

Mr. Bud Plant

Mr. Plant was the guest speaker at the Midwest Association February meeting. His talk was on OSHA. Really an educational meeting. An attendance of 122 proves the superintendents are interested in safety.

If we all followed what is written below we would all be better Superintendents, Greenkeepers, Editors and just people.

ON THIS DAY

Mend a quarrel, search out a forgotten friend, dismiss suspicion, and replace it with trust; write a love letter, share some treasure, give a soft answer, encourage youth, manifest your loyalty in word and deed.

Keep a promise, find the time, forage a garden, forgive an enemy, listen, apologize if you were wrong, try to understand, flout envy, examine your demands on others, think first of someone else, appreciate, be kind, be gentle, laugh a little more.

Deserve confidence, take up arms against malice, decry complacency, express your gratitude, worship your God, gladden the heart of a child, take pleasure in the beauty and the wonder of earth, speak your love, speak it again, speak it still again, speak it still once again.

Now try to heed these beautiful words of advice.

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Pollution Solution Plots

by Stanley Rachesky Entomologist — University of Illinois

If all pesticides were banned today, sky-high food prices would be as certain as death and taxes. How would you like to pay \$14 for a pound of broccoli, 68 cents for a pound of tomatoes, or 60 cents for a head of cabbage?

These prices were not just thought up off the top of my head. They are based on the cost of production information supplied from the Illinois "Pollution Solution Plots". These 3-acre test plots are found in Rockome Gardens, a tourist attraction near Arcola, Illinois.

Nine different crops were grown and compared under three management systems; (1) No weed or insect control; (2) mechanical cultivation for weeds with no chemical application; and (3) modern production using registered insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides. Twelve rows of each of the following crops were grown on properly fertilized ground: soybeans, cabbage, broccoli, tomatoes, melons, sunflowers, potatoes, sweet corn, and field corn.

Each type of management system was planted side by side so that visitors viewing the plots easily could compare the results. In addition, each test plot was duplicated without the use of ferilizers.

In the test plots when no treatment was administered, complete crop failure appeared, There were so many weeds, it was difficult to find the crop.

The mechanically cultivated plots had their problems also. Heavy rains made normal cultivation difficult. This caused an enormous increase in labor costs, raising the price of the crop to the point where it was impossible to market. Insects also caused extensive problems, leaving the crops in poor condition.

The results were quite evident. Without the use of modern agricultural methods, the United States would exhibit great food shortages, poor quality crops, and high prices.

This project was sponsored by the Arcola Chamber of Commerce, University of Illinois Extension Service, and the Illinois Department of Agriculture. In properly treated plots, yields were good, quality was high, and the production costs were more than reasonable.

The use of pesticides in today's world conserves our natural resources. Without the use of agricultural pesticides millions of extra acres of land would have to be put into agricultural production to produce the food and fiber we use today. This land would have to come from forests and other noncultivated acres. More tractors and other farm equipment would have to be put into use, which would burn much additional fuel, causing increased engine emissions.

The average family in the United States today spends only 19 per cent of its income on food. Compare this with India — 60 per cent; USSR — 58 per cent; Japan — 35 per cent; West Germany — 32 per cent; France — 28 per cent; England — 24 per cent.

Without fertilizers, fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides, you can bet you'd be spending your bottom dollar for food instead of recreation. This would mean no new automobiles, few if any vacations, and fewer college admissions. The far reaching effects of food production without the proper application of pesticides would be infinite.