Southern Weed Conference
Set for Dallas, Jan. 19-21

Further progress in the already highly developed science of weed control is the goal of the 1965 Southern Weed Conference, scheduled for the Hotel Adolphus, Dallas, Texas, Jan. 19-21.

Approximately 800 research, education, and technical development workers are expected. They represent state and federal agencies, private chemical and equipment companies, railroads, utility companies, municipalities, aerial applicator associations, and other organizations. Delegates will exchange information on better ways to control weeds in lawns; on farms, industrial sites, and rights-of-way; and in parks, waterways, and other areas.

This is the 18th annual meeting of the Conference, and the first time it is convening in Texas. Other states represented include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Officials of the conference are Dr. R. E. Frans, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, president; Dr. Dale E. Wolf, E. I. du Pont de Nemours, Atlanta, vice president; and Henry Andrews, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, secretary-treasurer.

New Solo for Custom Sprayers

A brand-new spray unit especially built for contract applicators has just been introduced by Solo Industries. As the unit is called, can be used for concentrated spray or regular dilutions. It can be mounted on any kind of carrier.

For details, write Dr. Worsham at N.C. State.

Brown Needles on Evergreens
Natural Shedding Process

Arborvitae, spruces, or pines with a definite brown discoloration are experiencing a natural shedding process. Evergreens, like other woody plants, make new growth and new foliage each year. Unlike deciduous plants, they do not shed all their foliage each fall.

Evergreens do, however, shed some foliage each fall—the foliage that is the oldest. Some evergreens, depending on the species, retain two year’s growth and drop the three-year-old needles; other species retain three-year foliage and drop the four-year-old needles. Thus, each fall some needles turn brown and eventually drop.

This type of drop can be easily distinguished. The browning occurs throughout the plant and on all plants of the same species in the same locale. Also, the oldest or innermost leaves or needles are affected. These evergreens are not in any danger of dying.

If evergreens show discoloration of the newer growth at the tips of branches, then further checks should be made.

Meeting Dates


North Central Weed Conference. Hotel Astor, New York City, Jan. 6-8.


Midwest Regional Turf Foundation Meeting. Purdue University Memorial Center, Lafayette, Ind., March 1-3.

35th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, March 11-12.

Southeastern Turfgrass Conference. Tifton, Ga., April 12-14.

Pines, hemlocks, or spruces on lawns will undoubtedly have an accumulation of dropped needles beneath these trees. These needles should be raked from the lawn as they will exclude sunlight from the grass. Evergreen needles are also acid and as such are detrimental to good grass growth.

Needles, slow to decay, make a good mulch. Their acidity makes them ideal for mulching rhododendrons, blueberry, and other plants preferring an acid soil.