

"No Need to Burn Roadside Berms" Hay

Tells '66 N.W. Spray-O-Rama in Portland

"Roadside spraying can be done without having many miles of roadways bordered with burned areas so displeasing to the public," Joseph Hay, director of industrial weed control for the Oregon State Highway Department, told opening-session participants at the 5th annual Pacific Northwest Spraymen's Spray-O-Rama, Sept. 23-24 at the Thunderbird Motel, Portland, Ore.

Attacking indiscriminate spraying for roadside brush control, Hay pointed out that selection of spray materials is of prime importance to avoid "blighted" areas. Low soluble mixtures must be used in regions of high rainfall, or the spray is dissipated too quickly; conversely, lower rainfall regions call for highly soluble materials.

Hay, who is responsible for controlling some 7,000 miles of brush and weeds along Oregon roadways, also reminded spraymen that the area immediately adjoining many paved roads gets a concentrated amount of water from runoff. "It's here that an annual shot is not the answer, but rather maintenance sprays applied several times annually are needed."

Dr. Virgil Freed, head of the Department of Agricultural Chemistry at Oregon State University, Corvallis, and University



James Short, Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture, welcomed conference delegates: "I commend you for your program to promote professionalism."

extension chemist Dr. James Witt continued the session with an investigation of environmental pollution. Emphasizing that chemical residues are only one aspect of the problem, they added this should encourage spraymen to do everything in their power to be more and more versed in the complexities and uses of chemicals they deal with.

Close Look at Turf Problems

"It is not uncommon to find a turfgrass area on a layer of thatch similar to an elevated peat bog," Dr. Norman Goetze, Oregon State University turf specialist, said in his discussion

of turf problems common to the Northwest. Opening the Sept. 24 session, Dr. Goetze explained that, in any cool climate, thatch is an ever present problem and is most harmful where it ties up fertilizers in the thatch layer and does not allow nutrients to get down to the grass root zone. "We must get through thatch by piercing, or in some way removing it, to allow nutrients and chemicals we apply to get to the problem."

Referring to the common practice of cutting grasses at short heights, Dr. Goetze recalled that "the era of the broadleaf weed" came along with close mowing since these weeds are able to make more inroads in shorter grasses. Hot weather diseases, too, are encouraged by shorter heights. "Adding to our woes are the grassy weeds, which are extremely difficult to control because we are actually trying to control grass within grass," the turf specialist said.

On the brighter side, Dr. Goetze pointed out that "in the Portland area, soil, climate, and temperature are not particularly favorable to the development of crabgrass. Only one genuine sample from Portland has been mailed to Oregon State University in the past six years."



Joseph Hay, Oregon Highway Department weed supervisor: "It's not necessary for roadside spraying to cause roadside blight."



Dr. Norman Goetze, turf specialist, Oregon State University: "It's not uncommon to find turfgrass areas similar to peat bogs."



Ray A. McNiellan, Multnomah County, Oregon, extension agent: "Enforcement of spraymen's licensing laws is in high gear."



Art Mehas, King County, Wash., extension agent: "Many calls to our office show a lack of sprayman-customer communication."



Outgoing president William Owen (right) congratulates '67 president Jack Daniels.

Licensing the Sprayer

"Too often, a sprayman studies for his license exam, passes the test, and then proceeds on an inadequate *continuing* study program," Ray McNiellan, agricultural extension agent from Multnomah County, Oreg., complained. "In the future, we will see the need for more specialized, prescription-type spraying demanding a depth of knowledge that may be unknown to us at this time."

McNiellan and Art Mehas, extension agent from King County, Wash., gave county agents' impressions of custom applicators they have known. "Many calls to the county agent's office indicate a breakdown in communication between the sprayman and his customer," Mehas remarked. "This situation can be prevented by a better organized person-to-person relationship between applicator and customer." As evidence of the problem, Mehas cited the extremely large turnover of customers between various spray companies.

Another problem area, seldom realized, was brought forth by Mehas when he noted that "many applicators are called on the carpet for supposed damage to plants which actually may have resulted from reactions of plant leaf surfaces to air pollutants. Being mindful of this is another way in which a sprayman can better his customer relations," the extension specialist concluded.

