusetts and assisted the Council of Mortgage Lenders on their advisory document 'Japanese Knotweed and the Residential Market'. INNSA is a trade body seeking to deliver the highest quality contractors and consultants for clients wishing to ensure they get a professional service.

**Speaking on 'Control of problem species'**



**MANDA SANSOM** is Technology Development and Stewardship Manager for Monsanto UK and Ireland. She has worked as an agronomist for many years before joining Monsanto 17 years ago as technical support to the UK business. Her role now includes running the Technical Hotline – both telephone and e-mails dealing with all types of product enquiries, running the Crop Protection trials programme for the UK and Ireland as part of a European team, training and Stewardship, ensuring Crop Protection products are used sustainably and in accordance with regulations and Best Practice.

**Speaking on 'Pesticide Use – challenges & opportunities'**



**MARK DE' ATH** is Operations Director at Headland Amenity and an enthusiastic supporter of the Amenity Forum promoting best practice in the sector. Headland Amenity was established in 1994 as specialist in amenity chemicals, fertilisers and adjuvants. It soon gained a reputation for technically sound and innovative products. Today it sells in the UK and many European countries.

Speaking on 'The Way Forward'

## SPEAKERS AND PANEL ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF PESTICIDES & WATER



**MELISSA HOSKINS** is the Catchment Officer for the Warwickshire Avon with a passion for working with the wider community to improve the quality of our rivers for current and future generations. Her primary expertise lies in river restoration and land management, with a particular interest in pesticide behaviour and mitigation methods. Melissa has had experience of project management for a number of river restoration projects, including a recent fish passage project on the River Frome. She is also the lead for the Warwickshire Avon Catchment Partnership.



**JAN HOOKEY** is Senior Technical Specialist for Groundwater & Contaminated Land for the Environment Agency in the South East Region. She has much experience of pesticides and water and has been directly involved in the recent research project undertaken in Thanet on integrated control methods for streets and pavements



**BRYAN HOMAN** is Reservoirs and Water Process Strategy Manager for United Utilities. Bryan's water career started in the laboratory before moving to a specialist public health team when the impact of pesticides in water became an area of his focus. Bryan then had a number of operational roles which involved managing water networks, water treatment works, water catchments and impounding reservoirs. Over the last couple of years, Bryan has held a strategic role in which he has been responsible for putting together the business plan submission to Ofwat, the water regulator, for the five year period beginning in April 2015

## **MORNING PROGRAMME**

0900 EXHIBITIONS OPEN

Registration

0930 Refreshments

0955 Welcome & Introduction *John Moverley, Chairman of the Amenity Forum*

### **Sector Update**

1000 The implementation of the National Action Plan – priorities and progress to date: *Grant Stark, HSE Chemicals Regulations Directorate*

1020 A response from the sector – establishing priorities: *John Moverley, Chairman, Amenity Forum*

1035 Questions & Discussion

### **Integrated Control**

1045 Making integrated control work in the sports turf sector: *Ruth Mann, Head of Research STRI*

1105 Having a positive impact on the environment: *Ian Edser, Bid Director, Amey PLC*

1125 Questions & Discussion

1140 REFRESHMENTS, VISIT TO EXHIBITIONS & NETWORKING TIME

### **International**

1205 Implementing policy change across the EU: *Adrian Dixon, Head of the Policy Implementation Team in CRD's Regulatory Policy Group*

1220 Case Study: Pesticide regulations in Denmark and how they are being met: *Anne Mette Dahl Jensen, University of Copenhagen*

1240 Questions & Discussion

1250 LUNCH, VISIT TO EXHIBITIONS & NETWORKING TIME

## **AFTERNOON PROGRAMME**

### **Case Studies & Perspectives**

- 1350 Controlling weeds, pest & diseases – a case study: *David Wain, Streets Ahead Highways Client Team, Sheffield City Council*
- 1410 Control of problem species: *Mike Clough, Chairman, Invasive Non-Native Specialists Association*
- 1430 Questions & Discussion

### **Panel Presentations & Discussion**

- 1440 Pesticides and Water – Panel Presentations, Questions & Discussion: *Bryan Homan, United Utilities, Melissa Hoskings, Severn River Trust, Jan Hooker, Environment Agency*

