

## BRUSH CONTROL

# Fewer Lost Balls, Fewer Delays

Fewer lost balls and fewer delays in play are among the dividends expected from a new idea in fairway brush control being introduced at the Riverside Golf Course in Portland, Maine.

Spray treatments with a new "delayed-action" brush control agent were used the past two years to clear out dense low foliage along fairways, so troublesome border areas are being opened up without handcutting and added problems in regrowth of brush.

There is another environmental benefit — the new brush control agent does its job without any brown-out. That means leaves turn

color and drop in a natural way in the fall after September application. But susceptible plants fail to re-foliate in the spring and they subsequently die.

The agent is a water-soluble liquid that is applied as a foliar spray to control or suppress many woody species. It controls blackberry, white oak, water oak, red oak, loblolly pine, Virginia pine, sweet gum, sumac and black locust. It offers partial control or suppression of other species such as red alder, hawthorn, wild cherry, maple, white ash, black gum, hickory, willow, sassafras, yellow poplar and elm.

The program at Riverside has

been under the direction of superintendent John Davis, who has consulted with Keith Jones, Portland city arborist, and Paul Hogencamp of Du Pont Company. Du Pont manufactures the agent — "Krenite". Hogencamp first established several trial areas adjacent to Riverside fairways. Following September, 1974 treatments, the areas were checked throughout last season. Control was achieved in these trials.

In September added areas were treated by a Portland Forestry Division crew under Jones' direction. Davis anticipates further use during the coming year, after he has had an opportunity to evaluate the most recent application.

Brush-cutting has been an annual task for Davis and his crew at Riverside. He has scheduled this in late fall, but his crews have generally had more areas to cut than time would permit. Regrowth of brush has been a continuing problem.

This routine may now be changed as the Portland crew gains experience with the brush control agent. It is a foliar-active material that can be applied to low brush or trees but has little, if any, effect on ground cover such as grass or most non-woody vegetation. Thus, dense brush along a fairway can be cleared through a spray application of this material, directed at the brush — and not taller trees. Tree limbs can be spray-trimmed, however, where desired. The agent has activity on sprayed limbs through foliar sprays, but does not affect growth or development of other parts of a large tree. □



John Davis (left), superintendent at Riverside Golf Course, Portland, Maine and Paul Hogenkamp of the Du Pont Company, in an area on Davis' course that was cleared of brush with a chemical agent