REVEGETATION
Putting the Puzzle Back Together
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- Originators of the first Automatic Controller for irrigation systems
- Pioneers in Electric and Hydraulic Brass Valves
- Manufacturers of quality, reliable brass Impact and Spray-head Sprinklers

The first Automatic Controller

MOODY SPRINKLER CO., INC.  3020 Pullman Street, Costa Mesa, California 92627
Revegetation: Putting the Puzzle Back Together

As energy surpasses natural landscape in national importance, the demand for revegetation and reclamation services will skyrocket. There is a place for the landscape contractor in this development.

Fungus Blamed for Oak Decline in South

A hard-to-detect fungus disease is slowly killing oaks and other tree varieties in the South. A Texas researcher claims to have found a solution through tests on the Texas A&M campus.

Preventing Injury to Frosted Turf

Foot and vehicle traffic on golf courses, athletic fields, and other turf should be restricted during frost conditions to prevent damage.

Products ........................................ 34
Classifieds ...................................... 36
Advertising Index ............................... 36
Meeting Dates ................................... 37
Nurserymen Create National Marketing Plan

Take a guess. What percentage of homeowners or businesses realize the value of a properly landscaped lot? My guess is 20 percent or less. Out of those who do realize it, only a few actually make the investment in ornamentals, trees, and other landscaping devices to achieve an attractive result.

Market penetration appears fairly shallow wouldn’t you say?

Something is needed to educate all these potential customers to the value of landscaping, something on a national scale and at a modest cost to industry members who would benefit tremendously by it. Just look at the results a few large lawn service companies obtained through national advertising.

Why hasn’t this happened for nursery products? Primarily because we lack the very large, national companies present in lawn service. We thus lack the national advertising and image building programs necessary to encourage homeowner and business investment in proper landscaping.

The American Association of Nurserymen, Inc., is going to do something about it. It has come up with a plan to provide the national exposure needed, plus the market research to effectively direct promotion.

The plan takes form under the name Nursery Marketing Council. A voluntary national marketing program, NMC will receive its financial support from contributions based upon ¼ percent of plant material invoices of participating wholesalers and from contributions by their customers.

Under the management of the American Association of Nurserymen, NMC will supply the nursery industry with professional market research and analysis, to be followed by an advertising and public relations program to increase the sale of plant material and related products.

The association will direct NMC’s programs to benefit not only the nursery industry, but also all businesses that serve to support and enhance nursery products.

We think it is a very worthwhile cause. We also believe it presents an opportunity for landscapers to piggyback on national promotion with local advertising of their own.

NMC is just beginning its research work. Promotion will not begin likely until the end of next year or possibly 1979. We urge you to support it through your nursery wholesaler and to prepare a local marketing plan of your own to go into effect at the same time NMC’s promotion goes national.

Bruce F. Shank

If you’re into exporting, or about to take the plunge, this could be your market research department.

It's your guide to one of the most useful libraries in the world. And it's issued by the U.S. Commerce Department on a monthly basis. Inside, you'll find a list of reports containing a wealth of information for the overseas marketer. Spot news; timely surveys of industrial, commodity, commercial and economic conditions in more than 100 countries; in-depth market research performed by the Commerce Department or private research firms overseas; as well as reports sent to Washington by U.S. Foreign Service Officers. For a free sample, write Secretary of Commerce, U.S. Department of Commerce, BIC-10B, Washington, D.C. 20230.

Ad Council A Public Service of This Magazine & The Advertising Council
If your equipment is Kohler powered, you know what we mean by "Beautiful."

You judge the beauty of your equipment in terms of long life, rugged dependability and strong factory service support.

It's the kind of beauty that lasts. Not the shiny paint and flashy chrome kind of beauty, but the kind of beauty that comes with years of dependable performance.

Dependable performance that adds value to your equipment. Value you can measure in hours, days, weeks and years on the job.

This is just one of the many beautiful examples that will convince you to specify Kohler cast iron 4-cycle engines (4 to 23 h.p.) on your equipment.

If you'd like more information on Kohler's Cast Iron beauties, write:

ENGINE DIVISION
KOHLER CO. KOHLER, WISCONSIN 53044
Letters

Directory Corrections

A number of errors slipped through our hands and into the September Manager's Guide to Chemicals and Supplies. Please note the changes in your directory.

Great Lakes Biochemical Co., Inc.
We would appreciate your notifying your readers that Great Lakes Biochemical Co., Inc. of 6120 West Douglas Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53218 are manufacturers of liquid Algimycin® PLL-C and Slow Release Algimycin® PLL-C (a tablet) and than information about these products can be obtained by writing to us.

Agronomy Manufacturing Co.

It has come to our attention that in your September issue of Weeds Trees & Turf, on page 3 D, you have our address as Box 9306, 2487 Pennsylvania St., Memphis, Tn. 38109. (901/774-4370)

Drexel Chemical Co.

In the September issue The Ansl Company is still listed as a producer of herbicides and growth retardants.

Earlier this year Drexel Chemical acquired the non-arsenical agricultural products (about 20 labels) from The Ansl Company. Included in the list was the growth retardant, "RETARD". Ansl discontinued production and sale of their agricultural product line the end of 1976 although they are still negotiating the sale of their brand names and labels for the arsenic herbicides.

We would appreciate being listed in future guides as the producer of growth retardant, "RETARD". Our address is Box 9306, 2487 Pennsylvania St., Memphis, Tn. 38109. (901/774-4370)

Royer Foundry & Machine Co.

On page 23-D, of your September issue, you list Royer Foundry & Machine Co. as a manufacturer of Brush Cutters, Chippers, Shredders and Woodsman Land Clearing Machines. On page 39-D, under the heading of Shredders, Royer isn't listed. Please, before using any such listings again, make the correction required. Shredders are the major products of Royer and it's downright embarrassing to see that they aren't even listed as manufacturers in WEEDS, TREES AND TURF.

