

Ag Plastics Congress To Provide Latest Technology

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — The American Society for Plastics (ASP) will conduct the 31st National Agricultural Plastics Congress from August 16 to August 19 in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Plasticulture 2003 is the meeting ground for researchers and innovators from around the world who strive to increase agricultural profitability and productivity through the use of plastics.

The Congress provides a forum for researchers, extension professionals, manufacturers, and suppliers to share information and create new products, techniques, and ideas about plasticulture.

The program is divided into 8 session categories, and papers will be presented in each session as follows: 1. Crop Production Systems with Plasticulture (6 papers); 2. Drip Irrigation/Chemigation (4 papers); 3.

Greenhouses and Controlled Environments (7 papers); 4. Mulch Film Technology (7 papers); 5. Plastics Technology and Recycling of Plastics (3 papers); 6. Row Covers, Low Tunnels, and High Tunnels (9 papers); 7. Solarization Alternatives for Methyl Bromide (3 papers); 8. Vegetable Production. Each presentation will be 20 minutes long.

Rodney W. Lowman, president of the American Plastics Council (APC), will speak on "Issues Surrounding the Use of Plastics Today" in the keynote presentation.

In addition to the exhibit area and receptions, 2 tours will be available for those who wish to participate. These tours will visit local sites to experience the most up-to-date technology. An awards ceremony is also planned to present The Pioneer Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Best Paper Award.

Steiner Re-Locates

JOHNSON CREEK, Wis. — The manufacturing of Steiner, a Jacobsen Commercial Grounds Care brand of lawn and turf equipment has moved from Dalton, Ohio to Johnson Creek, Wis. The move will position the product line for further growth and improve its quality measures.

Jacobsen's Johnson Creek facility, which also manufactures

Jacobsen, Bobcat, Bunton, and Ryan brands of grounds maintenance equipment, will allow Steiner to take advantage of its state-of-the-art manufacturing setting providing advanced quality control systems, streamlined manufacturing, and increased engineering resources.

In addition to growing Steiner's product line and improving its quality, moving the brand to Johnson Creek will

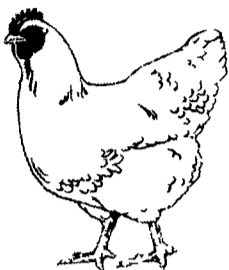
enable Steiner to be supported through Jacobsen's world-class CustomerOne™ product support program and a standard two-year warranty program on all products.

The Johnson Creek facility includes such state-of-the-art manufacturing processes as, powder painting for tough corrosion resistant exteriors, a quality audit process, laser steel cutting, robotic welding, and additional engineering resources.

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