Urox Herbicide Developed To Mix With Asphalt or Tar

A liquid herbicide that can be applied with asphalt or road tar to provide long-term weed control along highway shoulders has been developed, according to Allied Chemical’s General Chemical Division.

The herbicide, called Urox, is also said to extend the usefulness of this bituminous shoulder treatment.

Each year, state and county highway departments spend countless sums to prevent erosion along highways by stabilizing the soil and gravel with asphalt or road tar treatments. These treated surfaces are eventually destroyed as weeds push through, making reapplication necessary.

Urox weedkiller is not affected by the hot mixes and remains active in the asphalt or tar for a long period, instead of leaching into the soil, the company says.

A five-year test in Virginia showed that an initial treatment of Urox weedkiller in asphalt gave complete control along a major highway. The company reports that similar tests along the eastern seaboard showed comparable results. For more details, write the company at 40 Rector Street, New York, N.Y.

USDA Warns Industry: Observe Parathion Labels

Parathion insecticide has no approval for use by homeowners in their gardens, nor approval for private contractors to apply it in or around houses.

This reminder to the industry comes in an open letter from John S. Leary, Jr., Chief Staff Officer in the Pharmacology section of the U. S. Department of Agriculture Pesticides Regulation Division. This is the Division which approves labels.

Domestic use of parathion is denied because “the margin of safety for the compound is too small,” Leary says.

“Labelling for products containing parathion will require a statement indicating that it is not for home garden use,” Leary added in his letter. “This policy applies in general to other highly toxic pesticides which have an equivalent margin of safety.”

Morton Has Mecopex

A selective weedkiller said to provide permanent control over broadleaf weeds without harming fine grass has been introduced by Morton Chemical Co.

Named “Mecopex,” the new compound is reportedly harmless to fine grasses such as Washington, Toronto and Sea-side Bent, and Kentucky and Merion Blue. Applied as a post-emergence herbicide when weeds are growing vigorously, Mecopex breaks their growth cycle and prevents them from crowding out turf and lawn grasses.

The new weedkiller is particularly effective on clover, common and mouse-eared chickweed, lambsquarter, plantain, knotweed, pigweed and ragweed, the company says.

A technical bulletin may be obtained from Morton at 110 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60606.