Ditch Witch Equipment Co.

Ditch Witch is located in Perry, Oklahoma, not Perry, Ohio, as it was listed in your directory.
It's not just the W.I.N. you use, it's how you say the name PAR EX

All water insoluble nitrogen (W.I.N.) fertilizers are not alike. Some are activated by soil bacteria. Others by temperature. But IBDU® (31-0-0) and PAR EX fertilizer mixes with IBDU are activated very slowly by soil moisture. Nitrogen is released at a controlled, even rate that can't be hurried by high temperatures or excessive moisture.

It's important on high maintenance turfgrass to control the level of nitrogen feeding. Excessive bursts of nitrogen can be a greater problem than a nitrogen deficiency.

Custom formulated to exacting specifications of the professional turfgrass manager, IBDU and PAR EX fertilizer mixes with IBDU provide a controlled level of nitrogen nutrition that stimulates root growth, shoot density, rich green color and improves overall plant hardiness. Let water insoluble IBDU (31-0-0) and PAR EX fertilizer mixes with IBDU perform for your turf. After all, performance is the name of the game.
Build your reputation for beautiful turf – even under low maintenance...

PLANT

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Kentucky Bluegrass

A newcomer to the ranks of low maintenance Kentucky bluegrasses...one we're glad to stake our reputation on.

And you will, too. Because Birka has consistently proven its ability to maintain attractive appearance under low maintenance programs throughout eight years of testing at research stations in the U.S. and Canada.

If mildew or other common turfgrass diseases are a problem in your turf areas, Birka is a wise choice. It's ideal for golf courses, home lawns, athletic fields, any area which demands a combination of hardiness and good looks.

You won't have to pamper Birka. Yet if you do, it will reward you with even better performance. Birka greens up early in the spring and keeps its dark green color late into fall. Its narrow leaves, excellent creeping ability and dense growth provide a beautiful turf even under heavy use.

Birka is a turfgrass that can build your reputation.

It's building ours!

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   □ a. Highway
   □ b. Utility
   □ c. Railroad

2. Chemical Applications (vegetation and structural)
   □ a. Commercial/Industrial ground applicators
   □ b. Aerial Applicators

3. Extension Services; Forestry; Federal and State Regulatory Agencies

4. Parks and Grounds Maintenance — Federal, State, Municipal (does not include Forestry)

5. Golf Courses
6. Cemeteries
7. Industrial Parks
8. Shopping Centers
9. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Schools, Colleges and Universities (Grounds maintenance personnel only)
10. Athletic Fields
11. Race Tracks
12. Airports
13. Military Installations
14. Grounds or Landscape personnel in businesses not specified above
15. Mine Field Reclamation
16. Chemical lawn care companies
17. Landscape contractors
18. Landscape architects
19. Sod Growers
20. Seed Growers
21. Tree Service Companies/Arborists
22. Wholesale nurseries/Tree Farms
23. Irrigation and Water Drilling Contractors/Consultants
24. Chemical Dealers/Distributors
25. Equipment Dealers/Distributors
26. Other (Specify) ________
As predicted, cadmium is about to become the first naturally occurring substance subject to a notice of rebuttable presumption against registration (RPAR). The EPA's position document points to findings by the Carcinogen Assessment Group (CAG) that: (1) the number of tumors at sites removed from the site of injection increased significantly in animals injected with cadmium; (2) significant increases in prostate cancer were found in persons occupationally exposed to cadmium; and (3) chronic oral studies, reported as negative by their authors, must be considered inconclusive because of histopathological deficiencies. Cadmium triggers not only the oncogenic and mutagenic criteria for an RPAR but also can be considered to cause a human risk because of its teratogenic and fetotoxic effects, according to the document.

Contingency approval has been given to the Illinois pesticide applicator certification plan. The Department of Agriculture was noted as the State lead agency in administering the plan. An estimated 2,200 commercial applicators and 80,000 private applicators will need certification.

Amendments to the Montana plan were also published. They included adding an option which allows qualification of private applicators by completion of an approved training course and stating more clearly the responsibilities and duties of the Montana Department of Agriculture when conducting an inspection.

The Missouri applicator certification plan has been granted an extension of contingency approval until January 10, 1978.

A summary of the Alabama plan estimated 16,000 private and 1,000 commercial applicators will need to be certified. The plan calls for commercial applicators to pass a written exam and notes that private applicators must complete necessary paper work, discuss use of the pesticide with the County Extension Agent. The agent then certifies the form and forwards it to the Department of Agriculture where the decision is made whether to issue a restricted use pesticide use permit.

Wisconsin's plan offers three options for private applicator certification, including: (1) successful completion of a Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Service training session; (2) passage of written exam; and (3) non-reader certification by oral evaluation. The plan estimates 7,000 commercial and 40-80,000 private applicators will need certification.
Gypsy moth damage doubled in 1977

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that tree defoliation by gypsy moth caterpillars in eight northeastern states totalled 1.6 million acres in 1977. This is nearly double the damage caused by the pests last year.

Pennsylvania forests bore the brunt of the infestation, as they have for the past several years. Nearly 1.3 million wooded acres in that state were hit. Pike County alone suffered damage on 264,284 acres.

Other states affected were Massachusetts with 133,081 defoliated acres; New York with 91,313; New Jersey with 39,185; Vermont with 33,435; and Maine with 2,010. New Hampshire and Rhode Island got off lightly by comparison. A total of only 445 acres were affected in those two states. Last year the caterpillars attacked over 7,580 acres in Rhode Island alone.

The excessive damage this year is believed to have resulted from conditions favorable to gypsy moth survival, according to USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The potential exists for a similar situation in 1978. APHIS officials say the pests have not yet reached their peak strength. The infamous “Winter of ’77” may have killed off many beneficial parasites, leaving the gypsy moth virtually unscathed.

APHIS officials say the moths are moving in a southwesterly direction, along the Appalachian Mountains. Oak trees, a favorite gypsy moth host, are abundant along this range.

