

Spray vs. Dust Uses Detailed

"To the many people who ask whether to use a dust or a spray, either wettable powder or emulsifiable concentrate, I explain that each has its own advantages, and that no one solution will answer all the situations a CA will be faced with," explains Dr. M. H. Farrier, entomologist at North Carolina State College.

Some insecticides are prepared only as a wettable powder and emulsion concentrate, while DDT, for example, will not dissolve in water when in a pure state. For DDT to be used in water, it must have an emulsifiable concentrate added, Dr. Farrier continues.

"Additives" May Harm Leaves

But an emulsifiable concentrate has much more in it than just an insecticide, Dr. Farrier cautions CAs, and many times these "additives," rather than the insecticides, are what cause injury to sensitive plant leaves. For this reason, wettable powders are usually safer to use on plants.

Since wettable powder is actually very small particles, even in the

spray mixture, it tends to settle out, and a spray rig with a built-in agitator is usually necessary for effective use, Dr. Farrier notes. When used in a sprayer that does not have an agitator, the mixture should be "sloshed around" every minute or so, Dr. Farrier recommends.

Since emulsifiable concentrates usually do not settle out as rapidly as wettable powders, they are usually better when a sprayer without an agitator is used.

Sprays Are Best in High Winds

Sprays can be used more effectively than dusts in higher winds, Dr. Farrier believes, and also recommends their use on plants, since sprays seem to stick to the underside of leaves better.

Two advantages of dusts are that they come ready-mixed, and are lighter to handle than spray mixtures, Dr. Farrier points out. Inaccessible places such as swamps can be fairly effectively dusted by letting the wind carry the dust out over the swamp, while a sprayer could never be used, Dr. Farrier concludes.

—W & T Mailbox—

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It is difficult to express our sincere appreciation for all the help your magazine has given to the Horticultural Spraymen's Association of Florida.

The news articles and comments have been an invaluable asset in our endeavor to serve the public.

Thomas E. Hamall

Publicity Director
Horticultural Spraymen's Assn.
Miami, Fla.

Interested in Weeds and Turf

As Turf Extension Agronomist here in Pennsylvania, and working in close cooperation with Dr. J. M. Duich of the Resident and Research Staff, I am quite interested in your new publication *Weeds and Turf*. I especially appreciated the October issue, which contained the Chemical Suppliers Guide.

John C. Harper II

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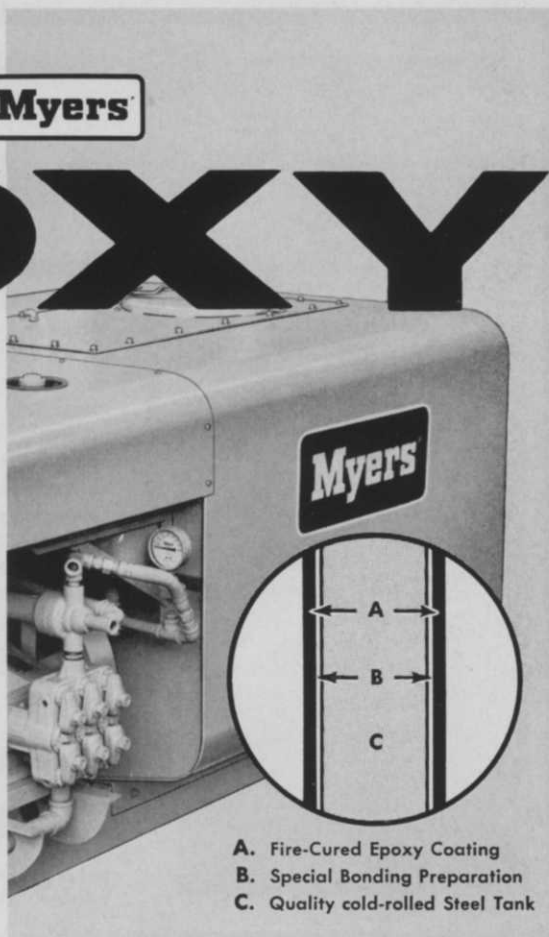
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