Spray Equipment Shown

An equipment display at the '66 Spray-O-Rama featured some

30 spray items, ranging from small pickup outfits to large (900 gal. to 1,000 gal.) rigs with several pumps. "This equipment serves best to illustrate the complexity of demand in our industry and a resultant need for versatility of application equipment and methods on the part of the 'pros' in the business," William Owen, '66 PNSA president, commented.

Spray gear was also discussed by a symposium session manned by Donald Mock, Shamrock Spray Service, Seattle, Wash.; Earl Parker, Jr., Chemical Spray Co., Dayton, Oreg.; and L. F. "Lew" Sefton, Sefton Spray Service, Portland, Oreg. These veteran spraymen agreed there is no optimum size for a given piece of equipment. It's a matter of the size and type of equipment an applicator chooses to use; one sprayman's large rig might be another's undoing, and vice versa.

"I have always found that if you can help a prospective customer, you can generally get the job to do the work for him," Ray Collier, Collier Spray Service, Portland, said in his talk on "How I Sell the Spray Business and You Can Too."

"If you show prospects what's wrong; show them their needs, and in doing so, demonstrate your own knowledge and ability, customers will come flocking to your door." This was Collier's advice to spraymen for using the "professional" approach to sell their services.

General interest speakers at the two-day meet included Del Snider, Taylor and Co., adver-

Meeting Dates



New Jersey Federation of Shade Tree Commissions, Annual Meeting, Haddon Hall Hotel, Atlantic City, Nov. 13-15.

Nebraska Association of Nurserymen, Annual Convention, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, Nov. 14-15.

National Weed Committee of Canada, Western Section, Research Station, Canada Agriculture, Brandon, Manitoba, Nov. 29-Dec. 1.

Illinois Turfgrass Conference, University of Illinois, Urbana, Dec. 1-2.

Minnesota Nurserymen's Assn., 40th Annual Convention, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis, Dec. 5-6.

North Central Weed Control Conference, Broadview Hotel, Wichita, Kans., Dec. 5-7.

Connecticut Nurserymen's Assn., Annual Meeting, Hotel Park-Plaza, New Haven, Dec. 28.

North Carolina Association of Nurserymen, Short Course and Trade Fair, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, Jan. 1-3, 1967.

Northeastern Weed Control Conference, Commodore Hotel, New York, N.Y., Jan. 4-6.

Indiana Arborist Assn., Annual Meeting, Claypoole Hotel, Indianapolis, Jan. 4-6.

Pennsylvania-Delaware Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference, Annual Meeting, Nittany Lion Inn, University Park, Pa., Jan. 10-12.

Illinois Nurserymen's Assn., Annual Convention and Trade Show, Hotel LaSalle, Chicago, Jan. 15-17.

Virginia Nurserymen's Assn., Annual Convention, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Jan. 15-17.

New York State Arborist's Assn., The Concord Hotel, Kiamasha Lake, N. Y., Jan. 15-17.

Maryland Nurserymen's Assn., Annual Meeting, Washington Country Club, Gaithersburg, Jan. 17-18.

Ohio Chapter, ISTC, Annual Meeting; Ohio Nurserymen's Assn., Winter Meeting; and Ohio State University Short Course for Arborists, Turf Managers, Landscape Contractors, and Nurserymen, Sheraton Hotel, Columbus, Jan. 23-26.

Virginia Turfgrass Council, Hotel John Marshall, Richmond, Jan. 24-25.

California Weed Conference, Hilton Inn, San Diego, Jan. 24-26.

Southern Weed Conference, Jung Hotel, New Orleans, La., Jan. 24-26.

Illinois Custom Spray Operator's Training School, University of Illinois, Urbana, Jan. 25-26.

tising, Portland, who spoke on printing and direct mail advertising for the spray service; Mrs. Marguerite Norris Davis, Portland garden writer, who offered "A Woman's View of the Professional Spray Industry"; and Robert W. Averill, public relations director of Merritt-Davis Schools, Salem, Oreg., who addressed the banquet session on "Public Relations and the Pesticide Applicator."

First N.W. Regional Meet

Termed the first truly regional event sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Spraymen's Association, which encompasses Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and British Columbia, the conference was hosted by the Pesticide Sprayers Association of Portland, Oreg., a component member of PNSA.