Bogue cart production temporarily halted

Bogue Electric Manufacturing has called a hiatus of at least three months in the production of their four-wheel electric golf cars, according to Anthony Sabbatino, executive vice president. The company has been awarded a $22.6 million government contract which will require total utilization of its plant in Patterson, N.J.

The golf car will be back in production in a separate plant by January 1, 1978. Considerable research and development will be on-going during the intermediate time to affect improvements in design, style and operating features, added Sabbatino.

LCC is third group to affiliate with ALCA

The Landscape Contractors of Colorado have established formal affiliation with the national Associated Landscape Contractors of America, following approval actions by the Boards of Directors of both organizations. LCC, headquartered in Denver, becomes the third state group to be affiliated with ALCA as a Sponsoring Member. The California and Illinois Landscape Contractors Associations are the other two.

The Sponsoring Membership category is the term for organizational membership in ALCA and is the mechanism by which state or regional groups can affiliate with the national organization.

Under the arrangement, ALCA publications will be sent to LCC for reproduction and distribution to LCC members. LCC members will also be able to attend ALCA meetings and seminars at the member rates and will be able to purchase additional copies of ALCA publications at the member price.

New PGA headquarters complex to be built

A proposed new home for the Professional Golfers' Association is to be developed in northwest Palm Beach County, Florida, according to a recent announcement made by President Don Padgett and Palm Beach County developer E. Lloyd Ecclestone, Jr.

The PGA will retain five acres of a 625-acre tract upon which it will build its headquarters office building. The remainder will be leased to Ecclestone, who will build three golf courses, the clubhouse, a Hall of Fame, a library and museum and an educational facility. Development costs for the project are estimated at $15 million.

Chevron begins Unipel fertilizer production

Chevron Chemical Company has begun production at its new $9 million ORTHO complex fertilizer plant in Kennewick, Washington. The plant is expected to produce some 190,000 tons of Unipel fertilizer pellets annually.

The Unipel pellets contain various combinations of nitrogen, phosphate and potash and are manufactured to suit various soil and crop requirements. Each pellet is produced to operate with maximum efficiency in mechanized fertilizing equipment. The precise ingredient composition and uniform sizing will help growers achieve maximum benefit and cost control.

The plant itself is as high as a 10-story building and occupies more than 20,000 square feet. Chevron is also planning to begin production at newly constructed nitric acid and ammonium nitrate plants at Kennewick this month.

News continues on page 28
More than 120 years of manufacturing experience goes into every Mitts & Merrill Brush Chipper

Double-edged knives staggered around the large 16-in. diameter solid steel rotor provide smooth, efficient cutting without an external flywheel. Easily accessible.

Telescoping discharge chute rotates to give maximum flexibility to fill dump boxes. An adjustable bonnet at end of the chute controls direction of discharge.

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For 30 years Mitts & Merrill Brush Chippers have been considered the standard of the industry by many buyers. That's because, over 120 years of engineering and manufacturing experience goes into each unit. This reputation for excellence has won for our Brush Chippers international recognition . . . has helped us maintain and build our market position. And, over the years, we have modified and improved our chippers. Some of our design features and available options are given below.

For further information on the various models of M&M Brush Chippers, write: Mitts & Merrill, Inc., 109 McCoskry, Saginaw, MI 48601 or Phone 517-752-6191.

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- Safety-lock pin helps prevent the accidental throw-out of knives not properly tightened.
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- Tubular steel frame and torsion spring axle assure excellent roadability . . . rigidity.
- Integral rotor blower forces chips through discharge chute.

Optional features . . .


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Jacobsen Manufacturing has named Roger J. Thomas as vice president, International Sales Operations for the Turf Products Division. The promotion comes as part of the Division's Forward Business Plan to increase the international segment of their turf business. Thomas will take charge of developing worldwide sales distribution and coordinating international product planning, service, training, advertising and engineering. He began with Jacobsen in 1947.

Gary Foote has joined Jacobsen as a field sales representative for the Turf Products Division. Based in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., he will serve Jacobsen's Southeast region, which includes North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Jeffrey D. Pinnow has been appointed General Parts Marketing Manager of Jacobsen's Parts Division. He will have overall responsibility for the development and implementation of parts marketing activity, merchandising, and sales cataloging, as well as planning strategies to satisfy the current and future needs of Jacobsen Parts Division and its customers.

Neil Strong has been promoted to manager, Sales Service of the Logistics Department for CIBA-Geigy. He joined CIBA-Geigy as a sales representative in 1970 and was promoted to sales service coordinator in 1973.

The Davey Tree Expert Company has named George M. Gaumer as assistant advertising manager. He will be responsible for Davey Tree's national Yellow Page listings and direct mail advertising program. He will also work in developing national and local media advertising and marketing research studies.

Mario D. Federico, president of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company has been appointed to the board of directors of the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation. He expressed deep interest in the goals of the foundation, particularly the aspect of problem solving through grants to exceptional graduate students working for their advanced degrees at turf-oriented universities. Other recent appointments to the board are John J. Weinberg of South Africa and J. Nakatsukasa of Tokyo, Japan. Weinberg deals in building and hardware and in professional turfgrass machinery. Nakatsukasa is managing director of the Mikuni Shoko Co. Ltd. His firm represents several well-known American and U.K. firms which deal in irrigation and turfgrass equipment.

Lofts Pedigreed Seed has announced the appointment of Richard H. Hurley as Director of Research and Development. He will be in charge of Lofts research and development of all new varieties and will be Lofts' contact with universities. He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Science Society of America, the Weed Science Society of America, and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, as well as many other organizations.

Kitten & Bear Chemicals, St. Louis pesticide formulator, has announced the company's new marketing organization. Area sales representatives are: Warren Rickards, New England; Jim Harris, Carolinas, Georgia, Florida; David Cline, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee; Kerry Rothstein, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, W. Virginia, Kentucky; Bern Karsch, New York, New Jersey; Randy Butcher, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma; John Martin, Texas; David Lester, California, Arizona, Nevada; and Ray Schroeder, Special Pest Control Industry Representative.