### **Challenges & Opportunities**

- 1525 Pesticide Use – challenges & opportunities: *Manda Sansom, Monsanto*
- 1545 Questions & Discussion
- 1550 The Way Forward: *Mark De' Ath, Headland Amenity*
- 1600 VISIT TO EXHIBITIONS & NETWORKING TIME
- 1630 Conference Closes

## FORUM PARTNERS & EXHIBITORS



BASIS is an independent organisation set up at the suggestion of the UK Government in 1978 to establish and assess standards in the pesticide industry relating to storage, transport and competence of staff. It offers a wide range of examinations and recognised qualifications for all working in the pesticides, fertiliser and related sectors. It operates an annual inspection scheme for pesticide stores, manages the professional registers for qualified pesticide and fertiliser advisers, and operates BACCS and the Amenity Assured standard.



Bayer is a global leader in providing innovative solutions to pest, weed and plant disease problems in the professional non-crop markets. Bayer's turf and amenity division offers a comprehensive and innovative range of products for greenkeepers, groundsmen and other professionals in the turf and amenity industry. The company's product portfolio consists of turf fungicides, *insecticides and a range of herbicides*. Key brands include *Interface®*, *Chipco® Green*, *Merit® Turf*, *Longbow®* and *Pistol®*.



City & Guilds is the leading provider of vocational education with an extensive range of qualifications suited to the amenity sector. These include work-based (NVQs) and college-taught qualifications. They also have a strong focus on short courses to deliver specialist skills through the City & Guilds NPTC Certificates of Competence. City & Guilds also supports the National Amenity Sprayer Operators Register (NASOR) which recognises and records CPD for members in the sector, driving up the standards of sprayer operators through development of knowledge and skills.



In order to meet the public's high level of expectation for open space maintenance, a timely programme of carefully considered herbicide application needs to be planned and executed. Complete Weed Control has the experience and local teams to assist you in this process. With qualified staff and access to the Weed-IT spot spraying technology, weed control can be achieved legally and economically. Our comprehensive health & safety package, coupled with our commitment to responsible herbicide application, will assist in you in achieving your environmental targets and responsibilities.



Everris is a leading player in the ornamental horticulture, turf and amenity, and specialty agricultural sectors. Working in partnership with customers and hand in hand with nature, the company is passionate about optimizing plant and turf performance. In addition to grass seed and market-leading fertiliser brands, Everris supplies a comprehensive range of plant protection and control products for use in turf and amenity situations. These are available through a network of distributors across the UK and Ireland.



Headland's product portfolio includes over 40 fertiliser formulations, encompassing conventional, slow and controlled release technology in both solid and liquid forms, as well as a growing range of pesticides and growth management products. Customers include the largest and smallest of Golf Clubs, Cricket and Bowling Clubs, Racecourses, Landscapers, Local Authorities, Lawn care and Contractors, as well as many others.



Japanese Knotweed Control (JKC) offers the most comprehensive, cost effective and ecologically sound solutions for eradicating Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and many other non-native invasive plants. As the market leader we are able to provide a comprehensive choice of eradication treatments including excavation, dig and dump, on-site burial and our own innovative stem injection process, widely considered the most effective and environmentally friendly treatment method. A founder member and part of the steering group of INNSA, JKC are at the forefront of pioneering new processes to combat invasive weeds and raise standards within the industry.



JSD Rail are responsible for the weed control on Britain's railways. The safe transportation of passengers and goods depend on us doing our job efficiently. Working with the Amenity Forum we believe we can ensure we are able to continue using herbicide responsibly to control damaging and invasive weeds on the infrastructure. Our industry is only sustainable if we all use pesticide safely, responsibly and with consideration for those we may affect by our actions.



Languard VM have delivered cost effective, safety conscious and environmentally responsible vegetation management solutions to the Industrial & Amenity sectors for over 30 years. We are the largest provider of urban weed control services in the UK, a leading specialist vegetation management business servicing the UK Highways Network and also have substantial business in invasive weed control, industrial sector vegetation management and sports turf management. We are focused on meeting the needs of our customers, offering nationwide coverage from our regional offices and depots.



