• 170 associates globally
  – 163 BS
  – 52 MS
  – 31 PhD

• Experiment station locations
  – Marysville, OH
    • Scientists, formulators, engineers, packaging
  – Gervais, OR
  – Apopka, FL
  – Morance, France
  – Levington, UK

• Cooperative research agreements with
  – University of Sydney
  – Texas A&M University

• Annual budget of ~$40 million
Scotts Apopka R&D Facility

• Established in 1968
• 16.5 acres
• 32,000 sq ft ornamental testing area
• 11,500 sq ft of garden rows
• 12 St. Aug varieties
• 3 Bermudagrass varieties
• 3 Zoysia varieties
• Seashore paspalum, bahiagrass, centipedegrass

• Soil type is a Blanton fine sand. Very consistent across the property.
Recent products developed @ Apopka
Sustainability Efforts

– Conducting a Formulation Stewardship assessment using 3rdparty –Environ
  • Reviewed 94 active ingredients
  • Researching active ingredient replacements for improved profile
  • GrubEx: replaced imidacloprid w/Acelepryn

– Will not use estrogen mimics

– Improve product packaging
  • Increase recycled content from 21% to 50% by 2018
  • Improve material efficiency in packaging
Sustainability Efforts

- Innovate products that conserve water and protect water quality
  - Expand ‘n Gro®
  - Water Smart®
  - Moisture Control®
  - Eliminate phosphorous from all lawn fertilizers except Starter.
Sustainability Efforts

- Our growing media operations use 5 billion pounds of green waste that would have gone into the waste stream.
Sustainability Efforts

• Our new SNAP spreader system eliminates the need for spreader calibration, pouring fertilizer back into the bag.

• Closed system with product-specific calibration built into each bag.

• EdgeGuard for precise placement.
Water Quality Conservation

- Runoff plots at Apopka.
- Eight plots with 8% slope.
- ‘Floratam’ St. Augustinegrass
- Irrigation system allows us to apply 3 inches of rainfall per hour.
Water Quality Conservation

• Each plot has its own sampling and flow meters.
• Irrigation system allows us to apply 3 inches of rainfall per hour.
Water Quality Conservation

• Water is directed into troughs at the base of the slope and directed into the weirs where it is measured and sampled.
• Flow meter measures how much and how fast any water comes off the plots.
• Triggers the sampler that can take up to 24 samples from any runoff event.
High Points of Early Research

• Less than 2% of the applied slow release fertilizer ran off in the first event.
• None ran off after that.
• In a simulated hard surface versus St. Augustinegrass runoff event, the amount of runoff was reduced at least 70% when grass was used.
High Points of Early Research

• Weekend of Oct 7-9
• 6 inches of rainfall on these plots
• Not one drop of runoff was collected
• The rainfall rate never exceeded the infiltration rate.
• Demonstrates the tremendous amount of water that turf-covered soils absorb before runoff occurs.
Other nutrient management sites

• Marysville, OH
  – Similar structure with 9 plots and sampling stations
  – Heavy clay soil
• Cooperative effort with Texas A&M
  – 24 plots: 12 x 25 on a natural slope w/ silt loam soil on a clay base.
  – TX A&M supplying the site, Scotts supplying the instruments.
• Will allow us to evaluate potential nutrient losses nationwide with different grass species and soil types.
Other runoff plot sites

• These sites represent a significant resource investment.
• Demonstrates Scotts commitment to the benefits that healthy turf provides.
Questions