

Appeal to Pro/Neophyte CA

I have been receiving copies of *Weeds and Turf* and I would like to say your approach is fine, in that you have articles for the person now in the herbicide applying business, as well as information for those who want to go into the field, either with experience from allied activities, or as something new.

The needs of this business have finally arrived at the point where I feel weed control is of professional stature.

It seems that through your publication we will not only be able to learn of new herbicides and methods of application, but will also be able to pass on to others general technology we have gained through the years.

Once again let me say that you are doing us all a great service by instituting this publication.

Carl Nagle, Jr.

Vice-President, General Mgr.
Texas Weed and Grass Control, Inc.
Odem, Texas

Pioneer Weed Controller

I have been working for towns, counties, and public utilities on weed and brush control for many years, and am one of the pioneers in this field.

I am receiving, and reading with great interest, your publication, *Weeds and Turf*. I think it is very well put together, and the articles, as a whole, are well presented.

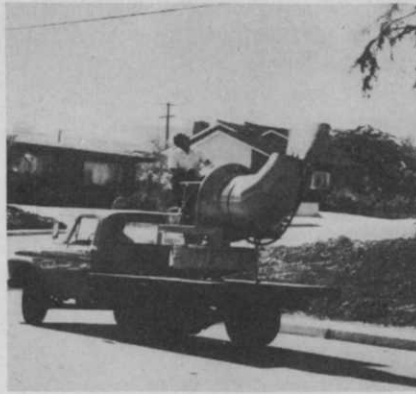
I do not have any suggestions at this time, but I believe a magazine such as yours will advance and achieve a stimulant that appeals to all your readers.

I wish you every success with your new publication.

J. Harrington Nicholson

President
J. H. Nicholson, Inc.
Mahopac, N.Y.

Weeds and Turf welcomes expressions of opinions from its readers. Send ideas and comments briefly as possible to Charles D. Webb, Editor, Weeds and Turf, 1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland 15, Ohio.



One man Turn-A-Spray manufactured by Besler Corp. has finger-tip control, moves sideways or up and down. Throwing a column of high-velocity, high-volume air with fine mist or spray, blower will cover shade trees in minutes, the company says.

Watch for Pine Needle Scale

Identification of the pine needle scale, an insect common on home plantings and nearly all pines and spruces, is an important talent for CAs who spray ornamentals in conjunction with their lawn contracts.

Severe infestations of the destructive pest cause afflicted pine needles to turn yellow, then brown, and eventually to die.

Female scales on pine needles are pure white, about 1/10th inch long, and are wider at one end than the other. At the small end is a small oblong yellow spot.

Winter is spent in the egg stage. The female forms the white crust and turns to eggs under the crust. Then follows the "crawler" stage, which is the form that spreads over the plant. When the crawler finds a suitable spot on the needle, it settles down to suck sap, form a white scale, and turn to eggs.

This white covering is resistant to penetration of most insecticides except strong ones like lime-sulphur. Lime-sulphur can be applied only during the plant's dormant season or it will burn the tender leaves.

Cure For Moss-Infected Lawns

Moss growing in lawns indicates too little fertilizer, horticulturists at Purdue University say. It is encouraged by excessive shade and excessive moisture.

They recommend waiting until fall and cleaning the moss up by adding fertilizer. If it is quite thick, rake the moss, or spade the area, sow grass seed, and fertilize.

Well on the road. Reader Dave Fleming of Philadelphia reports he has turf maintenance routes in 14 counties, serviced by two trucks that are self-supporting. It's taken a great deal of publicity—radio, TV, and newspaper—to get this new service on the road, but now "it looks good."

Goose on the loose. We reported in July that a nurseryman in Pennsylvania had resorted to geese to control weeds in his shrubbery stock. Now a report from Oklahoma says a cotton farmer has also gone the goose route. Problem there, though, seems to be coyotes, who like the webfooted quackers as much as the birds like weeds. So the farmer has to sit by an electrified fence all day, armed with rifle and binoculars, to keep the wild animals from eating the fowls which are eating the weeds. In fairness, we hesitate to criticize anyone searching for more efficient means of squelching weeds, but this seems, at best, somewhat impractical.

One of the busiest men in Florida these days is Ralph White, general manager of Ousley Sod Co. in Pompano Beach. Besides running his thriving business, Ralph is president of the Florida Turf-Grass Association, and works closely with CAs in the Sunshine State. Ralph is also scheduled to take part in the November convention of horticultural sprayers in Florida. Where does all the energy come from? Must be the Florida sun, and all the good, rich food we all get from attending so many convention banquets!

We just saw a letter to the editor of a local paper, in which a lady gardener protests, on behalf of her garden club, about the so-called misuse of pesticides. This worried do-it-yourselfer says she asked her club (about 40 ladies) how many read labels on their garden chemicals, and only four answered "yes." This, the lady proceeds, is the reason we need more laws about pesticides! Some hardworking CA, who's spent years trying to convince his customers that labels must be read, would no doubt like to refute this Rachel Carson-in-the-bud, since it is frequently the professional who gets unjustly blamed for the amateur's mistakes!

Speaking of fearful ladies, we're sure everybody would calm down if they could see some of the elaborate laboratories our suppliers maintain to test new chemicals. We just returned from Ambler, Pa., where Amchem Products treated us to a tour of its lush weed farm. There all Amchem's new chemicals undergo extensive tests both for effectiveness and for safety. Passers-by on the super highway which runs alongside this flourishing farm must wonder who's growing such a strange looking crop!

Midwestern CAs, take a tip from your neighborhood lawn and garden center. We recently motored about the countryside, one Sunday, and saw nursery after nursery advertising products for those recent invaders, chinch bugs. If your customers don't know about this newly arrived threat, be sure you set them straight. Next summer you'll no doubt be getting lots of calls about this persistent pest.