Ohio licensing deadline set

Ohio Governor James Rhodes signed Amended House Bill 1015 on June 2, 1976; it became effective September 1, 1976. This statute establishes March 1, 1977, as the date on which all commercial applicators and operators, including many turf managers and golf course superintendents, must be licensed. The effective date for private applicators is still October 21, 1977.

The Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show, December 7-8, 1976, will offer an opportunity to obtain training and take the test necessary for licensing. The Program Committee has decided to devote the Thursday morning (Dec. 9) session specifically to pesticide applicator training. The Ohio Department of Agriculture will make the test available Thursday afternoon.

New purpleosier strain released

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service and N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation have announced selection and release of an improved variety of purpleosier willow (Salix purpurea L.) for streambank protection and repair in the Northeastern U.S. The shrub also has potential ornamental value along streams.

The new strain, named Streamco, is a vegetative increase from a foundation cutting block established in 1943 from cuttings from a naturalized stand near Montour Falls, New York. Extensive testing has shown Streamco superior to other strains and streambank species in steminess, stem presilien-

cy, suckering, and ease of establish-ment on streambanks.

Streamco is a medium to tall shrub, 10 to 20 feet high, with smooth, slender, tough, resilient branches. It is a thicket-forming shrub that suckers profusely from its roots and spreads by layering of branches. Mature height is reached in five years.

Foundation cutting stock will be maintained by the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, Big Flats, N.Y., and Saratoga Nurser-y, operated by the N.Y. State Department of Environmental Conservation, Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Detailed information on test results and applications as well as foundation stock are available to commercial nurserymen from the Soil Conservation Service Plant Materials Center, P.O. Box 295, Rt. 352, Big Flats, N.Y. 14814.

Dow to produce MCPA, MCPP acids

Dow Chemical U.S.A. announced that it will begin production this fall of MCPA and MCPP acids, raw materials for the manufacture of phenoxy herbicides.

Dow currently markets MCPA amine herbicide and will produce the acid not only for its own use but also for export. The MCPP acid, used mainly in lawn and turf herbicides, also will be produced for export.

Production capacity for the two products has been obtained through modification of existing facilities in Midland, Mich., following startup earlier this year of the company's new 2,4-D plant.
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Monsanto opens new Lasso plant

Monsanto Agricultural Products Company, manufacturer of Lasso, has announced that a new facility for production of the herbicide will be opened within two months at its Muscatine, Iowa plant. R. J. Mahoney, managing director of this division of Monsanto Company, cited rising market demand for Lasso. The new facility will increase production capacity by 40 percent.

At the same time, Monsanto announced an 8 percent price increase for its Lasso and Ramrod herbicide products, effective immediately.

Mahoney also noted that Monsanto again plans to begin shipments of Lasso and Ramrod herbicides in the fourth quarter of this year.

A.A.N. offers directories

The American Association of Nurserymen has published two directories for nurserymen. Sources of Plants & Related Supplies is an annual publication containing 7,000 listings of more than 1,600 varieties of commercially available nursery stock, related nursery supplies, retail products, specialties, and business services.

The 1976-77 edition of Sources shows type of stock i.e., liner, bare root, balled and burlapped, container, and whether packaged for retail. In the case of supplies and equipment, the directory shows whether the firm listed for a particular item is the manufacturer or distributor. The book includes a company index showing the name, address, and phone number of each firm appearing in the 1976-77 edition.

The 1976-77 Member Directory, is a 75-page book which includes the rosters of the American Association of Nurserymen, Garden Centers of America, Horticultural Research Institute, National Association of Plant Patent Owners, National Association of Seed and Feed Trade, National Association of State College Farm Schools, and the National Association of Plywood Producers.
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Grower policy manual released

The Wholesale Nursery Growers of America has released the second in a series of management publications for the wholesale grower.

Wholesale Nursery Grower Policy Manual: A Preparation Guide presents a range of policy options drawn from manuals used successfully by nurseries nationwide from which growers can develop their own manuals.

The guide covers such subjects as working hours, pay periods, wage and salary advances, inclement weather policy, profit sharing, retirement and savings plans, safety regulations, and much more. Copies are available from Wholesale Nursery Growers of America, 230 Southern Building, Washington, D.C. 20005.

The first volume in the series, entitled A Company Conversation, is a how-to guide on preparing an employee newsletter; it is available from WNGA at $2 per copy.