



MID-ATLANTIC News Letter



Published by
Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the Advancement of the
Golf Course Superintendent through Education and Merit

VOLUME XXV

JUNE 1974

NO. 6

WHAT'S TO BECOME OF GOLF COURSE CHEMICALS?

The upcoming labeling of toxic chemicals for "restricted use" only and the nationwide certification (qualification) of pesticide applicators are new EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) rulings which are soon destined to become state adopted laws. How will they effect the golf course superintendent?

The EPA has once again eluded the golf course superintendent and his need of chemicals for the 1,150,152 acres of golf course turf in the United States. Evidently 10,000,000 golf courses do not represent a large enough concern to warrant a classification within EPA's 10 categories of professional pesticide applicators, and conse-

quently will not be permitted to use "restricted use" chemicals after October 12, 1976. "Neither commercial nor private applicators may use those pesticides which are restricted for us only by certified applicators unless they are certified for this purpose under a state program approved by the EPA" (Federal Registrar, February 22, 1974). The individual state programs will be based upon EPA guidelines and furthermore, must be approved by the EPA. In other words the individual states can add amendments to the proposed guidelines but not detract from the Federal requirements of "restricted use" chemicals or certification of pesticide applicators. If the federal guidelines do not include our needs for chemicals neither will the individual states, at least not right away. If the law would permit each state to add golf course guidelines, every state would have its own battle and no two states would have the same regulations.

To add to this dilemma future chemical labeling will state what a given chemical can be legally used for; the application of that chemical will be limited to only what is on the label. Needless to say not many chemicals will receive turf labels if, in EPA's eyes, golf courses do not exist. Think back to all the chemicals you have used in years past that have only provided crop information on the label, yet are commonly and universally in use on golf courses. These restricted chemicals will be out of our reach if we are not certified, and again out of our reach if the chemicals are not specifically labeled for use on turfgrass.

By October 21, 1976 only certified pesticide applicators can use or supervise the use of "restricted use" chemicals. As of this date 10 professional classes of pesticide applicators have been designated adequate to cover all major forms of chemical usage in the U. S. Golf Courses are not mentioned, not even as a sub-classification, anywhere within the proposed EPA guidelines.

Categories presently listed are:

1. Demonstration pest control
2. Public health pest control
3. Forest pest control
4. Aquatic pest control
5. Regulatory pest control
6. Agricultural pest control
7. Seed treatment
8. Right of way pest control
9. Industrial, institutional and structural pest control

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thirty or more of our members journeyed to Williamsburg to meet with the Old Dominion Association of GCS in April. Considering the distance I think this was a great turnout, and again proves the professionalism of our membership.

Some played the Golden Horseshoe Course, and those who saw it raved about fineness of maintenance and interest built into the course. The highlight of the day was the tour of the new Kingsmill course under construction, led by the newly appointed superintendent and past national president, Ted Roberts. The course has been designed to be a "monster", and from a maintenance standpoint I think every one got the idea that the architect really hates superintendents. I'm sure since Ted is now on the scene that some of those terrific problem areas can be modified.

If you have not yet received your membership certificate, please come to the next meeting to pick it up. They will be at all meetings until all are delivered.

The Mid-Atlantic congratulates members Richard Watson and Charlie Schalestock who have recently become quarter century members of the national. They will receive their pins at one of our meetings in the near future.

Several of our members sent reservation cards for the April meeting but did not attend. This was an embarrassment to the Mid-Atlantic. Please — if reservations have been sent in your name for any future meeting and you find you cannot attend, telephone your host so he may make necessary cancellations.

J. Paul Barefoot

10. Ornamental and turf pest control (Ornamental turf, persons engaged in applying restricted pesticides for the maintenance and production of ornamental plants.)

All commercial applicators will be required to meet a general standard demonstrating knowledge of safe pesticide use and the principles and practices of pest control. The individual states can impose additional standards which will vary according to different applicator professions and situation. Individual states must have plans as to how certification will be done by October, 1975; plans will go into full effect by October, 1976. Each state department of agriculture will ultimately determine the finalized rules from EPA guidelines.