John R. Froines is the new director of OSHA's office of Toxic Substances. As the first director of this office, Dr. Froines has primary responsibility for assuring that applicable standards are developed to protect workers against toxic substances found in the workplace. Prior to this appointment, he was head of the Vermont Health Department's Division of Occupation Health, and has lectured extensively on epidemiology and occupational health.

Dick Gray has been promoted to executive technical representative of the ProTurf Division of O. M. Scott & Sons. He has been a ProTurf technical representative for four years and handles sales in central Indiana. Prior to joining ProTurf, Gray was the superintendent at Crooked Stick Country Club in Carmel, Indiana.

PMC Corporation's Agricultural Chemical Group has announced a number of changes within the northeast department. James J. Rife has been named area manager for Indiana and Michigan. Steve M. Barry has joined the department as a sales representative in Virginia, and Neil DeStefano will assume sales responsibilities for the eastern part of New York. FMC is headquartered in Chicago.
All the features. Without the fat. The Yanmar over-achievers.

Yanmar's 13, 15, 24, and 33 HP compact tractors. Built to deliver more than their share of performance. Because their power is diesel power. Pound for pound, gallon for gallon, the most economical, hard-working, long-lasting and easy-to-maintain engines going. Even more so because they're from Yanmar. The world's largest producer of small diesels. Other features? You name it. Built-in. And optional. To make a Yanmar the right tractor for the job at hand. To pull or power any implement required. With the speed and efficiency you'd expect to get only from larger tractors. Features without fat. It means big performance in compact tractors. Which makes a lot of sense these days. Any wonder we call them the over-achievers?
REVEGETATION
Putting the Puzzle Back Together
Revegetation is more than putting the pieces of a puzzle back together. In the case of strip mining, land can rarely be restored to its original state. It is a compromise based on the extreme need for energy in the United States today.

Reclamation of surface mined land is not new, but the number of acres entailed, their location, and how the spoils affect revegetation efforts are.

In North Dakota an estimated 20,000 acres per year will be disturbed by surface mining. It is predicted that more than a tenth of western North Dakota will be mined. Most of this land (50-60 percent) is now used as range for cattle, vegetation consisting primarily of cool and warm season grasses.

The states of Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico and North Dakota have become the preferred areas for strip mining because coal is in thick veins not far from the surface, the coal is relatively low in sulfur, there are fewer natural and man-made obstacles, and fewer people are affected. Data from the Department of Interior show a savings of 30-50 percent over eastern strip mining.

These western states have written laws to prevent abuse of natural resources by mining companies. Regulations in general require that the productivity of the land be restored, the contour of the land be preserved, and erosion and water pollution avoided. It is not known at this time whether these requirements can be met. Research has been taking place since 1970 to determine this.

Perhaps most perplexing at this point is the difference how mine spoils respond to revegetation efforts in the west as opposed to in the Appalachians and the midwest. The extra pressure from regulations is forcing mining companies to develop permanent, not just temporary, measures for revegetation.

The grasses present in the west apparently cannot get reestablished by mere chemical alteration of spoils. Research is showing that a layer of soil must be placed over the spoils to provide adequate water absorption (infiltration), prevent salty spoils from sealing out moisture, and to avoid runoff problems. Limited rainfall, roughly 15 to 20 inches per year, with little in summer months, may create the need for irrigation for the first two to five years after reseeding.

Surface soil must be stockpiled during mining operations and replaced over spoils after the coal is removed. Continuous fertilization is required due to a general lack of phosphorus and nitrogen in range soil. In the east, woody material cleared during mining could be chipped into a suitable mulch. Very little woody material is available in the west and soil is the only mulch available.

Researchers have been experimenting with different depths of soil over spoils. Optimum depth seems to be in the neighborhood of 30 inches. However, with time the high salt content of the spoils appears to migrate upward into the soil layer making water uptake by roots difficult.

Gypsum has been mixed with both spoils and soil to reduce the sodium content. Leaching the sodium out by natural rainfall is unlikely and leaching by irrigation is expensive.

Reclamation and revegetation consequently have become major cost considerations of mining firms in the west. Years of time and hundreds of dollars per acre are required to do the job properly.

History of U.S. Revegetation Efforts

The Forest Service was the first Federal agency to perform research into reclamation of surface-mined land in the 30s. Initial research centered around reforestation of spoils in southeastern Ohio. Most revegetation theories today stem from this research.

Following World War II surface mining increased in the midwest. It was then discovered that similar revegetation techniques could not be applied with consistent results throughout the U.S. Regional differences in weather, topography, geology, geography, and laws made alterations necessary.

Appalachian mining efforts brought new insight into erosion and runoff. Spoils there tended to be more acid than in the midwest.

In the 60s interest grew in the west toward surface mining. Today surface mining of coal in western states doubles nearly every year. Whereas in 1947 only ten percent of coal mined came from surface mines, today the figure approaches 50 percent. Furthermore, the National Energy Program, still under consideration in Congress, calls for an additional one billion tons of coal production per year by 1985.

Certainly surface mining will play a greater and greater role in energy production in the near future.

Revegetation Technology

Research on revegetation in western states has centered around reclaiming spoils, thickness of soil above spoils, moisture holding characteristics, soil chemistry and fertility, and irrigation.

The original hope of mining companies was that spoils could be restored by amendments, leaching, and fertilizer. Gypsum was the primary amendment tested. Gypsum (calcium sulfate) was applied at 20 tons per acre to replace exchangeable sodium with calcium. High exchangeable sodium reduces the infiltration rate of spoils. The effect of high exchangeable sodium is lessened in sandy soil or soil with high organic matter content. Results showed that gypsum treatment reduced the exchangeable sodium content 30-50 percent in the top foot of spoils after three years.

