EPA Labels New Material

A herbicide-treated ground cover has received first clearance from the Environmental Protection Agency. The Wood Derivatives Department of Masonite Corporation, Chicago, Ill., has clearance to produce and sell the new product.

Called Fibrex Root Insulator/Weeder, the new product combines tree bark with the pre-emergence herbicide, dacthal. It is registered for use around established trees, shrubs, ornamental plantings, and flower beds. The company is recommending one 3-cubic-foot bag to cover a 24-square foot area a total of one inch deep. Company tests indicate this depth is sufficient to moderate soil in the plant root zone at a protective level for both summer and winter. (For more details, circle #724 on the reader card in the back of this issue).

Mobile Tower Unit Mounted on Track Vehicle

Mobile Aerial Towers, Inc., Fort Wayne, Ind., has mounted the first Hi-Ranger tower (a 40-foot working range unit) on an off-road track driven vehicle built by Bombardier, Ltd., Quebec, Canada, for use over rough utility rights-of-way in Michigan's upper peninsula.

The unit built in consultation with Heath International, Inc., at Richmond, Mich., a Bombardier distributor, features Mobile Aerial's normal 360 degree continuous rotation and is equipped with automatic hydraulic engine throttle control, plus ground level controls which can override the basket control. The 300-pound rated basket tested out at a minimum tipping load of 450 pounds, and at 900 pounds under structural tests.

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