FEMA Elects Broyhill

A manufacturer of specialty spray application equipment, Roy F. Broyhill, was elected president of the Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association at the recent 21st annual convention at Denver.

Broyhill is president of The Broyhill Company, Dakota City, Neb. The Association membership manufactures "shortline" equipment and accounts for more than a third of the total farm equipment market. Currently, more than 250 of these companies from the U.S. and Canada and from 10 foreign countries hold membership in FEMA.

Minnesota '72 Team

George Lilli, Lilli Landscaping, was reelected president of the Minnesota Landscape Maintenance Association in a recent annual session. Named vice-president was Lowell Rinker, Rinker Landscaping.

Others elected for '72 are: Leonard "Andy" Anderson, Green Thumb Lawn Service, treasurer; Dwayne Albrecht, Albrecht Landscaping secretary; Mel MacFarlane, editor of publications; Earl Halvorson and Ken Simons, special consultants; and Wale Cooper, business coordinator and promotions director.

Traffic Noise Reduced Up to 50% By Tree Belts

Traffic noise can be reduced up to 50 percent with tree and shrub barriers. A similar sound level reduction is also possible with barriers around shopping centers or near heavy industry.

A University of Nebraska engineer, David I. Cook, and a U.S. Forest Service researcher, Dr. David F. Van Havebeke, have released these findings. They have further tests underway to study use of trees and shrubs in combination with solid barriers and natural land features in noise abatement.

Their studies to date include a report on five "solved" noise problems, and include the following specific recommendations:

1. Tree-shrub belts 65 to 100 feet wide are effective in reducing noise from high speed car and truck traffic in rural areas. The edge of the tree belt should be within 50 to 80 feet of the center of the nearest traffic lane, and the center tree rows should be at least 45 feet tall; (2) Tree-shrub belts 20 to 50 feet wide are effective in reducing noise from moderate-speed car traffic in urban areas. The edge of the belt should be 20 to 50 feet from nearest traffic lane. Six-to-eight-foot shrubs next to the traffic lane should be backed by rows of 15-to-30 foot trees; (3) For maximum effectiveness, tree-shrub belts should be tall, dense, and located close to the noise source, rather than close to area protected. Evergreen trees and shrubs are most effective where year-round noise screening is desired; and (4) Tree-shrub belts should be about twice as long as the distance from the noise source to the receiver.

The report, "Trees and Shrubs For Noise Abatement," is available at 50 cents from the Department of Information, East Campus, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb. 68503.