Leaching in the west is difficult due to a lack of rainfall. Leaching is used to reduce the content of soluble salts and exchangeable sodium in the root zone. Soluble salts increase the osmotic potential of the soil layer making it more difficult for the plant to extract moisture from the soil.

Almost all spoils in the west lack adequate phosphorus and nitrogen. Potassium and minor element levels appear to be sufficient. Annual fertilization of nitrogen and phosphorus is necessary to revegetate most western mine areas.

Despite all their efforts, researchers found the sodium problem too great for gypsum to correct. The only effective way they found to correct the problem was to use more soluble calcium salts such as calcium chloride and calcium nitrate. However, these solutions require leaching out and are too expensive for large scale use. Costs for calcium chloride treatment would run $1,300 per foot per acre.
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Consequently, tests have shown that chemical reclamation of strip mine spoils is not practical in large scale. A more practical method of reclamation is to apply a layer of soil over the spoils.

The Northern Great Plains Research Center, Mandan, ND, is the source of most information regarding soil thickness over spoils. Dramatic improvements in erosion control, infiltration, and plant growth have been found with as little as two inches of topsoil over spoils. Mixing topsoil with the top few inches of spoils proved less effective.

The center tested thicknesses of soil over spoils from 2-100 inches. Results show a topsoil depth of 8 inches, and a total soil depth of 28 inches, to provide the most efficient improvement. This combination provided the maximum yield per acre of spring wheat. Mixing the topsoil into the subsoil considerably reduced the benefit of the topsoil.

Research has not conclusively determined the relationship between soil thickness and the upward migration of sodium into the soil layer. Two-year studies have shown that sodium does migrate upward but that this migration is largely restricted to the first four inches above spoils.

Moisture retention and erosion are directly related. The more moisture taken into the soil the less there is to erode poorly compacted soil or spoils. Western precipitation characteristics cause a new twist to infiltration and erosion problems. Most of the approximately 15 to 20 inches of precipitation falls during the growing season when temperatures are high and evaporation potential is highest. Most of this rain takes place during storms, each storm producing less than 1/2-inch of rain in a 24-hour period. Consequently, very little moisture is retained in the root zone between rainfalls. Vegetation can get established on undisturbed land during normal rainfall conditions. In periods of less than normal precipitation new seedlings often suffer water stress and fail. Also, precipitation is insufficient to leach sodium, salts, and other undesirable chemicals beneath the root zone.

Irrigation is a way to overcome a number of moisture problems of mine spoils. However, researchers have discovered that changes from standard agricultural irrigation practices are needed. Too much water can have the same effect as too little. A change from normal precipitation patterns can also influence the types of vegetation established. If irrigation is used only to establish normal range vegetation and then stopped, then it must be used in such a way to insure standard moisture conditions and not to create artificial ones.
In irrigation for establishment less water is needed therefore water of lower quality can be used. A number of universities are studying the use of effluent for irrigation on spoils.

Conclusion

The demand for coal for energy is enormous. The desire to mine coal in western states is just as great. However, most of the research needed to guarantee the proper re-establishment of natural vegetation is incomplete. Political and economic pressure could easily overpower the need for delay for more complete data. State laws set standards which aren't clearly understood, such as the degree of restoration of vegetation or for what period of time. The United States Department of Agriculture is performing most of the research with cooperation from mining companies.

Irrigation studies are incomplete, sodium uptake studies are incomplete, soil thickness studies are incomplete, as are other studies. It almost seems that the research has raised more questions than it has answered.

Any national policy for expansion of coal production must also include provisions for support of research to answer important questions as soon as possible. An energy program must not neglect the residual effects of production. Bruce F. Shank, Editor.
Southern Oak Wilt Linked to Fungus

by Jim Crowley

A microscopic fungus is slowly destroying oaks in southern United States. Often confused with natural decline, the fungus causes a slow thinning and eventual death of oaks and other tree varieties.

Texas A&M University Professor of Plant Sciences, Dr. Eugene Van Arsdale, is experimenting with a systemic fungicide to stop oak decline on the university campus. The fungus, Cephalosporium, can kill a full-grown tree within 10 to 20 years.

The fungus also causes persimmon wilt and has infected varieties of elm, soapberry, pecan, hackberry, and mulberry. Because the fungus thrives in the summer heat of the South, oak decline is more serious in the southern United States than the faster killing oak-wilt fungus, which has trouble surviving the heat.

The wilt is difficult for the layman to spot, but trained personnel can get a general idea of a tree’s condition by observing. Oak decline is usually suspected when there is a thinning of the oak’s crown. As the fungus grows, the vessels are blocked preventing water transport within the tree. The leaves die back leaving exposed limbs in the crown. This “fingering” of the crown is often the first and only visual symptom of oak decline. Occasionally, the leaves of an infected tree are smaller than normal leaves.

The only positive identification of...
the fungus is its cultivation in the laboratory from a wood sample.

The prognosis is usually death of the tree within 20 years.

"There's no good answer concerning the time before an infected tree will die. Often it's only four years for a fungi-infected sycamore, while some oaks may survive for 20 years. Sometimes the host can hold out, while nearby oaks may die rapidly," said Van Arsdel. "Usually the tree will die so slowly that most people don't notice it. They think it's natural."

The disease is as difficult to control as it is to diagnose. Because the fungus spreads throughout the tree one must use systemic fungicides to treat the disease.

Since the fungus can travel from one tree to another through the often-present common root networks that are under stands of oak, the disease can rapidly spread from one tree to others in the same area. Two methods are suggested by Van Arsdel to slow or eliminate the disease's spread. First, when planting a

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NOVEMBER 1977/WEEDS TREES & TURF 19
Oak Wilt

large number of trees, such as a golf course, mix species of trees. This diminishes the chance of natural root grafting and the spread of the disease. Second, when treating an individual tree, cut the root grafts by ditching. This separates the infected tree from the nearby uninfected trees.

