Meeting Dates

2nd Annual Colorado Agriculture Chemical Exposition, Community Bldg., Greeley, Feb. 15-16.

Northwest Turfgrass Assn., Golf Course Management Workshop, Puyallup Experiment Station, Puyallup, Wash., Feb. 16-17.

International Shade Tree Conference, Southern Chapter, Annual Meeting, Andrew Jackson Hotel, Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 20-22.

Pennsylvania State University Turfgrass Conference, on campus, University Park, Feb. 21-24.

Annual Nursery, Landscape Tree, and Turf Conference, University of California, Davis, Feb. 23-25.

Southern Turfgrass Conference, Hotel Peabody, Memphis, Tenn., Feb. 28-Mar. 1.

Massachusetts Nurserymen's Assn. Short Course, Waltham Field Station, Waltham, March 1-2.

Sod Producers Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, March 2.

Texas Weed Control Assn., Annual Weed Conference, Holiday Inn West, Amarillo, March 3.

Midwest Regional Turf Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, March 7-9.

36th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mar. 16-17.

Conference on Community Development, on campus, University of Iowa, Ames, Mar. 18-19.

Wisconsin Turfgrass Conference, Wisconsin Center, Madison, March 22-23.

Wisconsin Park & Recreation Assn. Annual Meeting, Hotel Eau Claire, Eau Claire, March 23-25.

5th Annual Florida Turf-Grass Trade Show, Plantation Field Research Laboratory, Ft. Lauderdale, April 28-29.

Florida Nurserymen and Growers Assn., Convention, Sheraton's British Colonial Hotel, Nassau, May 12-14.

Texas Assn. of Nurserymen, Annual Convention, Nursery and Garden Supply Show, Dallas Memorial Auditorium, Dallas, Aug. 21-24.

Florida Nurserymen and Growers Assn. Trade Meet, George Washington Hotel, Jacksonville, Oct. 14-16.

Municipal Pest Control Problems Subject of New England Agricultural Chemical Conference

By T. R. FLANAGAN
Extension Weed Specialist, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vt.

"We now need to take a good look at pest control programs to see where we failed to capture wholehearted public support which we shall need in the futue," Leo G. K. Iverson, assistant director, Plant Pest Control Division, ARS, US Dept. of Agriculture, stated in his talk, "The Necessity of Good Relations with the Public," at the New England Agricultural Chemical Conference, Dec. 15 and 16. He went on to add, "It will be more important than ever that the public be fully informed and have confidence in our profession."

The New England program drew delegates from all six states to the New Hampshire Highway Hotel in Concord for this annual pesticide meeting.

Over 250 town and county officials, park superintendents, tree wardens and arborists, utilities and public works people, road and cemetery commissioners, representatives from county, state and federal parks and forests, military base personnel, pesticide industry and others attended.

Iverson continued, in his keynote address, that without the support of a sizeable portion of the general public, control programs are in trouble. But when the people are fully informed, most are pleased that their public officials are taking action to protect them from a destructive or harmful pest.

This two-day program, an outgrowth of earlier but separate conferences on weeds and plant pests, was geared to provide information useful in solving problems for those people specifically concerned with the supervision and direction of pest control programs in municipal and other public land situations.

T. R. Flanagan, chairman of the 1965 conference, welcomed the delegates and emphasized that the conference goal was to provide new information on the wise and safe use of pesticides to groups and individuals in direct contact with the ultimate consumer.

In addition to a discussion on the necessity of good public relations, delegates heard several talks on legal aspects of pest control programs. Hyland R. Johns, vice president of the Asplundh Tree Expert Co., showed a series of slides depicting various aspects and pitfalls related to contractor liability. He concluded that for a pest control program "good planning, organization, and supervision will prevent problems before liability is incurred."

"Laws dealing with pesticides are of interest to those who supply and use pesticides because they are the 'ground rules' under

New executive board members are included in this group attending the New England Agricultural Chemical Conference. They are (l. to r.): J. Lincoln Pearson, chairman, extension pesticide coordinator, University of Rhode Island; Edward J. Cooper, past vice chairman, Allied Chemical Corp.; Raymond P. Atherton, vice chairman, Hubbard-Hall Chemical Co.; C. A. Langer, secretary-treasurer, extension horticulturist, University of New Hampshire; and T. R. Flanagan, past chairman, extension weed specialist, University of Vermont.

which we must operate," stated Lewis P. Wells, Jr. In his comprehensive review of the laws of the New England states relating to pesticides and the control of pests, Wells went on to say that these laws vary from state to state and that it is vitally important for those managing pest control programs to know legislation in their area of operation. Wells, pesticide program supervisor with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, concluded that "Our present laws provide a set of guidelines which tend to minimize damage and discourage the use of pesticides without full knowledge of the effects of improper use."