Nomix Enviro is a leading supplier of safe, effective and innovative herbicides and technical support services for amenity, rail, industrial and forestry weed control. Nomix Total Droplet Control (TDC) combines easy to use, targeted application technology, with ready to use, low volume herbicides. TDC minimises the risk of run-off and spray drift and there is no mixing, which virtually eliminates the risk of spillage. We are also national distributors for the major agrochemical companies. This allows us the unique position of offering a sustainable solution for every situation. Visit [www.nomix.co.uk](http://www.nomix.co.uk) for more information or call 01264 388056



NSTS is the National Sprayer Testing Scheme for the UK. The scheme has been part of UK agriculture since 2003 and a main pillar of the Voluntary Initiative. NSTS tested sprayers are now a requirement in many amenity situations and NSTS satisfies the sprayer testing requirements of the Sustainable Use Directive. The NSTS was devised by the UK sprayer industry with input from the sector, the chemical industry and contractors. All types of pesticide application machinery can be tested by NSTS through its nationwide network of test centres and qualified machine examiners.



Progreen supply & advise on fertilisers, amenity/horticultural herbicides (professional & non-professional), moss control solutions, grass seed & application equipment, nationwide. These products are all supported by BASIS and FACTS qualified staff offering free technical advice; as well as having PA1, PA2, PA4 and PA6 qualified staff with landscaping experience. Training courses such as NPTC (e.g. PA1, PA6) & BASIS certification are run by Progreen in purpose-built training facilities at their head office and throughout the country and are available either for individuals or tailored to specific company requirement.



Rigby Taylor is the UK's leading supplier of products for the improvement, maintenance and construction of sports, amenity and landscape areas, including Grass Seed, Fertilizers, Herbicides, Fungicides, Top Dressings, Soil and Turf Improvers. Product development is at the forefront of the Company's philosophy. Working with a number of key research based specialist suppliers, and dedicated to a policy of Continuous Improvement in all its activities.



Sherriff Amenity is a wholly owned division of Agrovista UK. Formed in 1994, the company has established a reputation as a leading supplier of professional products and specialist advice to the amenity market. Sherriff Amenity has a clear vision – to continue to provide innovative new products, ideas and solutions to its customers.



SprayCDA is a dedicated organisation offering extensive expertise and information relating to controlled droplet application systems and ultra low volume herbicide solutions. The information and equipment is aimed at anyone needing to reduce herbicide output in line with pesticide reductions as required by the 'EU Sustainable Use Directive'. 50% reductions in both pesticide used and labour are quite easily achievable using our ULV equipment with consequent financial and environmental benefits.



Vale Engineering manufacture winter maintenance equipment and weed control spraying equipment including chemical storage solutions for the municipal and amenity sectors. The PKL Spraying System is the premier system used by Local Authorities for weed control. The salt spreading range includes trailed and mounted models for use behind tractors and 4x4 vehicles. Vale Engineering also owns Riverlynx, the specialist CDA Controlled Droplet Application Sprayer producer based in Bristol. Its range of lances can be used in conjunction with its own Ecomark carrier.



*The Amenity Forum is the independent body bringing together professional organisations with an involvement in the amenity horticulture sector. This is a very diverse industry responsible for the landscape management of urban areas, highways and rail network, sports grounds, parks, industrial and utility sites. To establish and maintain these areas to a high standard, the sector requires access to pesticides, efficient equipment and trained and qualified staff. The organisation was formed in October 2003 as a key action to support the Voluntary Initiative, an industry-led project agreed with Government to reduce the environmental impact of pesticides.*

*The membership comprises of organisations from across this diverse industry, covering manufacturers, suppliers, trade associations, local authorities, major users, landscape, sport and leisure. Equally important are those members who represent training and qualification standards. The key Government agencies have an important observer role. The objectives of the Amenity Forum are:*

*To promote and encourage proper and responsible use of pesticides and integrated methods to control pests, weeds and diseases*

*To lead, coordinate and encourage achievement of "Best Practice" objectives in amenity pesticide use*

*To coordinate and encourage the establishment of sustainable qualifications, training and CPD activity, specifically for the amenity sector*

*To organise activities within the Amenity Forum membership and linked organisations, such that Amenity Forum objectives are developed in a coordinated way*

For further information about the Forum, contact [Alan.Spedding@amenityforum.net](mailto:Alan.Spedding@amenityforum.net)

For conference bookings, email  
[conference@amenityforum.net](mailto:conference@amenityforum.net)