Since July 1970, Van Arsdel has been treating many of the Texas A&M campus oaks for oak decline. Treatment has been centered around the experimental application of two benzimidazole compounds to the base and foliage of the infected trees. This research has shown that a systemic fungicide, benomyl, is relatively effective against the fungus.

Currently, the use of benomyl in a special penetrating agent (DMF) to treat fungal oak decline has not been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) although the chemical has been approved for treating other tree diseases. The EPA has yet to allow the listing of benomyl in DMF as an effective treatment, but Van Arsdel is slowly working toward full EPA acceptance. He hopes for at least a listing of the benomyl in the penetrating agent as an approved treatment in the near future.

The Texas A&M researcher has established through clinical tests...
that the benomyl-DMF combination has a very low toxicity. In fact, much lower than many currently used insecticides. But he believes the reason for slow acceptance is connected to the possibility that an applicator would mix a highly toxic insecticide, such as parathion, with the benomyl-DMF combo. Since the fungicide treatment requires the penetrating agent, any contact with the operator would produce poisoning and possibly death if a toxic insecticide were mixed in. Benomyl and the penetrating agent alone are relatively safe to use, according to Van Arsdel.

Using the campus trees, Van Arsdel has established two methods of treatment for diseased trees. The drenching of the tree base every few years produces good results. The other method of treatment is the application of a foliage spray to the tree’s crown. While the foliage spray will not cause a complete remission it does slow the progress of the disease. A combination of both treatments provides the best results. Van Arsdel judges the success of his

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Oak Wilt

treatments by the increased leaf size the following spring. The increase in leaf size is the first sign of successful treatment. The treatments are applied during the summer which has been found the ideal time to apply the systemic fungicides.

Approximately 200 oaks are being treated and observed on the College Station campus. Many of the trees display small signs stapled to their bases indicating the research project. Van Arsdel placed the signs to discourage any human-caused damage to the trees. Unfortunately the past few years have seen a large number of construction programs on the campus. While most trees survived the contractor damage, several could not be saved.

These construction-damaged trees display another form of decline. Damage caused by contractors cutting the roots produce a similar appearance in the crown growth and adds to the chance of fungal infection. Van Arsdel has discovered that several varieties of wood-boring insects attack the damaged parts of the tree. These insects then infect the tree with the Cephalosporium fungus which they serve as vectors.

"A live oak is mainly of value as an ornamental tree and I think that's actually a much higher value than lumber because the oak is in someone's front yard who loves it," said Van Arsdel, referring to the economic and sentimental damage caused by oak decline. While a 24-inch diameter oak may be worth several thousand dollars, a tree's beauty and grandeur are priceless.

Crosssection of tree shows streaks caused by fungus (heavy arrows). Light arrows indicate streaks caused by ambrosia beetle.
“ECONOMY THRU IDEAS” is the theme for the premier turfgrass industry conference and show, sponsored by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. As the only national turfgrass conference and show, this is a once-a-year opportunity for turfgrass managers, educators and industry representatives to learn about and to share the latest ideas and developments in turfgrass management.

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Brochures and registration materials for GCSAA's 49th International Turfgrass Conference and Show will be mailed to all GCSAA members October 1. Others may use the coupon below to request the materials.

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(Companies check here for exhibitor information)

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Preventing Injury to Frosted or Frozen Turf

by John F. Shoulders
Extension Specialist, Turf
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Blacksburg, Va.

Each fall turf superintendents are faced with the problem of how to protect fine turf areas such as putting greens, athletic fields, fairways and lawns from frost injury. Later in the season the problem expands to include the management of turf areas while they are frozen and also during freezing and thawing.

Any traffic on turf while frost is present results in injury to the turf. For example, walking across a frosty putting green results in the death of the grass blades in the footprints. The same is true for a vehicle driven over frosted turf. There is usually little or no damage to the crown or roots.

The preferred management practice for frosted turf areas is to prevent all traffic until the frost has melted.

Turning to the management of freezing, frozen or thawing turf areas, it is helpful to keep in mind that the most severe damage from traffic occurs during the freezing and thawing processes. Traffic of any kind should be prevented while either of these processes are taking place. Limited traffic may be permitted under certain conditions when the ground is frozen solid.

While the turf and soil are in the process of freezing, cells are particularly vulnerable to damage from traffic. Areas of turf that would otherwise remain alive have frequently been killed by traffic during the freezing process.

Bentgrass and other species of cool season turf are also vulnerable to injury from traffic during the thawing process. The most Damage caused by foot traffic across a partially frozen lawn. (Photo courtesy Davey Lawnscape)
If you leave footprints on turf, further thawing is needed.

vulnerable time is when the surface of the green has thawed but the soil just underneath the surface of the green remains frozen. This is true from the time the surface of the green begins to thaw and may remain true until the green has thawed to a depth of perhaps 2 to 3 inches. During this period, roots are easily injured by traffic. Furthermore, the frozen portion of the green prevents the internal drainage of moisture, resulting in a condition where the green is too wet for play.

After the turf has frozen solid and enough time has elapsed for the frost and ice to disappear from the surface of the blades and from the cells within the blades, little damage occurs from play so long as the area remains firmly frozen and traffic is limited to individuals walking, running, etc. Golf cars and heavier vehicles should not be permitted on high priority turf areas. While light play can be permitted under these conditions, heavy traffic may result in injury to the blades by abrasive action resulting from crushing the turf between the foot and the firmly frozen surface.

The most pressure to open golf courses and playgrounds usually occurs when the weather moderates following a cold spell and players want to get on the turf before the soil has had an opportunity to thaw deep enough to avoid injury to the turf. Good judgement dictates that the golf courses, playgrounds and similar turf areas should be opened as early as possible under these conditions, but not so soon that the turf is injured. A rule of thumb to consider under these conditions is to permit play if the soil has thawed and dried to the point that the surface of the turf is firm enough to support a person's weight without leaving footprints as he walks across it. When you feel your foot sinking into the soft upper portion of the turf, play should be avoided.

