but that doesn’t necessarily mean it doesn’t exist,” says Miller.

He says he checked with the distributor of an insecticide believed to be the problem, as well as with the original supplier, but neither source had heard of the compound. Neither had a turf profes-

TURFSEED

New burning fees won’t hurt buyers

TANGENT, Ore.—New field burning fees charged to seed harvesters will apparently have little immediate effect on seed prices.

“I don’t think you’ll see dramatic changes in prices,” says Dave Nelson of the Oregon Fine Fescue Commission, which negotiated the fee system with state legislators.

“The cost to farmers will probably go up by as much as $35 an acre,” says Nelson. “On a 1000-pound yield, that’s going to be 3-1/2 cents a pound.”

Jim Enyart of Turf Seed, Inc., is more cautious. He says it’s too early to say which way prices will go. But he sees no drastic change in prices this year.

“Until we get some viable alternatives (to burning), it’s hard to say. Everybody’s talking like it’s going to drive the price up, but I’d reserve judgement until we have to start reducing the burning.”

This year under the new fee schedule, 180,000 acres may be burned and 75,000 acres may be propane flamed, each at a cost of $8 an acre. Burnable acreage will decrease to 40,000 by 2001 when an additional 75,000 acres may be propane flamed, provided particulate matter discharge does not go beyond a proscribed minimum.

“There will be more stability over the long run, but not much effect on prices in the short run,” says Steve Tubbs of Turf Merchants, Inc.

Tubbs says the burn legislation might ultimately hurt bluegrass yields, because burning is especially beneficial to bluegrass.

PRODUCTS

EPA registers new pre-, post-emergent

ST. LOUIS—Dimension herbicide, manufactured by Monsanto, received EPA registration in June.

Dimension controls crabgrass, goosegrass, foxtail, spurge, oxalis and other weeds.

Product manager Jim Budzynski says it may be used for pre- and post-emergence weed control.

The active ingredient in Dimension, dithiopyr, is environmentally desirable in part because of low use rates, the company says.

Budzynski says Dimension has provided longer crabgrass control than other pre-emergence herbicides, and does not interfere with fall overseeding.

Dimension can be applied over a wide variety of turfgrasses without damage to foliage or root systems. Monsanto says. The herbicide will also not injure ornamentals near treatment areas, according to the company.

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