

## Southern Weedmen Confer In New Orleans, Jan. 24-26

Nearly every aspect of weed control relating to agriculture, industry, and public utilities will be covered when southern weed specialists convene at the Jung Hotel in New Orleans, La., for the 20th annual meeting of the Southern Weed Conference, Jan. 24-26.

The three-day session is scheduled to bring together researchers and educators representing colleges, chemical companies, public health and regulatory agencies, public service organizations, equipment manufacturers, and others from 12 southern states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas.

President of the Southern Weed Conference is Donald Davis, Botany Department, Auburn University, Auburn, Ala.; Robert A. Mann, Tennessee Valley Authority, Chattanooga,

Tenn., is vice president; secretary-treasurer is Dr. H. Hanly Funderburk, Botany Department, Auburn University; Dr. John Baker, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, is program chairman; and Robert Z. Torrance, of E. I. duPont de Nemours, Baton Rouge, is in charge of local arrangements for the conference.

## Noncrop Weed Sessions Set For Jan. 24-26 Calif. Meet

Headlining the Jan. 25 session on noncropland weed control, D. W. Yazell, Engineer of Vegetation Control, Santa Fe Railroad, will describe the Santa Fe's "Railroad Electric Weed Spray Car" to participants in the 1967 California Weed Control Conference, Jan. 24-26, at the Hilton Inn in San Diego.

The railroad has converted two baggage cars into modern spray units, equipped with diesel-driven centrifugal pumps for weed control on trackage that runs from California to Illinois,

Texas, and Louisiana. In the same session, Mike Palermo, engineering commission, 11th Naval District Headquarters, will discuss the Navy's increased reliance on herbicides to control unwanted vegetation on shore establishments, and the cost reductions that have resulted.

Other papers to be presented during this session include "Weed Control Under Asphalt Paving," by Carl F. Lind, Asphalt Institute district engineer; "Weed and Brush Control Under Transmission Lines," by C. Elmer Lee, Southern California Edison Co.'s manager of line clearing; and "A Distributor's View of the Industrial Herbicide Market," by Bob Brunner, industrial herbicide specialist for Van Waters & Rogers, Inc. F. R. Ogilvy, western regional manager for agricultural and industrial products, U. S. Borax and Chemical Corp., Los Angeles, will chair the non-crop session.

## MSU Sees Possible Turf Uses for Subsoil Asphalt

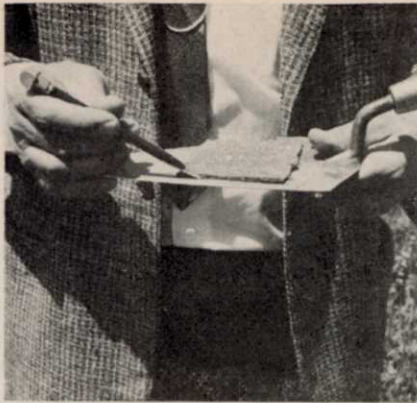
Water holding capacity of the soil is doubled, Michigan State University scientists say, by their newly developed process for installing a thin layer of asphalt two feet under a sandy soil. Asphalt layering may prove valuable for raising turf in such locations as a sandy golf course, they point out. The asphalt layer, about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. thick, provides an artificial barrier and allows water to be stored in the zone where it can be readily used by plants.

Developed by two M.S.U. researchers, agricultural engineer Clarence M. Hansen and soil scientist A. Earl Erickson in conjunction with the American Oil Co.'s Research and Development Department, this asphalt layering process is said to have a potential for reclaiming millions of acres of droughty, sand soils. Cost, using the researchers' experimental equipment, is about \$225 per acre, but developers feel equipment and application methods can be improved and cost reduced. They expect the asphalt layer would last about 15 years.

