Snow, mud, or swampland are no obstacles to the Snowmobile-Fitchburg Chipper unit, which can be used year-round over all terrain conditions and in any kind of weather, Fitchburg Engineering Corp. says. The chipper converts wood up to 7 inches in diameter into chips and blows them out of the chute. Complete details may be obtained from the company in Fitchburg, Mass. The carrier vehicle, called the Muskeg Carrier, is manufactured by Bombardier Snowmobile Ltd. of Canada.

U. of Cal., Riverside, Sets Nursery, Landscape Tree, Turf Meet, Feb. 3-5

An extensive 3-day program has been devised for the Nursery, Landscape Tree, and Turf Conference, scheduled for Feb. 3-5, at the University of California, Riverside.

The first day is devoted to topics of interest to nurserymen, including talks on root rots and nematodes.

The second is directed to arborists and tree servicemen. Included in the program are the following subjects: sidewalk damage, municipal nurseries, freeway landscaping; and contract work with public agencies. Symposia will exchange information on control of plant growth, and on the safe use of pesticides.

Chairman of the Landscape Tree Day is Roy Wells, Superintendent of Parks and Street Trees, Culver City.

Turf Day will find applicators and greensmen receiving the latest information on "New Irrigation and Aerification Methods," by Wayne Morgan, Agricultural Extension Service, Los Angeles County; and "Recognizing Your Turf Problem," by John Madsen, Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Horticulture, U. of Calif., Davis. A talk by Victor Youngner, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Sciences, U. of Calif., Los Angeles, deals with "New Frontiers for Dichondra."

The program is directed by the university's Agricultural Extension Service and the Department of Landscape Horticulture. Cooperating in this educational venture are the California Association of Nurserymen; International Shade Tree Conference, Western Chapter; Street Tree Seminar; and the Southern California Turfgrass Council.

Education exhibits and university publications will be available. Conference chairman is William B. Davis, extension ornamental horticulturist, University of California, Riverside.

Rutgers Sets Jan. Turf Courses

Turf management topics will headline a 3-day program sponsored by the College of Agriculture, Rutgers University, January 18-22.

Courses on lawn, utility and athletic field turf will be conducted Jan. 18-20. Courses centering on golf and fine turf are scheduled for Jan. 20-22. Staff members of the college, specialists from the turf field and other organizations will participate in giving the most recent developments in turf culture.

Enrollment is limited to 325 persons. Applications for registration will be accepted in the order received. For information on these courses, write to Dr. Westervelt Griffin, Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture, Rutgers—The State University, New Brunswick, N. J.

Vinyloy Has Tubing Brochure

A 4-page brochure containing complete information on Vinyloy hose and tubing was recently published by Vinyloy Hose & Tubing Co., Inc. Said to be lightweight and flexible, the hose is nonflammable and will not rot.

It is further reported that the hose resists abuse, is nonporous and resists acids, caustics, solvents, chemicals, and petroleum products. It is stocked in continuous lengths up to 300 feet.

A copy of the brochure is available to interested readers who write the company at 8821 Kenwood Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45242.

Preventive Care Will Reduce Storm Damage to Shade Trees

Prolonged drought during the late summer and fall, resulting in abnormally dry soil conditions, is a common cause of winter injury to ornamental evergreens. Throughout the winter, moisture is given off into the atmosphere through the leaves and needles of evergreens. This must be replaced by water drawn from the soil. If the soil is low in water content, the foliage and twigs of the plants dry out and die.

To help prevent this type of winter injury, water evergreens regularly and thoroughly during the drought and as late as ground conditions permit. A thick mulch of wood chips, straw, or similar material over the root area will retard evaporation of soil moisture. Burlap screens can be erected to protect upright evergreens from the...
drying effects of winter sun and prevailing winds.

Most shade tree injuries are caused by severe storms, with damage ranging from a few broken branches to irreparable mutilation of entire trees. Much of this damage can be prevented, or reduced in severity, through protective measures advocated by the National Arborist Assn.

Examine trees for major branches growing so nearly parallel that the angle at the crotch is narrowly V-shaped. Such crotches are weak and splitting is likely to occur during wind, sleet, or snow storms. To prevent this damage one or more sections of tree screw rod should be installed at the crotch, and the branches strengthened by placement of a system of cables in the upper part of the tree.

Check shade trees for unduly long, pendulous branches; these are likely to be broken as they whip in winds of gale force. By judicious pruning these branches may be headed back without marring the beauty of the tree.

Gehl Introduces New Mowers

A 12-foot and two 6-foot rotary mowers, said to be ideal for the turfman or highway maintenance crew, have been introduced by Gehl Bros. Mfg. Co. All three feature heavy-duty, free-swinging knives of heat-treated alloy steel, and hydraulic controls, the company says.

The 6-foot models are designed as either pull-type or with three-point hitch pickup, and are equipped with two rotary blades. The 12-foot model, equipped with four blades, is available as a hydraulic model only, and has a cutting height of 1 to 14 inches. It also features a hitch in the rear which makes possible additional pulling of rollers, fertilizer spreaders, seeders, etc., it is reported.

The PTO drive features a shear pin arrangement to safely handle all shock loads. The 6-foot models can be equipped with manual lift ratchet jack.

Complete details are available from Gehl Bros. Mfg. Co., West Bend, Wis.

17th Annual California Weed Conference

Is Scheduled for Fresno, Jan. 19-21

Specialists representing university, industry, state and federal agencies, and professional associations, will participate in a broad educational program for the 17th Annual California Weed Conference, in Fresno, Calif., Jan. 19-21, at the Hacienda Motel.

No less than 28 subjects are included in the 3-day program. Range of the material to be offered includes new weed control findings as they apply to many agricultural enterprises, as well as industry sites, rights-of-way, and others.

Some of the subjects to be presented are “A Review of Basic Equipment and Application Techniques in Weed Control,” by Walter Lovely, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa. For those whose interests lean toward roadside and special weed control equipment, a talk by Jack Butler, University of Illinois, will be offered.

Other topics are “Application of Herbicides by Aircraft,” Wesley E. Yates; “Brush Control,” by Oliver Leonard; and “Surfactant Effects on Weed Control,” by D. E. Bayer. All three men are associated with the University of California, Davis.

James E. Dewlin, president of the conference has coined the slogan, “You cannot afford to miss the best in the West,” for this meeting. Dewlin is associated with Amchem Products, Inc.

An equipment show including flame and soil incorporation equipment has been arranged for the conference. More details are available from Dr. Bayer at the University of California, Davis.

Electric Starting Added to Mott Hammer Knife Mower

A 12-volt electric starting unit has been developed by the Mott Corp., and is available as optional equipment on the 1965 model 32" hammer knife mower. The unit consists of an electric starter, generator, and battery.

Mott’s mower features free-swinging blades which fold back in the face of obstruction and automatically return to cutting position when clear. This mechanism reduces tendency to throw struck objects, the company says.

The machine can be used as a renovator with addition of the proper attachment. A riding sulky, choice of wheel setups, and guards are additional optional items. It is self-propelled, has two forward speeds, and reverse. Complete details are available from the company at 500-R Shawmut Ave., La Grange, Ill.

This new heavy-duty mower manufactured by Gehl Bros. Mfg. Co., is equipped with heat-treated alloy steel blades 3/2 inch thick and 3 inches wide.