Reprinted from the October 1977 issue of Tech Turf Topics, a publication of VPI and the Cooperative Extension Service.

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CLCA seeks help with educational programs

The Education Coordination Committee of the California Landscape Contractors Association is seeking greater participation from other segments of the horticulture industry to help with on-going programs and provide fresh ideas for new programs.

The committee, formed five years ago by its chairman, Corte Madera landscape contractor Frank Peccorini, has included nurserymen, golf course superintendents, flower growers, maintenance contractors and suppliers and educators for the purpose of organizing and coordinating community college ornamental horticultural programs.

The committee has been successful in organizing better student programs, according to Peccorini. A system of accreditation of college programs has also been developed with several colleges accredited and more requests pending.

Peccorini indicated that the committee also concerns itself with the continuing education of industry people through statewide seminars. The committee was also responsible for obtaining state funding for a free industry placement bureau, currently located at Butte College.

Tree course offered in California

A course in small tree farm management is being offered as part of the continuing education program of University Extension, University of California. Peter C. Passof, forest advisor, Mendocino Cooperative Extension, Ukiah, will be conducting the course. It will focus on the more important elements of small tree farm management for those who are unfamiliar with basic forestry principles.

The course covers growth; practical ecology; silviculture; protection against forest pests; forest economics and marketing opportunities; regulations; future forestry practices, and multiple-use management concepts. Participants will learn how to get professional forestry assistance from the public and private sectors, and how to increase revenues by marketing a wide range of forest products.

Enrollment is requested by February 17. For more information contact Catherine Baker in the News Service Department, University Extension, University of California, Davis, Calif., 95616.
As you approach 1978, it's time to reassess your company's or department's financial picture. Because if you have additional 1977 budget dollars, now is the time to consider adding to your fleet of Ditch Witch underground construction equipment. You'll get a financial bonus in 1977 that will pay off in production return in 1978 and in all the years to come.

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Bacterial insecticide controls five insects

Bactur, a highly-selective biological insecticide, has been newly registered for use against fall webworms, cankerworms, tent caterpillars, redhumped caterpillars and gypsy moths.

The insecticide contains bacteria (Bacillus thuringiensis), that paralyze the insects' stomachs, causing death within 3-5 days after ingesting Bactur-treated foliage.

Because Bactur interferes with a fundamental biological function, insects do not develop resistance to it. Bactur also controls target pests without harming humans, beneficial nontarget insects, livestock, fish or wildlife. It can be applied in liquid or wettable powder forms and is marketed by Thompson-Hayward Chemical Company.

EPA halts DBCP sales

Sales and use of DBCP (dibromochloropropane) have been halted by EPA administrator Douglas M. Costle. DBCP has been used as a soil fumigant since 1955 and is now suspected of being a human cancer agent based upon stomach and mammary tumors found in laboratory rats and mice, according to Costle. DBCP is believed responsible for causing sterility or reduced sperm levels among more than 100 workers producing the pesticide in four states.

Dow Chemical and Shell Chemical, the principle manufacturers, voluntarily stopped production last summer. Despite the halt, other firms may still have some of the compound on hand. The EPA order would prohibit any future sale in the U.S. unless safeguards are met.

Costle declared that he would lift the “suspension order” for uses of DBCP such as treatments of home lawns and golf courses, if the makers will agree to change the labels of their products to restrict use only to trained applicators “wearing protective clothing and respirators.” Ignoring the safeguards would be a violation of the 1972 Federal pesticides law, he warned.
The Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show is a regional event serving midAmerica. Educational sessions and exhibits are planned specifically for the commercial turfgrass industry — golf courses, golf associations, parks, recreation areas, cemeteries, nurseries, landscape contractors, sod growers, firms, clubs, corporations, and related organizations. Anyone concerned with commercial turfgrass care in any way is welcome and will benefit from this program.
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Lennertz PGMS head

Fred A. Lennertz, Jr. was elected president of the Professional Grounds Management Society at its annual meeting in Houston this month.

Lennertz served as vice president this past year and is superintendent of grounds and transportation for Indiana University — Purdue University at Indianapolis.

Chosen vice president was Anne O. Seaman, who is retired from the New York Botanical Garden. Chosen treasurer was John R. Van Vorst, who is supervisor of parks for the city of Tenafly, N.J.

Over 150 professional grounds managers attended the six-day meeting at Stouffer's Greenway Plaza Hotel. Speakers included Dr. James B. Beard, turf professor at Texas A & M university; Russell Studebaker, horticulturist for the city of Tulsa, Okla.; Warren Purdy, cost control consultant for the green industry; and Fred Klatt, professor of landscape architecture at Texas A & M University.

Professional Grounds Management Society delegates visited the Bayou Bend Estate in Houston. Leading the tour was Gary Outen director of horticulture for the estate.
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Gordon Leishman measures the extra growth after using Jobe's Evergreen Spikes.

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The easy method for professional tree care. International Spike, Inc., 1081 Dove Run Road, Lexington, Kentucky 40502

Circle 118 on tree information card  NOVEMBER 1977/WEEDS TREES & TURF 33
Kershaw Manufacturing has introduced the Fence Row Trimmer attachment for their Klearway heavy duty brush and timber clearing machine. A flail-type, rotary drum cutter, the Trimmer is capable of cutting and mulching material four inches in diameter.

For use, the Klearway operator hydraulically positions the four-foot-wide Trimmer outward from within the cab. It features a full range of operational cutting heights from four to seven feet above ground with the trimmer level. Cutting outside of this range, up to 15.5 feet high, can be attained with the trimmer cutting at an angle. Trimming at the 15.5 feet reach, the Trimmer head is perpendicular to the ground enabling "trimming back" of tall material which may be extending into the right-of-way from beyond the fence.

