ASA to Include Turfgrass Topics in Aug. 21-26 Meet

Turfgrass breeding and nitrogen nutrition of turfgrasses are to be discussed at the joint meeting of the American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America, set for Aug. 21 to 26 at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater.

As part of a half-day program on plant breeding and genetics, Dr. J. A. Long, director of biochemical research for O. M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, Ohio, will talk on the effectiveness of breeding methods for developing improved bluegrass, st. augustinegrass, red fescue, tall fescue, and ryegrass.

Nitrogen nutrition will be topic of a special symposium sponsored by the Crop Science Society of America, and directed by Dr. James B. Beard of Michigan State University. Speakers will include Dr. Coleman Y. Ward, agronomy department, Mississippi State University, who will discuss the forms in which grasses absorb nitrogen; Dr. Eliot C. Roberts, horticulture department, Iowa State University, who will talk on nitrogen effects on turfgrass growth and quality; Dr. R. E. Schmidt, agronomy department, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, who will describe environmental elements, such as light, oxygen, and temperature, affecting nitrogen utilization; and Dr. Norman Goetz, farm crops department, Oregon State U., talking on nitrogen carriers.

Contact the American Society of Agronomy, 677 S. Segoe Road, Madison, Wis. 53711, for more information on the meeting.

Md. Sod Program Grows

Many Maryland sod growers, who this fall will plant for certification, have already had their fields inspected, University of Maryland extension specialist, Joe Newcomer, reports. Growers seeking approval under the Maryland Sod Certification Program must use certified seed when planting such varieties as Merion bluegrass and Pennlawn red fescue, and should save a sample of the seed as a control check. To obtain the certified tag, sod growers who use non-certified seed must have approval of the seed lot before planting. Seeds are checked for kind, origin, and contamination by other crop and weed seeds. Checking for Aug. and Sept. plantings is underway. Details on the state's certification program are available to WTT readers who write: Department of Agronomy, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

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Diamond Adds Arsonate Plant

Construction of a new multi-million pound capacity plant for production of its arsonate herbicides has been revealed by the Agricultural Chemicals Division of Diamond Alkali Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

The new facility is scheduled to produce Diamond's DSMA and MSMA, postemergent herbicides and Diamond's arsonate surfactant, Daconate. It is located at the company's Greens Bayou, Texas, operation.

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"No-Mow" is Hit of Texas
A&M Turfgrass Day, July 6

"No-Mow," a low-light tolerating bermudagrass variety was hit of the show as some 125 turf managers gathered for Texas A&M University's annual turf field day, July 6. "No-Mow" has exhibited exceptional tolerance to low light intensity," Dr. George G. McBee, of the school's soil and crop sciences department, said. Other grasses tested, including Pensacola bahiagrass, Meyer zoysia, and two Bermuda varieties, performed unsatisfactorily in shade. Only T-135, another Bermuda selection, showed some shade tolerance.

Visitors to test plots at the Agronomy Field Laboratory also saw a test of weed control using organic arsenicals. A.M.A., MSMA, Malgon, CAMA, and DSMA controlled annual weedy grasses with a single application, though several applications were necessary to kill such perennials as nutgrass. Fineleaf Bermudas were described as "sensitive but tolerant" to arsenicals.

Of more than 80 new grasses, several Bermuda-related types were top performers in the Texas tests. These were Cynodon hirsutus, Cynodon barberi, and Cynodon dactylon.

Other plots showed weed control experiments on Tifgreen, said to be safe for such herbicides as 2,4-D as long as the temperature is not too high; clipping-height experiments; and establishment studies, where
Avoid Nitrogen Overuse

Some newspaper articles published recently have been advocating what some consider extremely high rates of nitrogen for lawns, according to Dr. Elwyn E. Deal, extension turf specialist at the University of Maryland. Rates as high as 6 to 8 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. for common Kentucky bluegrass, and 8 to 10 pounds for Merion Kentucky bluegrass have been suggested, Deal reports.

Current recommendations from most experiment stations suggest 3 to 4 pounds of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. per year for common Kentucky bluegrass and 4 to 6 pounds for Merion, Deal says. Roughly one-half of two-thirds of this amount can be applied in September and October, and the rest in March. With Merion, another light application may be made in May.

Severe disease problems, heat, and drought injury during summer often result when nitrogen is applied at high rates to cool-season grasses in the Maryland area, Dr. Deal cautions.
Classifieds

When answering ads where box number only is given, please address as follows: Box number, c/o Weeds Trees and Turf, 1900 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Rates: "Position Wanted" 5c per word, minimum $2.00. All other classifications, 10c per word, minimum $2.00. All classified ads must be received by Publisher the 10th of the month preceding publication date and be accompanied by cash or money order covering full payment.

