mixing herbicide and chemical in a mixing tank, a metering-mixing device is located on the suction side of the pump. This measures concentrated herbicide thru a metering disc and mixes it with water drawn from overboard. The opening in the metering disc has been sized and the pump calibrated to apply a one-half percent, by weight, solution of 2,4-D amine. This is applied to water hyacinths at the rate of 2 to 4 pounds of the active ingredient per acre of vegetation.

The present status of our aquatic plant control program is as follows:

Water hyacinths have been cleared from most of the principal waterways in Louisiana. But because of reinfestation occurring from seed germination and reintroduction from inaccessible areas, retreatment two to three times each year are required.

Alligatorweed quantities have been reduced significantly during the last two years as a result of several adverse factors affecting this plant. These include: feeding damage by the alligatorweed flea beetle; a combined effect of beetle feeding and 2,4-D application; and, improved growth competition from water hyacinths.

Submersed weed problems from a number of species are increasing in many of the waters of the state as a result of increased light penetration that occurs after removal of surface vegetation. To combat this, the Corps of Engineers is funding research at the University of Southwestern Louisiana for the use of Egeria densa, and at Northwestern State University of Louisiana for a study of Cabomba.

Another facet of Corps of Engineers research in Louisiana is field testing of a laser system for control of water hyacinths. In October 1972, the Corps of Engineers waterways experiment station ran preliminary testing of the laser system in a field location in southeast Louisiana to determine any operational problems connected with the field use of the laser system. In the spring and summer of 1973, additional field treatment of water hyacinths will begin and effects of these treatments on the plants will be determined.

Distributor Advisory Board Formed By Bolens Div., FMC

A distributor advisory board which will assist in retail marketing strategy has been formed by Bolens Division of FMC Corp., Port Washington, Wis.

The distributor board, composed of eight representatives, will aid Bolens in its planning, product development, pricing and other related areas, according to Charles F. Bartlett, Bolens general sales/marketing manager.

Serving on the council are Ralph Jenkins, vice president and general manager, Stull Equipment Co., Chester, Pa.; Richard Miller, division manager, Hayward Distributing Co., Columbus, Ohio; Jack Peart, sales manager, Farmers Supply and Equipment, Brampton, Ontario, Canada; Carey Sellers, dealer sales manager, E. J. Smith & Sons, Charlotte, N.C.


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