Can you tell ryegrass from bluegrass?

(Careful.)

Application To Register Herbicide Rejected By EPA

The U.S. Air Force has been turned down by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on a request to register a herbicide for domestic use.

Herbicide Orange, a 50-50 mixture of 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D, has been in the Air Force stockpile since 1966 for use for defoliation purposes in Vietnam. The Air Force has been looking into ways to dispose of the surplus herbicide. Presently, 1.5 million gallons are stored on Johnston Island in the Pacific Ocean and the remaining 200,000 gallons are at Gulfport, Miss.

The registration submitted to EPA on Feb. 8, 1973 was to create two products from Herbicide Orange, one known as D&T Herbicide Technical (for shipment to private firms for reformulation) and the other D&T Brush Killer (a diluted product intended for direct sale to users for brush control).

EPA officials rejected the request on the basis of the presence of a highly toxic contaminant known as tetrachlorodioxin. The average dioxin concentration in the surplus herbicide is about 2 ppm, said the Air Force. But in the application to EPA, Air Force officials reported that the surplus herbicide contained only 0.5 ppm or less of dioxin.

Pending results of a public hearing on 2,4,5-T which is scheduled for April 1974, the Air Force plans to defer resubmission of additional data to substantiate its claim for registration of certain batches of Herbicide Orange.

Floridapera Grass, followed by Mr. James B. Moncrief, speaking on “Soils.” “Fertilizers” will be discussed by Dr. G. Shannon Smith and Mr. Dalton Harrison and Mr. Elmo Dowling will be speaking on “Basic Principles of Watering” and “Irrigation Equipment.”

In the afternoon, James A. Fischer of The Toro Company will discuss “Principles of Weed Control” and Dr. E. O. Burt “Weed Control with Herbicides.” Principles of Landscaping, thru "Planning and Installation" will be covered by Morgan Evans “Nematodes.” Dr. Robert Miller of Chem-Lawn and Dr. Stan Frederickson will address the session on “Diseases of Bermudas and Overseeded Grasses” and “Diseases of Other Warm Season Turfgrasses.”

Other speakers on the program include: James Taylor discussing “Principles of Weed Control” and Dr. E. O. Burt “Weed Control with Herbicides.” Principles of Landscaping, thru “Planning and Installation” was covered by Morgan Evans “Maintenance” by John Poulos. Delegates will also tour of the turf plots at the Agricultural Research Center.

Complete registration information is available from the FT-GA Executive Secretary, Ms. Nona Murphy, 909 Lee Road, Orlando, Fla. 32810.

Johnsongrass Seed Outlawed In Virginia

Dennis E. Brown, supervisor seed and sod for the Virginia Department of agriculture and commerce, has issued a reminder to the citizens of that state. Seed of Johnsongrass is a prohibited noxious weed seed.

According to Brown, it is unlawful for any person to transport, offer for transportation, sell, offer for sale, contain for sale, or expose for sale, seed consisting of or containing Johnsongrass. It is also illegal to bring seed of Johnsongrass into Virginia.

Other than the fact that it is considered noxious and unlawful, Brown did not say how to get rid of the weed in established areas.

Many eastern Atlantic states have declared Johnsongrass a noxious weed. Some states have even gone so far as to prohibit its growth. Yet, in many cases the biggest offender of the law is the state itself. Travel along a highway which crosses the low wet lands of the Delmarva and Johnsongrass abounds everywhere.

Most of this land is owned by the state or the Federal government.