The Trimmer may be ordered as an option for new Klearways or as an attachment easily fitted to any existing Klearway.

A new line of flail choppers produced in Holland by Van Wamel B. V. of Beneden-Leewen, the Netherlands, is available for distribution throughout North America.

Seven models are available under the "Perfect" trade name. The principle feature is a vibration-free flail rotor with heavy-duty, long-life flails. The rotor is suspended in self-adjustable bearings for intensive work and operates at a speed of 1900 RPM at 540 RPM of power take-off. Two of the models have eight flails each, two others have 12 flails each, and one model has 16 flails. Made of manganese steel, these flails are mounted in replaceable steel bushings with 20 mm. hardened steel bolts and locking nuts.

The chopper can be coupled to a three-point hitch on any type of tractor. The drive is through the oil bath gearbox with spiral teeth gears and V-belts having a spring-loaded automatic belt tensioner. Depending on the application, the power can vary between 28 and 60 h.p.

The machines are marketed in four models with operating widths of 110 to 220 centimeters for work directly in the center behind the tractor. In addition, three other models can operate in areas of 150 to 220 centimeters wide in central or off-center positions with respect to the tractor. The weights of the different models range from 850 to 1720 pounds.

Startex Corp. has introduced Weather Out, a system that locks sheets of plastic to offer seasonal climate control of nursery out-buildings. Simple frames or moveable structures permit a flexibility of growing environments that enable the growing plan to be the most profitable at the lowest cost, Startex claims.

Once the locking channel is installed, the plastic sheets can be put into place or removed in a matter of minutes. When the plastic is locked into place, it can't tear or blow away in the highest of winds or roughest of winters. No special tools are required for installation of the system or for placing or removing the plastic.

Rhodia Inc. has a new 16-page brochure on its Visko-Rhap herbicides and invert emulsion spray system. Included in the booklet are an application guide and rates recommended for Rhodia's herbicides in such applications as rights-of-way, roadsides, drainage ditches, lakes, ponds and forest management. Also listed are species of weeds controlled by the herbicides along with directions for proper use.

The brochure includes a detailed check-list for converting a conventional spray system to a Visko-Rhap invert-type system. The heart of this system is a mechanical inverter that provides optimal immersing of oil in water. The resultant spray consists of heavy droplets in spaghetti-like strands that reduce drift.
Good things come in small packages.

Whether you purchase seedlings for permanent planting or prefer to grow your own stock for later transplanting, you'll be impressed with our wide variety of fir, pine and spruce seedlings. Northern-grown for hardiness, they've all been personally cared for by the owner to assure that you receive only the very best.

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FOR SALE: Bean Rotomist, model 901, $2,500.00. 203 774-1061.

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HELP WANTED — Qualified landscape, sprinkler, and grounds maintenance personnel needed by Colorado firm. Career oriented. Send resume of experience to: SaBell’s Inc., 5555 West Ohio Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado 80226.

NEED TREE CLIMBER for cemetery in Chicago area. Cedar Park Cemetery, 12540 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Ill. 60643.

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FOR SALE: Small tree service Co. Indiana, grosses over $96,000.00 a year, good potential for expansion. Equipment plus office equipment, miscellaneous tools and equipment, office building. Sell part or all. Box 181, Weeds Trees & Surf, Box 6951, Cleveland, Ohio 44101.

FOR SALE complete tree surgery and landscape company. 25 years in business, New England area, equipment and office furniture in A1 condition. Six employees year-round, one man operation. Good growth potential if desired. Box 179, Weeds Trees & Surf, P.O. Box 6951, Cleveland, Ohio 44101.

B&B PINES, firs, spruces, 3'-15' and larger, 913 499-6333, Double-Bar-Pine Nursery, R1, Alta Vista, Kansas 66734.
Meeting Dates

Seventh Annual Colorado Crop Protection Institute, Colorado State University Campus, Fort Collins, Colo., Nov. 9-10.

California Landscape Contractors Association half-day seminars, Stardust Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev., Nov. 10-11.


Irrigation Symposium & Equipment Show, Fresno Convention Center, Fresno, Calif., Nov. 16-19.

Tidewater Shade Tree Conference, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk, Va., Nov. 17.

National Fertilizer Solutions Association 23rd Annual Convention & Chemical/Equipment Exhibition, Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas, Nov. 28-Dec. 1.

New Jersey Turfgrass Expo '77, Cherry Hill Hyatt House, Cherry Hill, N.J., Nov. 28-Dec. 1.


Kitten & Bear Chemicals Workshop Seminar, 4215 Tholozan Ave., St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 3.

Delaware Turfgrass Conference, Hercules C.C., Wilmington, Del., Dec. 5.

Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show, Dayton, Ohio, Dec. 6-8.

Woody Ornamental's Winter Storage Symposium, Sheraton-Columbus Hotel, Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 9-10.


International Society of Arboriculture, Indiana Chapter Annual Meeting, Stouffers Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 3-5.

Northeastern Weed Science Society 32nd Annual Meeting, Americana Hotel, N.Y., N.Y., Jan. 4-6.

Turf Grass '78, Maryland Turf Grass Council, Sheraton Lanham Inn, Lanham, Md., Jan. 8-12.

Western Association of Nurserymen Trade Show and 88th Annual Meeting, Hilton Plaza Inn, Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 8-10.

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Meeting Dates

16th Annual Nebraska Turfgrass Conference & Training School, University of Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, East Campus, Lincoln, Nebr., Jan. 9-11.


The Mid-Am Trade Show, O'Hare Exposition Center, Chicago, Ill., Jan. 15-18.


Kansas Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference, University of Kansas Student Union, Lawrence, Kan., Jan. 18-20.


International Society of Arboriculture, Ohio Chapter Annual Meeting, Sheraton-Columbus, Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 22-26.

International Society of Arboriculture, New Jersey Chapter Annual Meeting, Mercer County Community College, Trenton, N.J., Jan. 23.


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