Experts at Va. Conference Dec. 8-10 List Fungicides, Insecticides for 200 Delegates

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More than 200 manufacturers, distributors, dealers, contract applicators, and others heard pesticide experts from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and other locations list effective pesticides for turf and ornamentals during a special Virginia Pesticide Conference Dec. 8-10 in Roanoke.

Meeting at Hotel Roanoke, the assembled pesticiders were filled in on a broad-spectrum program with how-to-do-it-advice on almost every weed, turf, and tree maintenance problem.

One discussion concerned the use of fungicides on turf. VPI's Dr. A. S. Williams recommended such chemicals as Dyrene, Calo-Clor, and Tersan OM for control of snow mold, which is expected to be a problem in Virginia turf this spring.

Dr. J. O. Rowell, VPI entomology professor, said a single insecticide such as chlordane can control a variety of pests, including the larvae of May beetles and green June beetles, as well as sod webworms, armyworms, cutworms, mole crickets, and others.

Control of insect and disease pests which attack ornamentals was analyzed by VPI's Dr. R. H. Gruenhagen, who reminded delegates that it is costly to replace ornamental plantings.

In specific recommendations, Dr. Gruenhagen said Ferbam is effective against cedar-apple rust, while the antibiotic cyclohexamide is excellent for the cedar gall stage but is not as good on the apple rust stage of the malady.

"Dicamba is particularly useful for control of knotweed, whiteclover, chickweed, red sorrel, and curly dock," according to Dr. S. W. Bingham, of VPI.

"For annual grassy weeds, there is a wide selection of herbicides available," Dr. Bingham said. "Dacthal, Betasan, Zytron, and Bandane are among those used successfully in lawns prior to crabgrass emergence. DMA, PMA, AMA, and CMA are effective postemergence materials for crabgrass control; however, some temporary discoloration of desired turf occurs and lasts for 2 to 4 weeks."

This was the group's first meeting, and they formed a new Virginia Pesticide Association.

New Antidrought Compounds for Turf Examined During New Eng. Ag. Chem. Conference Dec. 9-10

Antidrought compounds may have some significant application in the turf industry, more than 150 delegates heard during the annual New England Agricultural Chemicals Conference and Workshop, New Hampshire Highway Hotel, Concord, N.H., Dec. 9-10.

Antidrought and antifreeze compounds, potentially useful to the horticulturist, were described by Pieter Kuiper of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at New Haven as part of a program that included experts on virtually every phase of agricultural chemical research and application. R. E. Johnson, Richmond, was named president; Robert Pretlow, Franklin, is vice president; J. W. Marshall, Charlottesville, will serve as secretary; and Harvey Carpenter, Jr., Mitchell, is treasurer. Officers were installed during the banquet where well-known Dr. R. H. White-Stevens, formidable opponent to antipesticiders, spoke on the value of pesticides. He's from the agricultural research operation of American Cyanamid in Princeton, N.J.

Kuiper said most research on the antidrought compounds, such as decenylsuccinic acid, showed that when normally cold- or drought-sensitive plants were treated with the chemical, they could withstand significant stress.

Theodore R. Flanagan, Extension Weed Specialist at the University of Vermont, Burlington, told WTT that the annual conference changes its emphasis each year, but that the constant purpose is to furnish the latest information on pesticide use to those immediately in contact with the ultimate consumer, including contract applicators, representatives from industry, golf course superintendents, etc. Those interested in attending next year may write Flanagan for further details.



Pesticide experts gathered to discuss problems in usage peculiar to New England. Left to right are: H. D. Kerr, turf weed researcher from USDA's Beltsville, Md. complex; A. Hawkins of the Univ. of Conn., Storrs; C. C. Compton, Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J.; J. J. Jernigan, Federal Extension Service; conference co-chairman Howard; and Oscar L. Wyman, Soule Glass and Paint Co., Bangor, Me. During the meeting the New England Agricultural Chemicals Conference and the New England Herbicide Workshop, previously separate organizations, were combined. New chairman is Extension Weed Specialist Theodore R. Flanagan of the University of Vermont, Burlington. New vice chairman is Ed Cooper of Allied Chemical Corp.'s General Chemical Division; Dr. C. A. Langer of the University of New Hampshire Horticulture Department is secretary-treasurer.