



Artemisia, or chrysanthemum weed, draws the attention of weed workshop participants, as Dr. A. M. S. Pridham (left), discusses a sample. Others (left to right) are William R. Titus, Nassau County, N.Y., extension service; Dr. Arthur Bing, head of Cornell Ornamentals Research Laboratory; Professor Peter Hyypio, Bailey Hortorium and Cornell weed specialist; and Charles F. Scheer, Jr., Suffolk County, N.Y., cooperative extension agent.

Delegates to '66 Cornell Conference Study Ornamentals, Turfgrasses; See New Sprayer

Problems and management of ornamentals and turfgrasses were the key interest of more than 100 specialists who gathered at the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., July 6 to 8. Representing nine states plus New York, delegates to the 1966 Cornell Conference of nurserymen, arborists, landscape contractors, and garden center operators kept up a busy round of skull sessions and workshops.

A new type of sprayer, from Amchem Products, Inc., Ambler, Pa., was a highlight of the turfgrass workshop's equipment display. The new applicator is said to provide uniform distribution of spray from a rotating disk. Cornell professor John F. Cornman told the workshop "it is an excellent item of grounds-keeping equipment for schools, parks, and similar areas." Participants in the turfgrass session also reviewed grass varieties on a tour of Cornell's research plots.

Thatch formation in Merion bluegrass was among the topics discussed by the workshop, chaired by James E. Ashton, cooperative extension agent, Oneida County, N. Y. Grass cutting height, nitrogen fertilization, use of wetting agents, and clippings removal were related to thatch buildup and other conditions.

Present test results indicate there is less dollar spot disease in turf if clippings are left on the grass. This was attributed to the added fertility from the clippings.

Another workshop concentrated on weed control in ornamentals. Charles F. Scheer, Jr., cooperative extension agent, Suffolk County, N. Y., and Dr. Arthur Bing, head of Cornell Ornamentals Research Laboratory, Farmingdale, Long Island, directed this session. *Artemisia*, quackgrass, and other stoloniferous perennials were described

as major problems in ornamental landscape maintenance.

Fertilizer applied in fall may make seedling weeds more succulent, but is also taken up by woody ornamentals and stored for rapid new growth in the early spring. It was pointed out, however, that both fertilizers and herbicides can be successfully applied in fall. Granular dichlobenil, applied to the base of woody ornamentals at that time, will kill many grasses and herbaceous weeds, leaving the area weed free until midsummer or later, unless the soil is cultivated. Covering treated areas with mulches, such as peat or sawdust, is another way to increase the effectiveness of weed control in woody ornamentals.

Other sessions included two workshops devoted to insects and diseases, a landscape design workshop, principles of tree and shrub growth, woody plant identification, a business management workshop, a sales and marketing workshop, and a session on the national beautification program. In his remarks on "public landscape planting," Cornell professor Robert G. Mower said selection of specific tree varieties has been overemphasized. More important is the selection of trees adapted to the environment, including such soil factors as drainage, fertility, and water-holding capacity, and such aboveground influences as temperature range, shade, and wind.

Workshop leaders for the Cornell Conference (shown left to right) were Dr. John A. Weidhaas, ornamental entomologist at Cornell; Professor Daniel Dowd, head of arboriculture at the State University of New York, Farmingdale, Long Island; Robert J. Dwelle, Cornell lecturer in landscape design; Professor Robert J. Scannell, Cornell landscape design contractor; and Professor Robert G. Mower, woody plant specialist at Cornell.

