

## Weed Control In Farm Ponds

Man derives some of his greatest pleasures from water. Recreation has become an essential part of our way of life. Fishing, swimming, boating, competitive water sports, camping and nature study depend and are enhanced by clean water.

The concentration of a greater population density upon the shores of inland waters through pollution and the inflow of nutrients from surface run-off, increased water use and increased water fertility have created excessive weeds and algae growth in water. Such nuisances may eliminate almost all recreational uses of a lake, create disagreeable odors and appearances, lower property evaluation and kill fish or jeopardize fish population.

Aquatic weed control is **prescription control**, just as our complex agricultural weeds must be prescribed for each crop. Submersed weeds require the right chemical for each group of weeds.

**Waters treated with the following chemicals should not be used for drinking or irrigation purposes for at least ten days.**

Only half of a small body of water should be treated at one time, the remaining half should be treated approximately five days later. The reason for this precaution is that when weeds are decaying oxygen is depleted and fish may suffocate.

Water milfoil should be treated with 250 lbs. of 2,4-D Granular 20% per acre, preferably during the month of May.

Coontail, Elodea, Curlyleaf pondweed and Richardson Pond Weed should be treated with 7½ PPM of sodium arsenite during May and June. For example, a one acre pond 6 ft. deep would require 30 gallons of sodium arsenite. Most manufacturers have application tables already computed. It is based on the formula length x depth x 2.7 x 7½ PPM divided by 4 equals gallons per acre. Sodium arsenite is generally sold 4 lbs. actual per gallon.

Leafy pondweed, Sago pondweed, small pondweed and Duckweed should be treated during May and June with two gallons of Diquat per acre.

Water Lily, Spatterdock, Arrowhead and Water-shield should be treated with 8 ounces of liquid Silvex in 5 gallons of water with a detergent (sticker spreader) sprayed on foliage or 150-200 pounds per acre of granular 2,4-D ester.

Filamentous algae are commonly called "pond scum" and can be usually controlled with ½ PPM of copper sulfate or 1.36 pounds per acre foot of water.

Chara should be treated with 1-1½ PPM or a minimum of 2.7 pounds per acre foot. Chara usually requires at least three treatments to secure control. Treatment should be made at one month intervals. Copper sulfate is more effective when water temperatures are above 60°F. Chara is particularly resistant to chemical control. Concentrations of copper sulfate up to 1 part per million are considered safe for fish.

Proper water management, recreational, hunting, commercial fishing and conservation of natural beauty requires a knowledge of aquatic weed identification, fish habitat and proper use of vast numbers of available chemicals. Control of aquatic plants is becoming a recognized management tool in the field of water conservation. Continued recreation, fishery management, navigation and other water uses that provide pleasure are dependent on aquatic weed control.

Cecil F. Kerr.



*the grass people*

## GOLF COURSE DIVISION

...IN SERVICE TO THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

DAN MACK

608/362-5664

1827 Grandview Drive

Beloit, Wisconsin 53511

**Price of sod is up and sod is scarce  
due to Winter Kill.**

## Winter Desiccation

**Mr. Richard Horner of Horner Sod Farms in Wisconsin reported —**

Near perfect weather is the big news in regard to the ice situation on Wisconsin sod fields. During the middle of February about 3/4 of all the sod in Wisconsin was covered with an almost solid sheet of ice.

This ice cover was the result of a heavy coat of freezing rain about Christmas time. Later about a foot of January snow was covered with another layer of freezing rain.

The situation at that time looked very grim and a substantial winter kill appeared probable. However, Wisconsin enjoyed its driest February on record. Day time temperatures rose to the thawing level every day and the ice has disappeared in an almost unbelievable way.

Ice cover at this writing (March 10) is less than 1/4. While winter kill could still occur, it appears less likely with each passing day. Final results will not be known until the middle of April but it seems unlikely that winter kill will be a significant factor in 1969.

Phone: 312 669-5452 or 312 669-5771

**LOUIS SCHACHTNER**

*Distributor*

**BLACK DIAMOND HUMUS SOIL**

**HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS**