



On the road for a two-day field trip which followed lecture sessions in this year's Ohio State Roadside Development Short Course, delegates paused to inspect roadside rest stations and test plots where herbicides and other turf chemicals are tried out.

## Ohio Roadside Course Shows CAs What's New in Highway Weed and Turf Spraying

Contract applicators hungry for lucrative highway weed and turf jobs were treated to a mouth-watering feast of information at the 21st Annual Short Course in Roadside Development at Ohio State University recently.

Nearly 200 delegates, comprised of CAs, landscape architects, and highway officials, attended the informative seminars which began October 2 in the Departments of State Building, Columbus, Ohio. The course lasted through Oct. 5, but a two-day field trip through Ohio countryside terminated the gathering this year.

While the Ohio program, which is sponsored jointly by the university, and the Ohio Department of Highways, covered many fields not of interest to CAs, the lectures on weed control, turf maintenance, and highway spraying in general, were of particular interest.

One important address was on

fertilizing roadside turf. Zenas H. Beers, Midwest Regional Director of the National Plant Food Institute in Chicago, outlined chemicals and techniques for maintaining vigorous grasses on roadsides.

One highlight of the field trip was an actual demonstration of a new sprayer developed specifically for MH-30 by the F. E. Myers & Bro. Co., of Ashland, Ohio.

Called the RW-29, the Myers machine was described as the first device built exclusively for spraying MH-30, the new growth-retarding chemical from Naugatuck Chemicals, Naugatuck, Conn.

A problem the Myers engineers had to solve was the necessity for absolute regularity in dispensing chemical. Application of irregular quantities of the growth regulator would cause uneven grass growth, and thereby eliminate the advantages of using the chemical.

Since millions of dollars are



A rainy, gray morning was evident as Roadside Conference delegates sat in parked busses to witness a demonstration of a new roadside sprayer built by the F. E. Myers and Bro. Co. of Ashland, Ohio. Truck and sprayer can be seen at lower left as experimental quantities of MH-30, new growth-retarding chemical from Naugatuck, is spread over the roadside slope. Myers engineers say the new machine, called the RW-29, was developed especially for MH-30 applications.

spent for mowing roadside turf each year, the combination of Myers machinery and Naugatuck chemicals was of great interest to the short course students.

After the Myers demonstration, which was held at the intersection of highways 250 and 71 near Ashland, Ohio, delegates were taken on a tour of Myers production facilities and were invited to a luncheon in Ashland.

Several busses were chartered to carry delegates on the two-day field trip, during which all aspects of roadside maintenance were examined by touring actual problem spots, and scenes of special interest to the landscape architects.

The Ohio short course is an annual affair open to all interested parties for a nominal registration fee. Dates for next year's program will be announced later, a course spokesman told *Weeds and Turf*.

## Use Chlordane to Control Sod Webworm, Purdue Staffer Says

Although sod webworms are ruining many lawns, Dr. Glen Lehker, Purdue University extension entomologist, points out that the worms could be controlled with a chlordane dust or spray. One-half pint of a 45% emulsifiable concentrate will treat 1,000 sq. ft., Lehker notes. Dieldrin, DDT, and heptachlor are also recommended.

Regardless of the material used, Lehker cautions CAs not to water the turf until all webworms have been killed, which usually occurs in 72 hours. The chemical must remain on the grass blades where the insects feed.

To assist CAs in identifying sod webworms, Lehker notes that the worms are from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long, and live in silk-lined tunnels at the base of the grass plants. Injured turf is strewn with bits of chewed grass blades and there are numerous fine webs between the stems.

## Mulching Aids Weed Control

CAs who do contract spraying of home gardens should remind customers that mulching is also an important factor in weed control. Not only are weeds hindered by this process, but mulching also keeps soil cooler and allows for better root growth.