



Gif-Vac #1 Lawn Mower Attachment was invented by Oscar D. Gifford as an answer to a problem he encountered in his contract lawn maintenance business. Gifford, shown above with his machine, says the Gif-Vac will soon be in production and available to other turf managers.

Northwest Spraymen Organize

A new organization of chemical applicators in the Northwest was recently formed in Yakima, Wash. Named the Northwest Chemical Applicators Association, the group's membership includes basic manufacturers, distributors, ground and aerial applicators, and equipment manufacturers. Purpose of the organization is to coordinate the agricultural chemical industry in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

Officers elected are: Bob Cockburn, Early Bird Spray, Everett, Wash., president; John Yeats, Northwest Spray Co., Spokane, Wash., 1st vice president; Jerry Fox, Van Waters & Rogers, Seattle, 2nd vice president.

Board of directors include Henry Carsner, Northwest Weed Control, Tacoma, Wash.; Hugh Kendall, Allied Spray, Snohomish, Wash.; Hewitt Harrison, L. H. Butcher Co., Seattle, Wash.; Eldon Harvey, Snohomish Flying Service, Snohomish, Wash., and Ted Britten, Wolfkill Feed & Fertilizer, Monroe, Wash.

John G. Wilson was selected as executive secretary. The annual meeting will be held in Yakima in November. Address of the new association is 814 Second Ave. Bldg., Seattle, Wash. 98104.

Landscaper, Fed Up with Clippings, Designs Own Grass Removal Machine

When landscape maintenance company owner Oscar D. Gifford discovered he'd have to cut down on time spent removing clippings after mowing to increase his profits, he turned imaginative and came up with a machine for lawns that looks so good to him he's now decided to sell it to others.

Called the Gif-Vac #1 lawn mower attachment, the new device is said to pick up, immediately, freshly cut grass clippings, while a blower simultaneously partly chops up the clippings before throwing them into a trailer towed behind the mower. Clippings are thus removed before they amass on the ground.

Gifford says the trailer can handle one cubic yard of clippings before it must be emptied. The trailer's delicate balance and maneuverability allow landscapers' crews minimum effort in emptying the trailer, Gifford adds.

Gifford operates in Olympia, Washington, under the name of Giffords the Gardeners. He says he got the idea for his new Gif-Vac eight years ago while engaged in landscape maintenance on the Washington State Capitol grounds. He later went into business for himself, and now has such accounts as Continental

Can Company, whose grounds he is maintaining in the photo above.

Production and sales of the new invention are set to begin soon after a demonstration on the Capitol grounds in Olympia July 15th at 2 p.m. Those who wish advance information may write the inventor at 1003 North Central, Olympia, Washington.

U.S. Borax Has New Herbicide

Fast-killing action coupled with long residual effectiveness on all weeds and grasses is offered by a new weedkilling product designed to prevent reinfestation of treated areas.

Labeled Monobor-Chlorate Granular-D, U. S. Borax & Chemical's new herbicide is intended to reduce labor and expense in keeping fence lines, fuel storage areas, parking lots and ditchbanks free of weeds.

Diuron, an organic herbicide of very low solubility in water, has been added to a long-used borate, sodium chlorate mixture to produce the combination action. The product can be applied dry directly from the bag, or as a spray when dissolved in water. More information is available from the company at P.O. Box 75218, Sanford Station, Los Angeles, Calif.

Banvel-D Has Further Approval

Recent information from Velsicol Chemical Corp. states Banvel-D has been approved for control of Canada thistle and leafy spurge in noncroplands. Banvel-D, a broad spectrum herbicide, was previously approved for spring-seeded and fall-seeded wheat on a no-residue basis.

Approval was also obtained for top growth control of field bindweed and Russian knapweed on fence rows, roadways and other noncroplands. Canadian clearance has been given for control of Tartary buckwheat, wild buckwheat, green smartweed, ladythumb and cow cockle, and for top growth control of Canada Thistle and sowthistle in spring-seeded wheat and oats. Details are available from Velsicol at 341 E. Ohio St., Chicago, Ill.