Officers of the northwest group for the coming year were elected at a business session. Jack Daniels, Green-Up Spray Service, Seattle, Wash., takes over as president from William Owen, General Spray Service, Clackamas, Oreg. James Overton, Miller Products Co., Portland, Oreg., becomes vice president. Donald Mock, Shamrock

Spray Service, Seattle, was chosen secretary-treasurer.

In other actions, the association's board of directors appointed committees to undertake studies in two areas. One committee will look into tank life residual values of various insecticide compounds as they are mixed in solution by a custom applicator. This is being done in an effort to find out how long a given mixture is "good" after it has been prepared in the tank and, for some unexpected reason, is not used immediately.

Second committee will chart herbicide compatibilities. The Board feels this represents an area of great need in the spray industry, and one that has not been sufficiently investigated.

Next year's Spray-O-Rama is being planned for the Seattle, Washington area.

Ill. Turfmen Meet Dec. 1-2

Dr. Noel Jackson, University of Rhode Island, and Dr. R. W. Miller, Ohio State University, are among guests slated to address the Seventh Illinois Turfgrass Conference at the University of Illinois, Urbana, Dec. 1-2. Jack-

son will cover turf diseases and their control, and Miller discusses turf culture.

For golf course interests, J. L. Holmes, USGA Greens Section, will recommend procedures for selecting golf course sites. In addition, University of Illinois staffers will examine weed control, insects and their control, pesticide compatibilities, and recreational landscaping. Complete conference proceedings are to be available for those attending. For more information contact Dr. Fred Weinard, secretary-treasurer, Illinois Turfgrass Foundation, 100 Floriculture Building, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

Safe Herbicide Use Theme of Jan. NEWCC

"Safe Use of Herbicides" will be a major program theme when weed specialists meet at the Hotel Commodore, New York City, on Jan. 4-6, for the 21st annual Northeastern Weed Control Conference.

U. S. Representative Jamie L. Whitten is scheduled to leadoff the Wednesday, Jan. 4 general session with a discussion of "The Role of Land-Grant Colleges." Other speakers on this session will include Dr. F. R. Van Abeele, executive vice president of Elanco Products Co., Indianapolis, Ind., and Dr. Ernest R. Marshall, of Union Carbide Corp.'s International Division, New York. Both speakers will emphasize use of pesticides. Basic research papers will be presented Wednesday, and a complete schedule of sectional meetings is planned for Thursday and Friday.

Directing '66 conference activities is president Richard D. Ilnicki, Department of Soil and Crops, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. John Gallagher, Amchem Products, Inc., Ambler, Pa., is vice president; and Arthur Bing, Cornell Ornamentals Research Laboratory, Farmingdale, N.Y., is NEWCC secretary-treasurer.

Additional program details will be announced here next month.



Past Presidents of the Northeastern Weed Control Conference assembled for this group photograph, taken at '66 banquet. Former chief executives are lined up (starting at front row left) in order of the year they served. Only two are missing from photo: Dr. Gilbert A. Ahlgren, first president of the group in 1947-48, who was on a special agricultural assignment with the U. S. government in Viet Nam; and John D. Van Geluwe, of Geigy Agricultural Chemicals Corp., Ardsley, N.Y. Pictured (left to right) are (**front row**): Dr. Robert D. Sweet, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.; Dr. Howard L. Yowell, Esso Chemical Co., New York, N.Y.; Dr. Steve M. Raleigh, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.; Dr. Charles E. Minarik, of Ft. Detrick, Md.; and Dr. Robert H. Beatty, Amchem Products, Inc., Ambler, Pa. **Second row**: Dr. Albin O. Kuhn, president, University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus; Dr. L. L. Danielson, USDA, Plant Industry Section, Beltsville, Md.; Dr. Charles L. Hovey, Agway, Inc., Ithaca, N.Y.; Dr. Stanford N. Fertig, Amchem Products, Inc.; Dr. L. Gordon Utter, Diamond Alkali Co., Painesville, Ohio; and E. (Lish) M. Rahn, University of Delaware, Newark, Del. **Third row**: Dr. Lawrence Southwick, Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Mich.; Dr. Donald A. Schallock (deceased, April, '66), formerly at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.; Anthony J. Tafuro, American Cyanamid Co., Yardley, Pa.; Dr. Robert A. Peters, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Conn.; and Dr. Gideon D. Hill, duPont Chemical Co., Wilmington, Del.