Students, Public To Enjoy Louisiana Tech’s Arboretum

Louisiana Polytechnic Institute at Ruston has a 30-acre Arboretum where more than 5000 trees of 300 species are being tested for general adaptability to northern Louisiana soils and climate.

Invaluable for research purposes and student instruction and experimentation, the Arboretum also serves as a recreational retreat and a means of learning about native exotic species for the public and collegians alike.

Research on propagation of ornamentals and commercial trees and plants is being done in greenhouse near the Arboretum. Greenhouse seedlings are then transplanted to the Arboretum, where their progress is evaluated year by year.

Tree species from each of the 50 states are reportedly growing in the Arboretum, whose flowering trees and shrubs are expected to attract a number of tourists each year.

Morishita Says Control Of Chinch Bug Is a Cinch

The southern chinch bug, first detected in Southern California less than two years ago, can be easily controlled, according to Frank S. Morishita, entomology technician at the University of California at Riverside.

A single application of Akton, Ethon, Diazinon or Dursban provides adequate control for 2 or 3 months, Morishita reports. The insecticides act against the pest’s nymph stage, which is especially active in April in the Southland, according to the researcher.

Although a one-shot treatment offers effective control, to be on the safe side apply insecticide once in April and again in August, Morishita recommends.

Grass damaged by chinch bug nymphs, which can’t be seen, turns an off-color green, he reports. Good cultural practices, along with an insecticide, help control the pest, which hits where grass is weakest.

Jersey Clean-Up Program Stresses Weed Control

Urban beautification programs being encouraged in New Jersey stress the control of noxious weeds as well as the elimination of litter.

Weed-free lots, says Archie B. Freeman of the Division of Environmental Health, New Jersey State Department of Health, are not usually subjected to dumping and littering as are weedy vacant lots.

Interest in noxious weed control programs was on the upswing in 1968, Freeman reports, with an increasing number of municipal health departments asking for state financial aid for such programs this year.

To encourage and recognize effective local weed control programs, Jersey’s Division of Environmental Health has established a special citation and awards program.

Preventing Law Suits Involving Employees’ Cars

If one of your employees, while on a company errand and driving his own car, is involved in an accident, the company can be liable, cautions an article in the Indiana Nursery News, publication of the Indiana Association of Nurseriesman, Inc.

Insurance company studies indicate that even the occasional use by a company of an employee’s car—even if the person is merely to mail a letter on his way home from work—is sufficient to establish a business relationship, with the company, consequently, considered liable in case of an accident, the article reveals.

To safeguard against such law suits, a company has three alternatives: (1) never allow an employee to use his own car for company business; (2) have your insurance company include a non-ownership contingent liability coverage in your company policy; or (3) contact the insurance firms of all employees, requesting copies of “Evidence of Insurance Certificates,” which are usually easy to obtain and give a complete picture of the employee’s car insurance coverage, the article says.