

## Pesticides In Perspective

A series of leaflets discussing various aspects of pesticide usage on land and in water has been published by the British Agrochemicals Association.

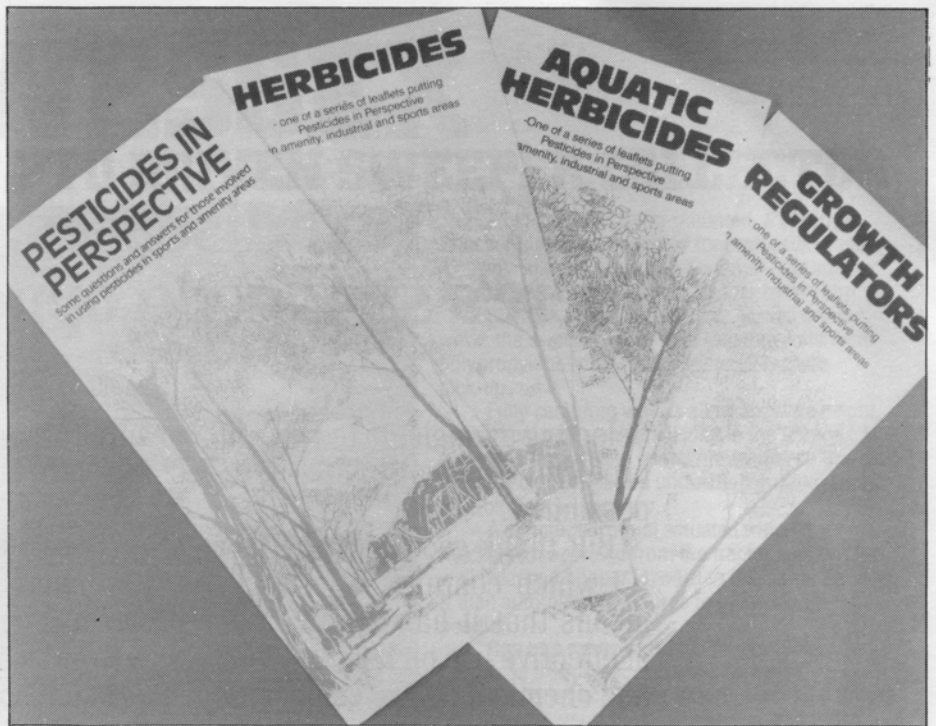
The four leaflets, part of a series aimed at 'putting pesticides in perspective' in amenity, industrial and sports areas, form the basis of a continuing information programme for professional users.

Tearlach MacLean, director of the BAA, said: "This series is designed to inform those whose work involves them in the use of pesticides in amenity, industrial and sports areas."

The leaflets will be available as a series for the first time at the IOG's Windsor exhibition this month.

*Pesticides In Perspective* answers commonly asked questions on the use of pesticides. *Herbicides* differentiates between selective and non-selective herbicides and describes the types of product available and how and why they are used.

*Growth Regulators* describes how chemicals can be used to manage and modify the growth of plants in areas such as roadside



The new series of leaflets from the BAA. verges, industrial sites and forestry.

*Aquatic Herbicides* emphasises the need for prudent management of water, whether for commercial or amenity purposes. The leaflet points out that aquatic weeds can interfere with drainage and irrigation or cause water to become stagnant and, therefore, a possible health hazard, make fish husbandry more difficult and cause damage by blocking pumps and filter equipment.

Both leaflets list the types of product approved by the government's Pesticides Safety Precautions Scheme, their uses and how and when they should be applied.

More detailed information is available in the BAA's *Directory Of Amenity Chemicals*, priced £1.50 and also available from the same address as the leaflets: British Agrochemicals Association, 4 Lincoln Court, Lincoln Road, Peterborough PE1 2RP.

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Dear Sir

May I correct an impression that Dr Hayes and Mr Arthur reflect in their article in the July issue? They suggest that the fertiliser trade is trying to sell more fertilisers to golf courses because of the recession in agriculture.

The higher profile adopted by my association in recent months has been simply and solely to help stimulate informed discussion and debate on the complex issues of whether, when, where and how much fertiliser should be used.

Too often we have seen sweeping statements criticising the use of fertiliser. The situation is not black and white and I am among the first to recognise that every green, every site, in fact, poses a different set of conditions.

The fertiliser industry is not in the business of selling fertiliser where it is not needed. It serves nobody, least of all manufacturers' reputations, to adopt this policy, whether it be fertilisers for golf courses or washing-up liquid for housewives.

My association's objectives are to encourage the sensible use of fertiliser in situations where it will be a benefit. This can best be achieved by encouraging discussion on the subject, involving technical and advisory specialists from all sides, including the manufacturers.

*J. Mottram, Director General,  
The Fertiliser Manufacturers  
Association, London EC1.*