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BEAN ROYAL PUMP and regulator. 55 gal. per min. Both newly reconditioned, with Continental motor, $1350. 1200 Curtis Dyna-Fogger, less than 100 hours, good working condition, $900. Both items F.O.B. Byron, Michigan. M. L. Sutton, United Tree Service, Byron, Michigan. Phone 319-266-4609.

BARTLETT TREE EXPERTS OFFER EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY

This nationally known tree service company, which operates from Maine to Florida, offers outstanding career opportunities in sales and management for college graduates in forestry, horticulture and agriculture, or men with experience in these fields. Ability to work with public and personnel is important. Attractive salary plus commission, protected territory, growth potential excellent. Intensive training course and benefits. Send resume of education or experience to William Eckhardt, Bartlett Tree Experts, P.O. Box 3067, Stamford, Conn.

Fall Planting Excellent For Certain Ornamentals

Fall is an excellent time to plant many ornamental trees such as evergreens, hackberry and moraine locust, and shrubs such as spirea, according to Jim Nighswonger, extension landscape architect, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kans.

He notes that growing problems can often be traced back to poor planting practices. Whether planting bare-root or balled and burlapped trees or shrubs, Nighswonger says make sure the hole dug is large enough. The larger a balled and burlapped plant, the greater the hole size should be in relation to ball diameter. For a 12 to 18” soil ball, add 6 to 8” for hole diameter.

Plant should be set at about the same depth it had before moving. Back fill with good soil and peat moss after planting, and water thoroughly. Nighswonger adds that fertilizer is seldom needed until the plant has established itself in the new location.

STAUFAFFER Lists Eptam Uses

Eptam granular herbicide, said to control annual and perennial weeds in flower beds and among ornamentals, is discussed in a new folder available from Stauffer. Listed are 15 herbaceous plants, 9 ground covers, and 25 evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs, Stauffer claims Eptam granular will protect.

Timing, application, and recommended rates are covered in the folder which may be obtained by writing Stauffer Chemical Co., 380 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.
...thanks to Malathion. Authorities the country over for years have relied on this truly all-purpose insecticide to keep recreational and camping areas free of mosquitoes, flies, ticks, ants, spiders and other bothersome flying and biting pests...including species which have developed resistance to other chemicals.

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For complete information about the use of Malathion to control insect pests, write for booklet PE-5039.

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A Near Kill

Experienced treemen know equipment safety guards are built onto machinery for sound safety reasons. Here's an account of a near-fatal accident that resulted from failure to use a safety guard.

A Public Utility District arborist in Kennewick, Wash., reports that the mishap occurred while he was nearly 40 ft. up in the air inside the bucket of an aerial hoist. A safety shield over the controls had been removed for "better access" to the levers.

Minus the shield over controls, the treeman slowly brought the bucket up under a cable attached to a building and stretched across the street to another anchoring. As the bucket continued to rise, the wire came directly across the operator's hand which was pressing on the "Up" control. Before the unusual pressure was noticed, the serviceman's hand was trapped and the hoist surged upward.

When the cable snapped from its moorings, the bounce nearly popped the serviceman out of the bucket, and to the ground close to 40 ft. below.

Banvel D Label Approved

Approval of a new USDA label registration for granular Banvel D + 2,4-D was recently revealed by the Velsicol Chemical Corp. One application a year, in spring or fall, is recommended by the maker for control of dandelion, clover, knotweed, chickweed, and other broadleaf weeds in established lawns and golf course areas. The granular form may also be applied to newly seeded lawns after the second spring cutting, Velsicol says. For best results the herbicide should be applied to moist grass, which should not be watered or mowed for 24 hours afterwards.

For more information on the granular Banvel D + 2,4-D combination, write Velsicol Chemical Corp., 341 East Ohio St., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Tractor Exhaust Blows Dry Insecticide Fog

Estate Deluxe BlitzFogger "400" is a new lawn and garden tractor attachment that uses heated exhaust gases to dispense insecticide fog.

Manufactured by Northern Industries, Inc., the device incorporates a metering valve which allows heated exhaust gases to thermalize insecticide in an attached tank. The resulting dry fog covers an acre of ground in less than 10 minutes, the firm claims. The unit comes equipped with an easy-to-read gauge that registers the amount of insecticide left in the tank.

Fog generated by the attachment is said to be safe for use on and around trees, flowers, and shrubs. BlitzFogger "400" has a half-gallon tank, metering valve, pipe fittings, and a nozzle. Included with new units is a quart of BlitzFog insecticide, made especially for the foggers.

To obtain more details on the exhaust attachment write to Northern Industries, Inc., 407 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53202.

Trimmings

High and Dry. Talking to a sod producer the other day, we heard of a hapless New York State landscaper caught with his sod down. Barely had he placed the last piece of sod around a new high-rise apartment when the local authorities imposed a water-tight sprinkling ban. Within a few days, his fresh, green sod turned to a straw mat, and the apartment owner staunchly refused to pay for a nickel on the ground that the ground he ordered was to be of grass, not hay. We don't know how the matter was resolved, but we wonder about the sod grower and the unfortunate landscaper, and just how far their responsibility for fresh turf goes. What about the grower or landscaper who delivers his sod in good order to the occasional customer who's convinced garden hoses are for washing cars, not watering lawns?

Weed rather not enter. We're still listening to radio, and recently tuned in a station promoting a weed contest. Listeners are invited to send in weeds which will be judged in three categories: biggest, most unusual, and prettiest. And free crabgrass plants for the winners. Weed rather give up radio.

Seeing is believing. When in New Jersey for the Rutgers sod field day, we talked to Wiley Miner, head of Princeton Turf Farms, whose Croshaw Farm hosted the June 22 product demonstrations. "Field days are important because we have to see the new equipment in action to appreciate the growth of sod industry techniques," Wiley said with a smile. We weren't puzzled by his comment, but we wonder how he could smile after seeing his turf leveled, rotavated, fumigated, seeded, fertilized, irrigated, mowed, thinned, and harvested—all in one afternoon! We noticed, though, that as soon as the show equipment was off the turf, Princeton's crew went to work to smooth out their prize New Jersey Certified Sod.

Shotgun fails. "Shotgun" spraying of lawns with drug and grocery store weedkillers is more convenient than effective, says Eugene Heikes, Colorado State University extension weed specialist. He traces the frequent failures of home weed remedies to lack of formulating and wrong identification of weeds by lawn owners, who sometimes assume that if a plant doesn't belong it must be "crabgrass." There's just no substitute for the trained weed or turf specialist and the well-calibrated sprayer. Now, if CA could only get homeowners to believe this...

Our congratulations to the Weed Society of America for its new "Weed Science Newsletter," being edited by that well-known Floridian, Jack Rogers. Since the publication meets a real need, we hope members will soon vote on how frequently it will be issued.
"COPPER SULFATE AND CONTINUAL SAMPLING KEEP ALGAE AT A MINIMUM"

states Alan H. Ketcham, Superintendent of Supply, Stamford Water Company, Stamford, Connecticut

"One of the most important activities of water management is a constant check not only of reservoirs but of the complete watershed. In our case, this means an area of 23 square miles, including numerous small lakes and ponds. Because some of these small bodies of water grow algae as if specially designed for the purpose, we treat them, as well as our main reservoirs, with copper sulfate which we have always found to be a most effective algicide."

Chartered in 1868 when it operated one reservoir and served a city of 8,714, the Stamford Water Company today operates 4 reservoirs and provides water for 90,000. Supply Superintendent Ketcham says, "Our main distribution reservoir is a lake holding 512 million gallons. We treat this lake with copper sulfate two or three times a year depending on the algae problem. Using a work boat which drags suspended bags of copper sulfate crystals, the operation takes one day and uses about 1,700 pounds of copper sulfate."

"Our inspectors who are regularly in every quarter of the property, are constantly on the lookout for algae growth, particularly in remote shallow sections. When necessary, treatment with copper sulfate is directed at these points of algae concentration. We always try to catch algae at the start of growth and treat at once before it has a chance to spread."

"We have sometimes traced algae problems to untreated residential ponds. We find that the average homeowner does not fully comprehend pond management and maintenance so we try to advise him. This is really worthwhile because whenever algae is allowed to grow unchecked there is danger of it getting into the main reservoir, and it is always simpler to treat algae confined to a small pond."

"The men on our inspection team are uniformed, travel in radio-equipped cars and work with Health Department men from two states. Water is constantly sampled and examined microscopically. Copper sulfate purchased in 100 lb. bags is stored at the reservoir itself, ready for use at any time."

"COPPER SULFATE AND CONTINUAL SAMPLING KEEP ALGAE AT A MINIMUM"