

IN APPRECIATION

Mr. Adolph Bertucci would like to thank the following people for helping him celebrate his birthday, along with the M.A.G.C.S. monthly meeting held May 28, 1968, at Lake Shore Country Club:

Art Clesen, George Wellek, and Bob Johnson for the Bar. Roger Brown of I.M.C. for the **Shrimp and Beer**, Cortesi Brothers of Sun Set Foods for the **Fruit**, Jack Kearmey and Don Conover for the ball washers, Bill Mooney from Lake Forest Savings and Loan for the guest prizes, Mando Scornavacco from Washington Gardens Restaurant for the prizes for the closest to the pin contest (each winner receiving two free dinners), and Mike Miotti from Menoni and Mocogni Co. And special thanks to Kenneth DeWees and his staff from Lake Shore Country Club.

NEW APPROACH TO CURTAIL DUTCH ELM DISEASE

Dutch Elm Disease may be curtailed by a tiny wasp that kills the disease carrier. The wasp, **Dendrosoter protuberans**, attacks a disease-bearing beetle that burrows into the bark of elm trees. The female Dendrosoter wasp locates hidden beetle larvae in the bark, thrusting her stinger — actually an egg-laying organ — through the bark, depositing eggs beside the beetle larvae.

When the eggs hatch into wasp larvae, they attack the beetle larvae, killing them by sucking their body juices. Adult wasps increase the tempo of the attack by producing three generations for each generation of beetles.

Entomologist R. I. Sailer, former head of ARS' European Parasite Laboratory, near Paris, now Chief of the Insect Identification and Parasite Introduction Branch, Beltsville, Md., collected the wasp in France. After he determined that the wasp attacks only the European elm bark beetle.

Releases of the wasps by entomologists of USDA's Forest Service, in Ohio and Missouri, indicate that the parasites will seek out the beetle larvae under the environmental conditions in those States; more extensive releases are being made by cooperators in Michigan with equally promising results.

Scientists are now rearing the wasps by the millions at several laboratories, including the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station Laboratory, Delaware, Ohio, for research and mass release in infested areas. Although the wasps are not expected to eradicate the beetles (this would result in starvation of the wasps), they could become a major weapon in the battle to end the epidemic threat of Dutch Elm Disease. The wasp kills up to 70% of the beetle larvae in Europe, which is one reason Dutch Elm disease is not as serious a problem there.

Reprinted from Area Hort. Extension Newsletter

Our Deepest Sympathy to Mr. Henry L. Lange and Family. Mrs. Henry Lange Passed Away May 17, 1968.

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