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MEETING ON CANKER WORMS

Place - Milwaukee Country Club - April 10, 1975

In Attendance - Dr. Chuck Koval, Lee Hansen, Rod Johnson, Ted Engelhoff, Jack Allis and Dan Quast.

I. Canker Worms - 2 types

(A) Spring and Fall. (B) Difference between the two is different egg masses, Spring, round white eggs, Fall, Dark colored barrel shaped eggs. Eggs are laid in there respective season. They hatch at the same time. (C) They hatched in Waukesha, May 5th last year. (D) They fed approximately 30 days. (E) There can be as many as 50 to 75 thousand in a large tree. (F) When they become noticiable to the average person, it is too late to spray. Best to do nothing at this point. Late spraying perpetuates the problem. (G) Female Canker Worms cannot fly. (H) If defoliation is complete, a normal tree will refoliage in 4 to 6 weeks. (I) Trees effected the worst, are apple trees, Lindens (Basswood), Elms, Ash, Oaks in that order. (J) Must watch egg masses for exact day of hatch.

II. Control Programs

(A) Methachlor

1. Use only Wettable Powder or Emulifiable concentrate. NO DORMAT OILS.

2. .4 lbs. of active ingredients per Elm Tree, will also effect Bark Beetles, effective up to 4 months for beetle, 10 days for Canker Worms.

3. Other trees use .2 lbs. of active ingredient, same 10 day effectiveness.

4. Have 9 days grace period to spray after first hatch is observed.

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(B) Biological Control

1. Effective but material good for 5 days. A cold period can render material ineffective. This would nessitate another spray.

(C) Sevin also can be used for control, use recommended rates. Sevin Mole perfered over Wettable Powder.

(D) Tanglefoot works nicely except that it takes constant maintenance and is quite messy to handle.

(E) Spray should be started at sign of first hatch.

Canker Worms are sometimes called inch worms. Locality and severity of the problem varies, but be aware. The localities that were the worst effected were River Hills, Elm Grove and Waukesha. It is nearly impossible to predict how bad this problem will be ahead of time.

> Danny H. Quast, Editor

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