Kit Aims at Cutting Weed Control Corners

How much growing energy of trees and turf and productive energy of man are being sapped by man's natural enemy, weeds?

 Probably more than one generally realizes without making a careful analysis of the weed problem. The man assigned the weed control task has to make time, effort and money his targets for cutting. And the road to accomplishing that is careful planning of weed control methods before the heavy weed season begins.

That's why Geigy Agricultural Chemicals has produced a Vegetation Management Kit, designed especially to help make the job of weed control easier.

The kit is helpful in defining objectives, arriving at solutions and evaluating results and costs of weed control. There is no charge for the kit. It utilizes a large fold-out analysis spread sheet to be filled in by the weed control specialist. This chart helps in considering such planning factors as timing, safety and budget in the control of weeds.

Identifying the problem is the first step toward effective vegetation management. Describing the weedy area and determining major annual and other weeds to be controlled follows closely in any weed control program.

The analysis form helps in considering such essential safety factors as adjacent vegetation, trees, crops and lawns and considering potential hazards of runoff into adjacent waterways and channels.

Soil conditions, texture, organic matter and permeability are other factors to be dealt with. Equipment needed and available for vegetation control also must be determined.

After these and other determinations are made, the weed expert should be at the point of deciding on the best solution to the problem.

Mechanical control is broken into considerations as to what equipment to use, where it will be feasible to use it and when it should be used.

And chemical control is examined in detail. A choice must be made as to products to use: selective, non-selective or brush. Rate of application must be determined. Deciding on the area to be covered leads to the final measurement of total investment.

For future use, the kit includes a special card for record keeping by area and a place for an evaluation of how well the objectives were realized, costs of both mechanical and chemical controls used, and, finally, a list of improvements that should be made in the next year's program. It also contains a booklet, "The Natural Enemy of Man, Weeds," that illustrates many hazards of weeds, including some seldom thought of.

The kit is available from Geigy distributors and salesmen or by writing CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Ardsley, N.Y. 10502.