MUNICIPAL ARBORIST POSITION — Immediate opening for a municipal arborist to formulate and implement a municipal shade tree program for the City of Urbana, Illinois. Urbana is a growing and active farm and university community in east-central Illinois. The municipal arborist must be skilled and trained in the science of arboriculture and have had administrative experience in a municipal shade tree program or its equivalent. Depending on qualifications and experience, the salary will be between $12,000 and $16,000. Send resume to: Richard M. Franks, Administrative Officer, City of Urbana, 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Controversial Herbicide Defended by Scientist

The American consumer would become the ultimate loser and agriculture the immediate loser if future use of 2,4,5-T is limited or banned, according to a researcher with the USDA Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES). Dr. Joseph Schuster, head of Texas A&M University's range science department and a TAES scientist, emphasized that future use of the herbicide that is widely used to control brush and weeds is in jeopardy.

"This herbicide is highly effective in controlling noxious woody plants on rangelands and forests. It has a record of relative safety covering more than two decades of use. Now, this vital product is awaiting a public hearing called by the Environmental Protection Agency. Action following the hearing remains to be determined," the scientist added.

Schuster emphasized that our country's economic strength and its ability to produce needed food, fiber, energy, timber and other resources are sometimes weakened by demands made in the name of protecting citizens and the environment.

Costs of the agricultural items as meat, wool, mohair, and forest products are likely to climb if use of 2,4,5-T is limited or banned, Schuster said.

What is happening concerning this herbicide points up the risk to other important agricultural herbicides, regardless of their safety records, Schuster continued.

"The general public needs to understand more about the vital uses of each product, their safety records, how to use the products effectively, as well as possible potential dangers. The public should be concerned with protecting the environment, but citizens should depend on scientists and others trained in the field to determine the hazards involved in using herbicides," he added.