34th International Turf-Grass Meet
Set for Feb. 11-15 in San Diego, Calif.

World’s largest turfgrass management conference and exhibition show will be held at the El Cortez Hotel in San Diego, California, February 11-15.

Sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the convention is expected to draw more than 2,500 delegates from all parts of the United States and many foreign countries.

“In addition to sessions on maintenance, public relations and advanced turfgrass technology will receive detailed examinations,” Roy W. Nelson, association vice president and program chairman for the conference, reveals.

During the session on advanced technology, soil fertilization, plant response, slow-release fertilizers, and salinity problems will be highlighted.

Planning off-season operations will begin the program on maintenance problems in the northern and eastern sections of the country. Ice sheet damage will also be investigated, and the results of specified research into this area will be discussed. Rounding out this feature of the convention will be an investigation of the consequences and prospects of irrigation and automation in the East.

Delegates from the South and West expect to spend most of their program on specific turf problems, although irrigation and automation will also be covered. One highlight of the southern and western program will be an investigation of turf maintenance problems in Hawaii.

Public relations for servicemen and salesmen, as well as managers, will be stressed at the meet. Instructions in the most effective use of the subtle and sensitive factors of public relations will be featured, as well as examples of some of the more common errors made in this field.

Leisure-time activities for delegates include a Western steak-fry, receptions, and the GCSAA’s annual pre-convention golf tournament (Feb. 6-8), to be held at Bermuda Dunes, Eldorado, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Tamarick, and Thunderbird Country Clubs.

A full ladies program has also been arranged, including tours of the San Diego Zoological Gardens and surrounding countryside, and a boat ride around the harbor, the conference committee reports.

For advance registration forms, and additional information about the conference, write the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, P.O. Box 1385, Jacksonville, Fla.

ASP-51, Stauffer’s New Chinch Bug Killer, Available in Spring

A new insecticide, claimed to be especially effective for lawn chinch bug control, will be released by Stauffer Chemical Co. this spring.

Called ASP-51, the insecticide has a high initial kill of 95% or better in 48 hours, with control lasting 60-90 days, the firm reports. Even chinch bugs resistant to other insecticides are controlled with ASP-51, according to Stauffer.

When diluted with water for lawn spray, ASP-51 is said not to have any harmful effect on any turfgrass, and is only slightly toxic to animals. ASP-51, technically tetra-n-propylthionyrophosphate, is now on the recommended list for Florida, where it has been tested for more than two years, the company reports.

For more information on ASP-51, write Stauffer Chemical Co., 380 Madison Ave., New York 17, N.Y.

Sterilize Soil from Air

Recent tests in Southern California indicate that soil sterilants may be successfully applied by helicopter in areas inaccessible to ground equipment.

Because of the fire hazard of weeds and brush alongside railroad tracks, the U.S. Forest Service in California requires that such fuel be removed in an area extending 200 feet out from the track.

In the past, train crews removed the brush by controlled burning in the early summer. Experiments along 8 miles of track in Cajon Pass in the San Bernardino Mountains indicate that this may no longer be necessary.

More than 150 acres of land were treated by a helicopter applying Ureabor 62, a soil sterilant from U.S. Borax, along the track. Flying time for the heli-to-herbicide application was approximately 8 hours.

Granulated weedkiller was applied to the soil from a specially designed spreader attached to saddle tanks on the helicopter. Officials from Santa Fe Railroad, Union Pacific Railroad, the U.S. Forest Service, San Bernardino County governmental agencies, and United States Borax & Chemical Corp. who viewed the tests, stated that the experiment seemed entirely successful.

Atrazine Bulletin from Geigy

Recommendations for eradicating several weed species in western states with Atrazine, including Russian thistle, puncture vine, and tarweed, are available in a new bulletin from Geigy Agricultural Chemicals.

Titled “Atrazine 80W Information Sheet No. 7,” the bulletin also contains suggestions for using a mixture of Atrazine and Simazine for early post-emergence applications.

CAs may obtain a free copy of the bulletin by writing to the firm at P.O. Box 430, Yonkers, N.Y.