

Attention — Golf Course Superintendents:

Registration of DDT by the USDA for additional uses is cancelled effective December 20, 1969. The Secretary of Agriculture stated November 20 that registration will be cancelled for use on Shade trees including the control of Dutch Elm Disease. DDT will also be cancelled for use in and around the home and uses in marshes and wet lands. This is only the first step in the United States government's plan to stop the use of this pesticide by the end of next year.

The Secretary of Agriculture has also revealed that the government plans to take action by March 1, 1970, on other pesticides which are now on the market including Dieldrin, Heptachlor and Aldrin and other persistent pesticides. It is possible that the registration of these pesticides may also be cancelled.

Since many garden centers and hardware stores are now placing orders for their 1970 supply, it would be wise for you to consider what effect publicity now appearing in many newspapers, magazines, etc. will have on sales in 1970, so that you will not find yourself overstocked by the end of the coming year.

I would also advise you to check with company representatives to see what their policy will be concerning return of your possible supply due to cancellation of these products.

Mercuries are also being discussed as a possible group that will be removed from sales. This would have a big effect on preventing golf green diseases.

We will keep you posted regarding further development in the government's action against many of these pesticides that we need so badly.

Are the nurserymen's associations, golf course superintendents and others who depend so heavily upon these materials willing to sit by and allow many of these chemicals to be removed from the market??? It is time that you start acting because many newspapers and magazines are carrying "scare" articles and not factual information. By all means write your Congressman and let him know that some of his constituents have an interest in "the other side" of this question.

In government, or politics, as in so many other aspects of our every-day life, the squeaky wheel gets the grease, and up til now the conservationists and organic gardeners have been doing all the squeaking while the farmers, nurserymen and others who depend so heavily upon modern disease and insect control methods have remained silent. Some speaking up needs to be done.

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