

DISEASE FATAL TO ELMS HITS CHICAGO AREA

Dutch elm disease, a devastating fungus ailment of elm trees for which science knows no cure, has been found in the Chicago area for the first time, Dr. Leo R. Tehon, head of applied botany and plant pathology with the Illinois Natural History survey, Urbana, announced.

One infected elm has been found at 356 Sumac st., Highland Park. Another is located in North Aurora, Kane county. The infection was determined by laboratory analysis of branch samples by Dr. J. C. Carter, a survey plant pathologist.

Tehon said he plans to ask officials of the two towns to meet with him and other survey specialists to work out control programs in an effort to prevent spread of the disease. He has held similar meetings in recent weeks with officials of several downstate towns, including Kankakee, Pontiac, Bloomington, and Paxton, where the disease has broken out.

Tehon said the disease presents a particularly serious threat to urban areas such as Chicago and its suburbs where there are scores of thousands of American elms along streets and in parks. Some downstate cities have spent thousands of dollars in attempts to control the disease and save the elm trees.

Thus far this season Dutch elm has spread rapidly to infect elms in 32 Illinois counties. It was found in only 12 counties last summer.

Scientists and tree specialists have been apprehensive for some time that the fatal fungus would strike the Chicago area.

Altho there is no known cure for Dutch elm disease, there are ways to control its spread by controlling the European bark beetle which transmits it. This beetle, a tiny dark insect, breeds in dead elm wood. One method of control is to remove and burn dead elm trees and prune out all dead branches and limbs.

Such a control program has been under way this summer in the Cook county forest preserve district under direction of Noel B. Wyson, chief forester. Healthy trees also may be sprayed with DDT to destroy the beetles.

—O—

MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION FALL FIELD DAYS

For 1954 the Fall Field Days for the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation are to be divided into two groups. On Monday, September 27, turfmen from southern areas — St. Louis, Central Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Cincinnati, and Dayton Associations are invited to come in at that time. Emphasis will be placed on the Bermudas, zoysias, bentgrass and brownbatch, fungicide control and vegetative grass plantings.

On Tuesday, September 28, turfmen from northern areas of Wisconsin, Chicago, Michiana, Western Michigan, Detroit, Cleveland and Central Ohio are invited. At that time bentgrass tests for fairways will be stressed rather than Bermudas and zoysias. Creeping bent for winter color and early growth will receive more attention.

This arrangement is planned to reduce the number attending on a given day so that it will be easier to observe the plots and to understand the discussion of the smaller groups. Any person may attend either day.

The program starts at 10:00 A. M., each day and closes at 3:30 P. M. This permits those who wish, to drive up the preceding day and return home at the end of the afternoon program. Mark these dates — get a carfull together and plan to come — Fall Field Days, September 27, or September 28.

SPREADING IT THIN

This has been a hard summer. A summer that has called for all the concentration of effort a man was capable of giving his job. The Mole was sitting with a Supt. in his office late in July discussing the problems of growing grass when his wife walked in. She asked if she could have a short conference with her husband, "Yes" he said, "just as soon as I check Number 17 green."

"I do wish" she answered plaintively, "that I could come before the greens just once."

The Entertainment Committee announced that our fall dance would be held at the River Forest Country Club November 6th. It is planned that dinner is to be served early and dancing continue all evening.

Ray Davis reports that PMAS has done a good job of crabgrass control on the fairways at Medinah. Ray has made weekly applications thruout the summer. The greens approachs and collars which Ray sodded with Merion Bluegrass last fall have stood up very well and make a wonderful frame for the greens with the contrasting shades of dark green of the Merion and the lighter shades of green of the greens. Superintendents who have inspected the planting are fascinated with the idea and think it will be tried by others this fall.

Gabriel Rosset, formerly superintendent at Green Acres Country Club, is the new superintendent at Skokie Country Club.

THE MOLE

HOLLAND IMPORTED BULBS

Tulips Hyacinths Daffodils Etc.

J. VAN HOORN & CO.

2028 River Road Des Plaines, Ill.
VA nderbilt 4-1870 & 4-1730

Two Quality Plant Foods



10-6-4

4-12-4 Humus Base High-Organic Content
Distributed by Geo. A. Davis, Inc.

THE SMITH AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL CO.

Joe Kelly, Rep.

There is **PMAS**
Only One

THE PROVEN HERBICIDE-FUNGICIDE

Gives Dual Control

KILLS CRABGRASS-CONTROLS FUNGI

With the same treatment

NITRO-GRO 12-8-6
LIQUID
FERTILIZER

With Trace Elements
Compatable with P M A S —May
be applied at same time

W. A. CLEARY CORPORATION

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.