EDITOR'S NOTE: Members of the Pacific Northwest Pesticide Applicators Association have filed a petition for review of the federal government’s latest restriction on DDT — barring use on ornamentals. Jennings P. Felix & Associates has been retained. The petition was filed Sept. 30 in the name of Crop King Company, a registrant for DDT. At the annual conference in early September, unanimous approval was given for a total-member assessment to finance the necessary litigation. Now PNPA president George M. Harrison has written an open letter seeking other industry support.

TO WHOM IT MUST CONCERN:

We are members of the Pacific Northwest Pesticide Applicators, Inc., whose purpose is 1) to improve the standards of pesticide application and to bring together members of the insect, disease and weed control industries and allied horticultural and agricultural trades, 2) to promote goodwill, safe and ethical practices among the members and to create acceptance and confidence among the general public toward members of this association, 3) to promote discussion and interchange of ideas among members of all knowledge and experience that may be helpful in raising standards and maintaining these high standards of pesticide application.

We are the only regional organization of our type in the United States. That is why we feel that we must challenge the governmental decisions imposed on our industry, upon allied industries and upon the public by the almost complete banning of DDT. As you must be aware, DDT was only the beginning. Already a good portion of the other chlorinated hydrocarbons are being challenged. Aldrin, Dieldrin, Chlordane, Heptachlor, Endrin, Lindane and BHC are now being judged. Judged we fear, not by scientific evaluation, but by a pressure group composed of some self-styled ecologists, misinformed politicians, and a news media concerned mostly with headlines.

We have petitioned the Federal and State Governments for a review on the uses of DDT and to do this, have expended most of the money in our treasury. We are looking for help from you and anyone who is concerned about the damage to the agri-business that is taking place with the banning of DDT, other chlorinated hydrocarbons, and to our chemical controls in general.

CAUSE is a special movement within our organization devoted to the continuing fight against ignorance and hysteria regarding pesticides and their use.

To promote CAUSE and implement it, we have hired a law firm and scientific advisers. This understandably entails a large outlay of cash. CAUSE needs your help: 1) Join our association. 2) Help with your donations to defray expenses.

You must feel the same as we do about this problem. You can see the havoc that will be created in the ability to control disease and insects, not only in the field of agriculture, but also in health, hygienic and structural areas; act now to help us with our cause. This trend of rash restrictions must be curbed long enough for science and reasonable action to prevail.

Please fill in the mailer and send along comments or suggestions. We need the help of all concerned industry and sound thinking people.

GEORGE M. HARRISON,
President, P.N.P.A., Inc.