"Roots can penetrate the asphalt



Participants in the Annual Turfgrass Short Course of the Alabama-Northwest Florida Turfgrass Assn., at Auburn University, included (l. to r.) Dr. Henry Orr, Department of Horticulture, Auburn University; Bryson L. James, technical representative, Hercules Inc., Raleigh, N.C.; Marshall Dugger, Dugger Grass Co., Tuscumbia, Ala.; and Dr. R. D. Rouse, associate director and assistant Dean Auburn University School of Agriculture. Altogether, more than 100 participants and researchers discussed problems in turfgrass management during the Sept. 8-9 meet. Speakers included James, who discussed "Preemergence Treatment for Control of *Poa Annua* on Overseeded Grasses"; Dr. Orr, who talked about "Trees, Shrubs and Their Care"; James B. Moncrief, southeastern agronomist, USGA, Greens Section, Athens, Ga., who delved into the loss of bermudagrass on golf courses in northern Alabama; W. A. Rocquemore, Patten Seed and Turfgrass Co., Lakeland, Ga., whose topic was "Renovation and Reconstruction of Tees"; and Tom Mascaro, West Point Products Corp., West Point, Pa., who reported on problems, including soil compaction and turfgrass wear, caused by golf carts. Dr. D. G. Sturkie, Department of Agronomy and Soils, Auburn, was chairman of arrangements for the meet and directed a tour of turf experiments on fertilization of zoysia, Tiflawn bermuda, and centepedegrass. Dr. Sturkie also described new strains of bermudagrass and zoysia under test at the Auburn plots.



**Asphalt layer**, about 1/8 in. thick, is sprayed 2 ft. under the surface of sand soil by a specially designed shoe. Layering can reclaim millions of acres of sand soil, developers say.

layer," Erickson explains, "but do not emerge through the other side, since ground under the layer is completely dry and there's no reason for roots to keep on going. End result is a mat of roots which eventually begins to form right at the top of the layer. We haven't had a chance to test the full effect, but we believe it helps to build up a supply of organic matter in the soil. Besides that, the layer should help reduce leaching of important plant nutrients, especially nitrogen," Erickson adds.

### Wichita Hosts N. Central Weed Conference, Dec. 5-7

More than 700 weedmen from 12 states and Canada are expected for the Dec. 5-7 meeting of the North Central Weed Control Conference at the Broadview Hotel in Wichita, Kans.

Reports on new herbicides, regulations on their use, equipment and application methods, industrial vegetation control, and all aspects of weed control are programmed for the fact-filled three-day meeting. Sections for extensioners, researchers, and specialists in other areas are also to be included. President of the conference is John D. Furrer, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; vice president and program chairman for the meeting is R. L. Warden, The Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Mich.

For further information, write G. Clare Buskirk, secretary-treasurer, North Central Weed Control Conference, 4100 X St., Lincoln, Nebr. 68503.

### Book Review

## Weeds of the World; Biology and Control

by Lawrence J. King, Interscience Publishers Inc., New York, N. Y., 1966, 522 pp. ill., \$18.00.

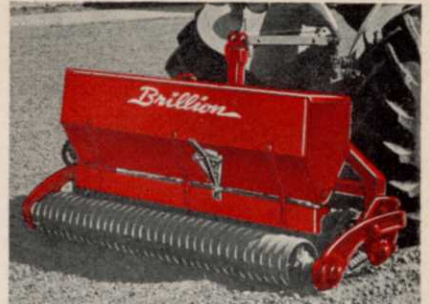
With detailed descriptions of the origin and classification of weeds, this volume will interest the weed controller who is concerned not only with the "how," but also with the "why" of weed control.

It is not a reference the contract applicator will turn to often for specific herbicide recommendations (though some are included), but a readable account of the distribution and characteristics of weeds and the development of herbicides for their control. Ranging all over the world in text and diagram, the author describes the uses of weeds as well as their harmful aspects. Seed structure, growth, and reproduction of weeds, along with environmental factors are treated at length. Each chapter is concluded with an extensive bibliography detailing textual references.

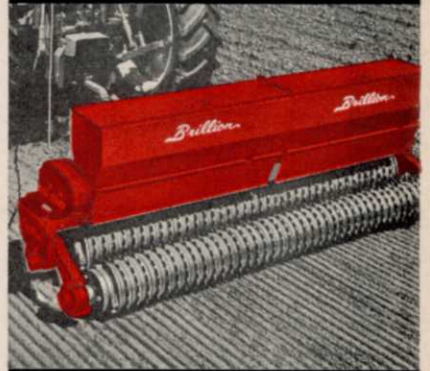
Herbicides are classified and described, and their applications suggested. Data is given on the way in which herbicides act on plants and on the uses of various spray techniques and surfactants. One chapter is devoted to herbicide controls, and one to nonchemical methods of weed control. Appendices include tabular data on the properties and uses of herbicides, and brief descriptions of those recently introduced.

Readers wishing to expand their knowledge of weed biology and the various controls will benefit from this publication.

For the applicator in daily contest with weeds, whatever his problems, it may be some consolation to hear from the author that "In terms of the Darwinian concept of the struggle for existence, weeds as a class probably well represent the most successful plant forms that have evolved simultaneously with the destruction or disruption by man of the indigenous vegetation and its habitats."



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