

# MEDIUM OR HEAVY DUTY

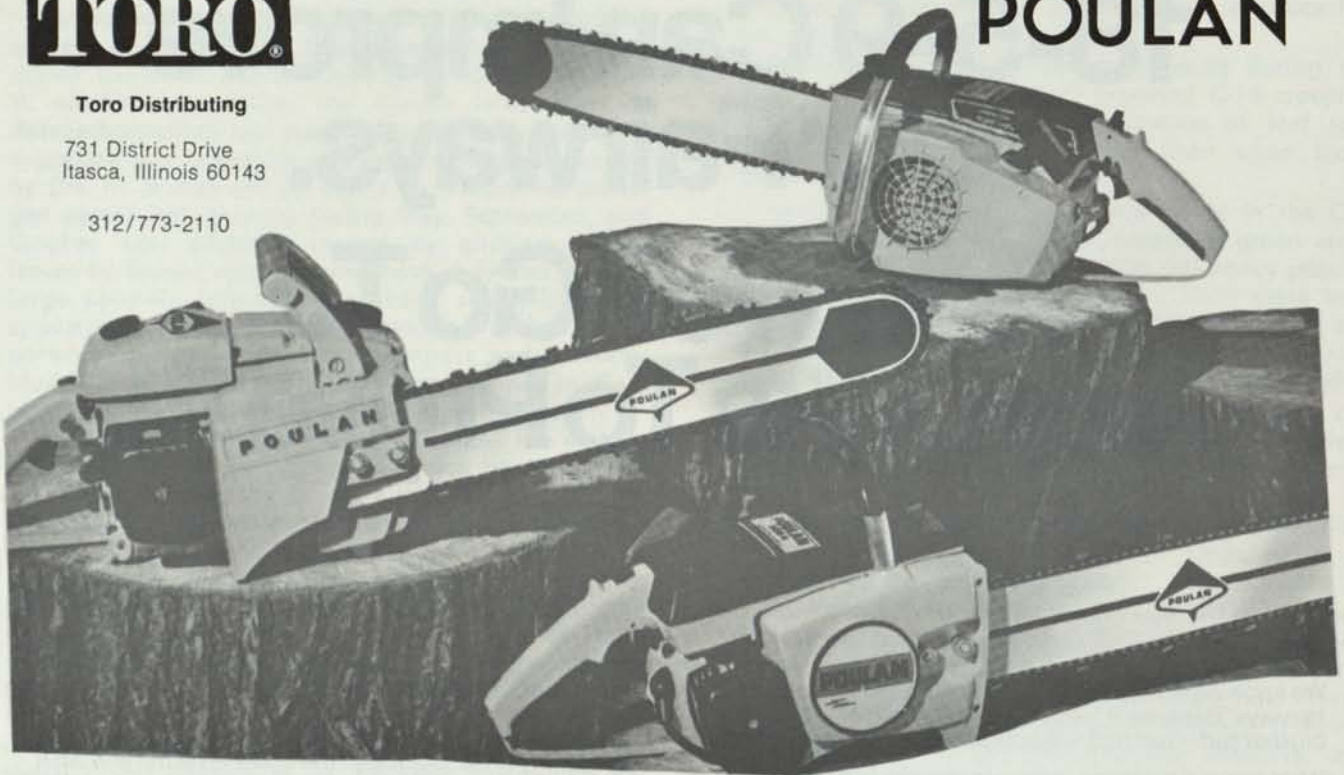
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## BIRCH TREES

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One of the most popular trees grown in the Chicago Metropolitan area is the birch. These trees add much beauty to the area, but they need care and protection against two types of insects that readily destroy many of the birches in the Chicago area. The bronze birch borer and birch leaf miner are the birch trees' greatest enemies.

Bronze birch borer adults now are emerging from the upper limbs of the birch trees. This borer, which is a beetle, soon will begin laying eggs in the rough bark crevices of the upper part of the tree.

Birch trees already infested with this insect will exhibit a typical dead area at the top of the tree. As the borer continues to strangle the tree, the area at the top of the tree will die back even more. If the tree is not kept well fertilized and the borer itself is not treated, the tree will die in two to three seasons.

The loss of a tree on your property is quite sad-denying. A full-grown tree is an esthetic prize that is almost impossible to replace in one's lifetime.

Good control of this borer can be achieved if the trunk and limbs are sprayed with dimethoate (Cygon, DeFend) as the eggs begin to hatch. Spray your birch tree until it is dripping wet. An average size birch tree of about 12 to 20 feet in height should be sprayed with at least five gallons of solution.

Cygon, as it is commonly called, is available as a

23.4 per cent liquid concentrate. Use two teaspoons of this concentrate in each gallon of water when mixing. The first application should be applied now. Repeat in two to three weeks to control any late-hatching borers.

Birch leaf miners can destroy the leaves of the tree. The first symptoms to appear are small blisters on the leaf surface. The insect mines between the cell layers of the leaf. The leaves will turn brown and drop to the ground. This insect will have three to four generations each summer season. Control may be accomplished by using either Malathion or Diazinon as a spray when the blisters first appear on the leaves.



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