SHOULDN'T YOU ATTEND EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS?

It's disappointing to go to so many national conventions and see how poor the attendance is at the educational sessions. Each of us has a responsibility to keep up to date and proficient in our profession. One good way to do that is to read publications like this, and to attend educational training sessions. Yet many a national meeting, such as the recent Golf Course Superintendent's Association meeting, has sessions with only a handful of people in attendance.

Part of this is the association's fault. For longer than I care to remember, the GCSA had poor educational sessions. Then a few activists in Ohio started the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation and held their first show. They put on an educational program that should have put the GCSA to shame. Perhaps because of this, the GCSA sessions have improved. But many of those I attended in Minneapolis were very poorly attended, even though there were some outstanding speakers.

Crowded Sessions

Sessions are always well-attended when there's a meal served. These are always crowded, but often the speaker is not that good; he's either political, humorous or has an axe to grind, and you don't really learn much to help you do a better job.

I can tell you this — if I were your boss and sent you to a convention, I'd expect you to attend every training session. I have the same obligation to my boss — but most of all, to me and my job. I want to be proficient and stay that way. You should too. The way to do that is to go to conventions and attend learning sessions. Listen to the speakers, take some notes, learn new ways to do things, and make yourself better qualified for your job. That's what annual meetings are all about — to help train you to do your job better.

Better Attendance, Better Speakers

To get your job done, you should attend training sessions. Well-attended sessions help get better speakers. It all works together to make for better annual meetings. So resolve now that whenever you go to a convention of any kind, you're going to attend the training sessions and try to learn something. If you do — and the sessions are no good — tell convention management. They have an obligation to provide a good program for you. If you'll attend the meetings, and tell those in charge whether the educational sessions were good or bad, you'll be helping to provide better meetings in the future.

Most of all, you'll be helping yourself hold down your job. Try it. It will work.

J. Robert Stiffler Turf Grass Times

NATIONAL CHEMSEARCH CORP.

222 South Central Ave. St. Louis, Missouri 63105

SUPPORT YOUR ADVERTISERS



The broadleaf weed 'specialists' designed for professional turf programs.

Here's why BANVEL® herbicides are the professionals' choice for weed control:

- Used as directed Banvel will not harm trees, ornamentals or turf—it just eliminates weeds.
- No season restrictions. Lay down Banvel from early spring to late fall—all through the growing season.
- Rain will not affect Banvel. It keeps on working because it translocates—penetrates leaves and is absorbed through roots to attack every part of the weed.
- No special spraying equipment necessary. It is easy to clean out of equipment after use.
- Mixes readily with hard or soft water.
- Easily stored through winter months without losing potency.



Banvel herbicides—products for professional turf men



©Velsicol Chemical Corporation, 1976