

NEW LITERATURE

Irrigation group looks at future

"No Water ... No Future," a brochure completed by the Irrigation Association's Water Conservation Development Committee, is being used as the centerpiece of an industrywide campaign to educate the public.

The four-color brochure outlines the water problems facing the country and explains how the irrigation industry can help conserve water in both urban and rural areas.

It has been endorsed by a dozen other national organizations.

The Irrigation Association, which is now producing an audiovisual program about irrigation, stated:

"As the representative of the irrigation industry, IA is the source of expertise when it comes to questions regarding the use of water for irrigation. We stand ready to assist anyone interested in conservation irrigation."

Golf House cites 'Golfing Art' for annual award

"Golfing Art," by Phil Pilley, has been selected as the winner of the second Golf House International Book Award.

The Golf House International Book Award is presented by the United States Golf Association in recognition of outstanding literary contributions to the game.

Pilley's book, published by Salem House Publishing in Topsfield, Mass., was selected from 50 books published in 1988 on the game of golf.

The award was announced at the Golf Writers Association of

America dinner sponsored by the USGA in conjunction with the 1989 U.S. Open Championship at Oakmont Country Club in Rochester, N.Y.

"Golfing Art" is a collection of golf-related artwork from around the world. British professional Tony Jacklin wrote in the book's foreword, "Golfing Art" is a wonderful book for me because the superb pictures reflect the history and tradition of golf."

USGA's Golf House holds the world's largest and most complete library devoted solely to golf.

'Obviously additional funding (for research) would be nice but these guys aren't going to wait for a political solution to the funding issue if that means waiting years.'

— Mike Rear

Field-burning

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treated 100 acres or 1,000 acres. And we're talking about 350,000 acres in the Willamette Valley."

Young said the practice of field-burning has been a "single-source solution to the problem, taking care of it in one operation. With it, we get seed control, weed control, improved herbicide efficacy."

Referring to the propane burners, which some farms are using to torch harvested fields with 30-foot-long burners, Young said two improvements are necessary for them to be more efficient: "You have to slow them down to 1 mph (from 3-4 mph), but that costs money" and it has to burn hotter because "propaning doesn't product enough heat to kill the germs" so now it just burns the stems, stubble and chaffy aftermath left from the harvesting.

One engineering company indeed reportedly is trying to make a more complete-combustion propane burner.

Young and the Seed Council's Nelson both said hope is offered by a machine three farms are field-testing for Rear's Manufacturing in Eugene, Ore.

Mike Rear is optimistic about initial results from the machine but warns that a one-year test is not sufficient.

The machine — "we call it a rear-bagger or a big sucker" — is a modification of a flail mower with a vacuum field, Rear said. "We wanted to see what would happen if you removed the straw and attempted to sanitize the field other than with heat — or to add heat after the bulk of mass has been removed."

The three farms used the machine on 1,000 acres and did not propane the fields afterward. Rear said it appears weed-control was successful, but they don't yet know exactly how effective the process was.

After cutting the fields, the machine vacuums up the host for disease — the vegetation, chaff, etc., that is on the ground.

"I don't think there's any doubt we'll make progress (in the research) each year...," Rear said. "Our goal is equal or increased yield without burning. But we're looking at four or five years down the road at the current level of commitment from growers, which by the way we view as phenomenal."

He added, "Growers universally are concerned that they can supply the market with the quality they now have and that they can keep (their share of) the market. Obviously additional funding (for research) would be nice but these guys aren't going to wait for a political solution to the funding issue if that means waiting years."

"The problem with research," Rear said, "is that it always is slow."

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