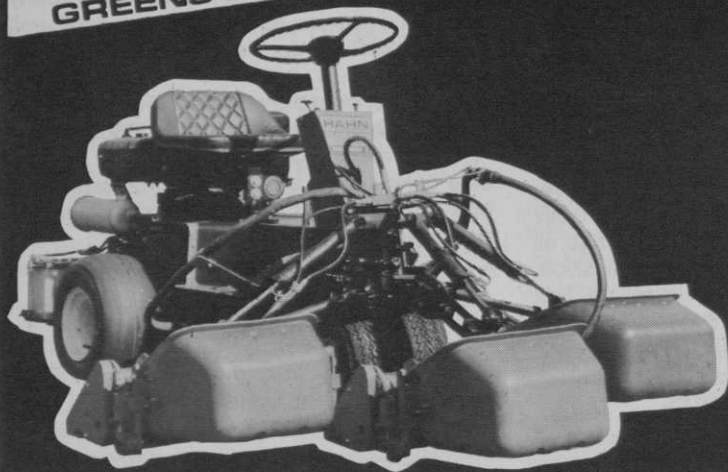


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Viewpoint

I have received news of a couple of EPA actions that I think are worth mentioning. One is a mailer funded by the League of Women Voters. I believe its purpose is to make consumers aware of toxic compounds. However, it opens with a biased note, saying that a women thinks 2,4,5-T is responsible for her baby's cleft palate. Scientists are beginning to agree that exposure to this compound and dioxin, its poisonous byproduct, are not of proportions to cause any damage. However, the interest in this piece lies in the fact that postage was funded by EPA. I don't think it is up to EPA to fund in any way, any project by an outside group that is not directly and scientifically related to their function. That is to protect from truly dangerous compounds, not foster fear of those that may not be dangerous.

EPA has also financed a film entitled "Serpent Fruits". Although I have not seen the film, its title would suggest it is less than favorable to chemicals in general. The film is the subject of a Congressional inquiry and EPA has been accused of bribing TV stations to run the film. They are providing grants from an EPA fund to 55 of 110 stations which have, or plan to, run the film.

Ron Morris



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