Fertilizer Needs Discovered by Leaf Analysis, Researchers Say

Best possible rates, methods, and frequency of fertilizer application on woody plants may be discovered by detailed leaf analysis, horticulturists at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, believe.

“Necessary information for proper application includes growth rate, age of plant, desired ornamental effect, and quality of the plant,” researchers point out, “and soil tests or other means which overlook this information can not be conclusive.”

Wooster scientists are convinced that foliar analysis will provide a truer picture of a plant’s nutrient status, and that this information, when correlated with growth and quality measurements, will provide more accurate guides for proper fertilizer practices.

Shade trees and acid soil plants are under study in the present phase of the program, now being carried out in Columbus, Ohio, and at commercial nurseries, as well as at the experiment station in Wooster. Leaf samples are being analyzed by photometric and chemical techniques to discover the most effective differential fertilizer treatments.

Fertilizer Needs Discovered by Leaf Analysis, Researchers Say

Rhode Island U. Develops Fungi-Nemato-Herbicide

A water-soluble combination fungicide, nematocide, and selective herbicide is the latest development to come from the Rhode Island University. According to Dr. John F. Cawley, chairman of the department of plant pathology, the new combination is practical for use in a great variety of situations, including cereal crops, lawns, and ornamentals.

The compound is known to be effective against a variety of diseases, including Pythium and Rhizoctonia, and it is reported to be particularly effective against root rots. The new combination is expected to be of great value in the control of various pests and diseases.

USDA Registers Betasan

Stauffer Chemical’s Betasan, a preemergence herbicide for control of crabgrass and other lawn weeds, has received registration approval under U.S. Department of Agriculture and Public Health Service regulations, the manufacturer announced recently.

Field-tested across the United States and sold commercially for two years in California, Betasan has been shown to have a wider margin of safety to established turfgrasses than many other commercially available products, Stauffer contends.

An application of Betasan during late winter or early spring prior to germination of the weeds is said to give season-long control. Betasan is also noted for its ability to control annual bluegrass, the company says.

Stauffer says the product is safe to use on all types of established lawn grasses, as well as dichondra. For details, write the firm at 380 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

USDA Registers Betasan

Trimnings

Dondy Danner. Hats off to Charlie Danner, Superintendent of the Capital City Community, Georgia! It was Charlie, we learned recently, who singled out Weeds and Turf for special praise during one of the turf conferences this year. Now we learn from one of his friends that “Charlie is known throughout the South as the very best southern bent grower. He did an excellent job of producing bent greens where most professionals said it was impossible. He appears on several of our turf conference programs annually.”

Rayner Shines. Cities across the land are in the midst of their elm preservation programs, hoping to protect their Dutch elm trees from disease. A city program which recently received notable local attention was administered by Gordon Z. Rayner, city forester for Milwaukee. Forester Rayner supervised the inoculation of nearly 45,000 elms with the new systemic insecticide, Bidrin. A feature article on the Milwaukee Journal gave all the details, and pictured arborist John E. Szydlofski applying the pesticide. In his protective garb, oh! In a garb like ours from outer space in the Journal photograph, but it’s good to see this graphic example of safe practices on the job.

Hostetter Hoopla! A landscape architect who’s moving up these days is James F. Hostetter of Tucson, Arizona. As recently as 1959, he was a professor at the University of New Mexico Homeowners College on effective landscaping for the housewife last month. Jim received his degree in Landscape Architecture from Ohio State University, and now specializes in landscape design as well as running Hostetters Nursery in Tucson. As if this didn’t consume enough of his time, the versatile vegetation specialist writes a weekly column, “Vegetation Tips” for the Arizona Daily Star. We’re glad to learn of this fellow journalist’s apparently limitless energies!

New Deal. Speaking of new figures in our universities, Dr. Elwyn E. Southwick, formerly research professor of pomology at the University of Massachusetts, has been promoted to head of that school’s Department of Horticulture. According to newly announced recently. It’s a singular honor for the renowned scientist, since he was just about 25 years ago when he himself graduated (with his BS) from the Mass pomology curriculum.

Southwick moves up. Promotion of Dr. Franklin W. Southwick, formerly research professor of pomology at the University of Massachusetts, to head of that school’s Department of Horticulture, was announced recently. It’s a singular honor for the renowned scientist, since he was just about 25 years ago when he himself graduated (with his BS) from the Mass pomology curriculum.

Southwick moves up. Promotion of Dr. Franklin W. Southwick, formerly research professor of pomology at the University of Massachusetts, to head of that school’s Department of Horticulture, was announced recently. It’s a singular honor for the renowned scientist, since he was just about 25 years ago when he himself graduated (with his BS) from the Mass pomology curriculum.

New Deal. Speaking of new figures in our universities, Dr. Elwyn E. Southwick, formerly research professor of pomology at the University of Massachusetts, to head of that school’s Department of Horticulture, was announced recently. It’s a singular honor for the renowned scientist, since he was just about 25 years ago when he himself graduated (with his BS) from the Mass pomology curriculum.