Alcohol fuel association provides information to producers

The National Alcohol Fuel Producers Association (NAFPA), a non-profit educational and resource exchange center located in Lincoln, Nebraska, has launched a search to find people who are producing or will soon be producing 140-200 proof fuel-grade alcohol. NAFPA feels certain that this search will allow it to become a leading resource headquarters for this information, and the association will be able to provide its members with this service.

For $75.00 per year NAFPA provides its members with technical bulletins on the latest advancements in alcohol production and related topics, a monthly newsletter about people and events on the alcohol fuel front, hot line bulletins on fastbreaking news, and a copy of their new book: Learning Guide for Alcohol Production. The 348 page manual was written and tested in a series of workshops held in Colby, Kansas last year. The association is in the process of developing a catalog of suppliers and manufacturers of alcohol equipment and technical consultants.

Write NAFPA at 1700 South 24th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502 or call 402/474-1977.

Beware of promoters selling alcohol stills

Roy Taylor at the University of Idaho suggests that get-rich-quick promoters may be working on schemes involving alcohol fuel distilleries. "Almost everyone who wants to earn a buck seems to be interested in building somebody else a fuel alcohol distillery," says Taylor, an extension agricultural engineer. He warns that the enthusiastic promoter with an impressive set of blueprints may lack any actual experience in constructing stills. "Most of the companies that are trying to sell large units have never built one themselves." He offers these guidelines:

—Make certain you have a performance bond in the contract so you can be sure of getting all the potential alcohol from your material before the supplier gets paid in full for his equipment.

—Insist that the supplier train you thoroughly in every phase of the alcohol plant's operation and maintenance.

—Check carefully so you know your distillery will be operating in compliance with laws regarding health and safety, alcohol tax exemption and protection of the environment.

Information on the basic processes of distilling alcohol is available from the University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service in Moscow, Idaho 83843.

2,4-D under fire by Canadian citizens

An editorial in a recent issue of the Toronto Globe and Mail talks of a group of parents who have organized as "Parents Against Senseless Spraying (PASS)" and are angry because their local board of education is allowing lawn care companies to spray 2,4-D on the school grounds. A pamphlet issued by PASS says: "We have good reason to suspect 2,4-D can cause cancer, birth defects, and deformities. We know it can cause headaches, fever, nausea, skin rashes, etc. We also know it does not break down as rapidly as we are led to believe and can remain in the body. When cancer has increased by 240 percent since 1910 and is the number one disease killer of children, can we afford to allow the continued use and overuse of this chemical?"

While this action does not directly affect golf courses in the United States, the Toronto Globe and Mail editorial portends a warning as it explains that 2,4,5-T and 2,4,5-TP were banned because of "great public concern over the use of these two products".

New officers of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of New Jersey are, from left to right: Vice president Dennis Wagner, Superintendent at Trenton CC; President Jack Martin, Superintendent at Shackamaxon CC; Treasurer Edward Nickelsen, Superintendent at Montclair GC; and Secretary Games Gilligan, Superintendent at The Bedens Brook Club.

Melvin Lucas becomes GCSAA president

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America elected Melvin B. Lucas, Jr., CGCS, superintendent of Piping Rock Club in Locust Valley, Long Island, New York, as their new president. Michael R. Bavier, CGCS, superintendent of Inverness Golf Club in Palatine, Illinois, and a member of the association's board of directors, was elected vice president.

Two new members were elected to the board of directors to serve three year terms. They are Robert W. Osterman, CGCS, superintendent of The Golf Club of Aspetuck, Easton, Connecticut and James W. Timmerman, CGCS, superintendent of Orchard Lake Country Club in Orchard Lake, Michigan. Lucas appointed Paul Boizelle, CGCS, superintendent of the Fiddlers Elbow Country Club in Far Hills, New Jersey to fill the remaining two years of Bavier's term as director.

Lucas also appointed James A. Wyllie, CGCS, to serve as secretary-treasurer. Wyllie is superintendent of the Bayview Country Club in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

GCSAA President Melvin Lucas Jr. (left) accepts the gavel from Immediate Past President Charles Tadge. Vice president Michael Bavier is shown in the inset.