

employs for brush control on transmission line rights-of-way.

Basal or dormant treatment was adopted by TVA for brush control in 1954 after several years of research work.

Dormant treatment is used primarily to eradicate resistant species after one or two foliage applications. "The results are highly satisfactory when applied at any time of the year," the Tennesseans disclosed. "With due caution, this method virtually eliminates the possibility of crop damage."

A mixture of 3% esters, containing 4 lbs. of acid per gallon, and 97% diesel oil is applied to the brush about 4 inches above the ground line permitting the mixture to run down and thoroughly wet the root collar. Also, the scientists said, any exposed roots should be wet.

This method is effective on resistant species, such as ash, maple, and elm. When conifers appear in the course of dormant treatment, it is best to wet the entire plant.

The method described by the TVA duo will not effectively eliminate lateral sprouters, such as sumac, locust, and sassafras.

Substituted Urea Usage

In another brush control presentation, Texas A&M College researcher Dr. G. O. Hoffman explained his studies on the effectiveness of substituted urea herbicides.

Both powder and pellets of fenuron, monuron, Urab, and Urox were tested. It was concluded that fenuron pellets, applied at 1 tablespoonful of pellets per square yard, effectively controlled such woody plants as post oak, elm, pine, slat cedar, sweet gum, hickory, hackberry, and others.

Hoffman reported that monuron and Urox pellets work satisfactorily on mesquite and huisache, but they produced considerable soil sterilization and the material needed constant agitation to remain in suspension.

Reviewing the Arsenicals

A second look at arsenical compounds, which, while highly effective, are often subject to

abuse by the public, was offered by researcher P. J. Ehman of The Ansul Company, Marinette, Wis.

Dr. Ehman, who heads the Wisconsin firm's research department, presented a number of tabulations and test results to show that pentavalent organic arsenicals used as herbicides have a very limited toxicity and are not harmful when used properly.

He also pointed out the difference between organic arsenicals (in general, less toxic to man) which are showing promise as herbicides and the inorganic arsenicals, which are considerably more toxic.

Dr. Ehman observed that evidence is being developed which shows that specific arsenicals in low dosages are nonaccumulating in animals similar to man in arsenical metabolism.

Alabama Turf Tests

In the sections devoted to weed control in turf, a highlight was the paper presented by R. W. Couch, a graduate student in botany at Auburn University in Auburn, Ala.

Couch's studies have shown that there is no injury to Bermudagrass from 2,4-D used at 2 lbs. per acre, or 4 lbs. per acre of silvex, DMA, or monoammonium methanearsonate.

Both 2,4-D and silvex gave excellent control of catsear, with 2,4-D causing more rapid kill. These two were also effective against yellow woodsorrel and cudweed, but not against carpetgrass and dallisgrass.

Delegates found time to elect officers for the coming year and to agree on meeting dates for 1965. In charge until the next conference is Dr. R. E. Frans, an agronomist from the University of Arkansas, who was elected president replacing R. F. Richards of Geigy Chemical Corp., Ardsley, N.Y. Dr. Dale Wolf of duPont was chosen vice president, and the new secretary-treasurer is Henry Andrews, a researcher from the University of Tennessee.

The 1965 Southern Weed Conference will be held Jan. 19-21 in Dallas, Texas.

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