

# A wasp from Southern France may hold some hope for control of the elm blight.

JACOBSEN F-20  
from  
Illinois lawn equipment inc.

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## SUPPORT YOUR ADVERTISERS

IF IT WERE NOT FOR THEM, THERE WOULD  
BE NO BULL SHEET.

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MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION FIELD DAY,  
will be September 25, 9:30 to 4:00 P.M.

That \$3500 automobile you are about to buy will cost you about \$11,900 over a 10-year period. It may be easier to swallow if we place it at \$3.26 a day or 11.9 cents a mile over the 100,000-mile life of the car. These are gloomy statistics compiled by the United States Department of Transportation's Bureau of Public Roads.

The bureau estimates that the average four-door sedan costs the owner about 90 cents a pound but is cheaper than steak. If you were to drive the car 100,000 miles, it would cost you approximately \$8,500 for gasoline, insurance, repairs, taxes, tolls and other upkeep by the time it finishes its journey.

If a new car, for example, was bought for \$3200, an automobile which today would be considered a small car, would be driven 14,500, depreciation would be \$955. This divided by the 14,500 miles, amounts to approximately 6.6 cents a mile. If the owner keeps it two years and sells or trades it for \$1,672 when it has been driven 27,500 miles, depreciation would be \$1,513, which divided by the 27,500 miles would be \$757 a year or 5.5 cents a mile.

## Pesticide Accidents

by Stanley Rachesky  
Entomologist, University of Illinois

For the past ten years data on pesticide accidents among children in Illinois has been collected. During the periods of 1961 to 1970, approximately 121,270 children were taken to a doctor or hospital because the child ingested or was contaminated by a hazardous substance. All such cases of pesticide accidents involving children under 12 years of age are reported to the Illinois Department of Public Health through one of the downstate poison centers.

Where do pesticides as a group rank with other materials as a source of hazard? Pesticides were involved in an average of 741 cases per year ranging from 567 to 872 per year over the ten-year period. This is 6.1 percent of the total cases. Individual years ranged from a high of 7.3 to a low of 5.2 percent. Medicines of all kinds were involved in 60.8 percent of the cases.

Is there a seasonal fluctuation in the ingestion of hazardous substances? The peak time for ingestion of medicines was in the winter months; ingestion of household preparations was somewhat higher in the fall; both pesticides and paint were ingested more commonly from late spring until fall than at any other time.

Are certain pesticides more commonly ingested at one time of the year? Rodent-bait ingestions were highest in November and December. Ingestion of other baits was most common from May through August. Roach-poison ingestions were highest in the fall.

What major pests were the parents attempting to control? Pesticides for rats, mice, ants, clothes moths, and roaches accounted for about 82 percent of all accidental ingestions. Also, over one-half (58.6) of the ingestion cases involved the pesticide used as a bait.

What pesticides were most commonly involved in pesticide accident cases? Anticoagulant rodent baits led the list with the arsenicals next in order. Naphthalene and PDB were next (moth-proofing products, balls, flakes, nuggets).

What can parents do to reduce the risk of children getting into pesticides? The answer to this question is the same as it was in 1961. It involves **avoiding the use of baits** to control rats, mice, ants, and roaches whenever possible. If they are used, keep them where small children cannot get into them. From 1961 to 1970 an average of 267 children in downstate Illinois ate mothballs.

Spring and summer will soon be with us once again. Golf course superintendents will be putting around the lawn, vegetable and flower gardens. Avoid a problem this year, use your insecticides, fungicides, herbicides (weed killers), act cautiously and only in accordance with the label instructions. The most important three minutes in pest control . . . is the time it takes to read and understand the label.

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### N.A.C. NEWSLETTER

#### How'd We Make It This Far

Although researchers have long known that mercury appears as a natural element in our environment, recent studies have added a new dimension to this knowledge. Dr. Edwin Wilmsen of the University of Michigan reports that he has found evidence of mercury in preserved fish ranging from 300 to