The first day's program included a full afternoon session on shade tree problems. Gordon Nielsen, Pesticide Coordinator from Vermont, led off a double-barreled attack on municipal tree programs explaining that often alternate non-chemical programs were as important as spraying.

The importance of replacement, management, and sanitation in city tree planning was discussed by Ed Duda from the University of Connecticut, R. B. Pike from the University of New Hampshire, and J. A. Dietrick, Superintendent of Parks and Trees from Greenwich, Conn. Joe Dietrick emphasized that "The planning and management of a municipal tree program will determine its success or failure." He went on to point out that success was often achieved by ingenuity and good public relations alone.

The proper organization of a successful Dutch Elm disease control program involves sanitation as well as spraying, concluded the next panel of Robley W. Nash, Maine State Entomologist, W. B. Becker, University of Massachusetts, and D. J. Reid, Shell Chemical Co. Nash commented on Maine's emphasis on local management of sanitation programs. He concluded that a successful sanitation program involved "A good understanding of the biology of the fungus and its vectors."

George Cavin gave keynote address for L. G. K. Iverson, who was unexpectedly and unavoidably absent at the last moment.

The first day's program ended with a discussion on other shade tree problems and their controls, a description of the pesticides recommended in the several New England states, and a delineation by E. H. Wheeler, University of Massachusetts, of the role a State Pesticide Coordinator can play in offering aid and advice to those engaged in municipal programs.

Clif Chater, in discussing the control of important insect pests of New England trees, pointed out the need to avoid overspray-

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ing or overdosing, one danger of which is the inadvertent elimination of useful parasites or even wildlife. "Spraying, when properly done," he concluded, "may be therefore thought of as a form of conservation."

The second day at Concord brought to the group's attention a series of helps toward solving insects, weed, and vermin problems. Ray P. Atherton, Hubbard-Hall Chemical Co. moderated a series of talks on solving insect problems of a public nature. R. L. Armstrong and R. W. Spencer, both superintendents of New England community mosquito control projects, and E. H. Wheeler and H. E. Wave, from the University of Massachusetts, covered the good and bad points of mosquito, blackfly, and other insect controls. A panel of experts from industry and the several New England Extension Services covered weed problem solutions. Dr. Richard Skogley, turf specialist from Rhode Island, spoke of the importance of weed elimination from public turfed areas, even if only for esthetic reasons, as a good public relations tool. Mario Boschetti, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, echoed this sentiment in regard to acquatic nuisances although some water weed infestations may cause other more serious problems. Boschetti was quick to point out the need for very careful calculations in figuring herbicide dosages when planning for algae and weed control.

The afternoon saw new officers elected to govern this annual conference. Chairman for 1966 is J. Lincoln Pearson, University of Rhode Island Extension Specialist; vice chairman, R. P. Atherton, Hubbard-Hall Chemical Co.; and secretary-treasurer, C. A . "Kelly" Langer, University of New Hampshire. This conference is jointly sponsored by representatives of the region's Extension Services with representatives from industry and each New England Land Grant College as advisors.

The final panel, headed up by J. L. Pearson, pesticide coordinator from the University of Rhode Island, presented information on the latest on vermin control. J. Peterson and R. Bollengier of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service covered control solutions for rodents and pest birds including gulls and pigeons. C. Houghton of the Safety Fumigant Co., Boston, discussed various other aspects of household vermin control. Houghton concluded with a summary of the National Pest Control Association's official statement of policy on safe pesticide use. He pointed out that these rules emphasize "In all pest control procedures, safety must come foremost."

Diamond Alkali Expands

Construction of a new agricultural chemicals plant for the manufacture of synthetic granular pesticides has been announced by Diamond Alkali Co. The plant scheduled to be in operation in Des Moines, Iowa, late next Spring will be adjacent to the company's present facilities there.

Diamond's new process produce homogeneous particles with the toxicant added during formation of the granule. According to John S. Cort, Jr., of Diamond's agricultural chemicals division, release of the toxicant can be controlled and it is possible to combine pre-emergence and post-emergence treatment in one application by mixing granules which will disintegrate at different rates.