Assuming golf course superintendents correct the above misrepresentation he will then be faced with compliance of regulations of certification. Some of the presently proposed regulations are as follows:

1. Annual \$30.00 P.C.A. fee
2. Designated certified pesticide applicator registered with the Department of Agriculture—yourself and any applicators under your supervision.
3. Display of license on equipment used for chemicals.
4. Proof of scientific and practical knowledge of pest control.
5. Two years experience—full time—for applicant of PCA license, or
6. Certified from accredited college or special training acceptable to the Department of Agriculture, or
7. A combination of one year specialized training and one year practical experience.
8. PCA must meet financial security requirements—insurance for risks of injury thru use of chemicals.
 - a. Bodily injury \$100,000 each applicator or person involved and \$300,000 each occurrence
 - b. Property damage \$15,000 each person, \$30,000 aggregate
 - c. Certificate of insurance—kept in full effect

Note: Workman's Compensation might cover above requirements—to certainly be checked out when ruling finalized to law.

PCA Record Requirements

Maintain accurate record of all applications of pesticides

Name of applicator

Date of application

Type of plants

Amount of acres

General area designated

Common name of pesticide used

Rate and concentration

Total amount used

Time of day applied

Wind direction and velocity

Weather conditions

In addition, the applicator must:

Apply in accordance with label instructions

Store chemicals properly

Dispose of empty containers

Use protective clothing and equipment

Editors Note:

The above contains the basic information available to date from the Federal Register of February 22, 1974 and

from the Maryland Department of Agriculture; resourcefully acquired by Angelo Cammarota who has been following new EPA development thru the past year.

The Federal Register of proposed rules for certification of pesticide applicators runs eight pages long of fine print—and offers first hand indications of what is to come of our chemical future. Unfortunately though we were so excluded in this lengthy dissertation that I feel a more detailed report of this paper at this time is worthless. You can be certain future amendments will be made to include our operations—at which time more complete information will be made available to our members thru the newsletter and our monthly meetings.

GYPSY MOTH SITUATION UPDATED FOR MARYLAND

For most Maryland residents, over-concern about gypsy moth hordes devouring the leaves on their trees this summer can be compared with the consumer hysteria which created temporary toilet paper shortages in supermarkets last fall and long lines of automobiles at gasoline stations during recent winter months in the Mid-Atlantic area.

So says Dr. Eugene Wood, an Extension entomologist at the University of Maryland in College Park.

In a recent evaluation of the statewide situation, Dr. Wood noted, the bad news is that the gypsy moth has established a firm foothold in Cecil county and has spilled over into adjoining portions of neighboring Harford county, both in the northeast corner of the Old Line State.

A coordinated control program is scheduled to get under way in those two counties later this month. Its primary mission will involve spraying only several dozen isolated trees in several strategic locations to help prevent undue defoliation of white oaks this summer in the bicounty Upper Bay area. Carbaryl (Sevin) will be the spray material used, Dr. Wood reported.

There is no reason for immediate concern this year in other areas of the state, the Maryland Extension specialist declared. The procedure outlined for extreme Northeast Maryland will probably be repeated each year as the gypsy moth infestation progresses, he added.

It's true that state Department of Agriculture entomologists have trapped male gypsy moths throughout most of Maryland in the last two or three years, he commented. But the actual spread of gypsy moth infestation with attendant defoliation is slow because the female moths cannot fly. And the small caterpillars migrate chiefly by being blown relatively short distances by the wind.

The main force of the leaf-eating hordes moved into extreme northeast Maryland only last summer. And at an average rate of 6 miles per year which has characterized gypsy moth progress throughout the Northeast, it will be awhile before homeowners and other persons interested in individual tree preservation will have real reason to be concerned about immediate control measures, Dr. Wood maintains.

The state Department of Agriculture's ongoing gypsy moth trapping program indicates that male gypsy moths moved in larger numbers than ever down the length of