

Meeting Dates



Southern Shade Tree Conference, John Marshall Hotel, Richmond, Va., Mar. 12-15.

Iowa Turfgrass Conference, Hotel Savery, Des Moines, Mar. 13-14.

Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mar. 15-16.

Western Weed Conference, Westward Ho Hotel, Phoenix, Ariz., Mar. 15-17.

Northern California Turfgrass Exposition, Strybing Arboretum, San Francisco, Calif., Mar. 22-23.

West Virginia Weed Control Association, Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, Morgantown, Mar. 28-29.

New England Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference Annual Meeting, Sheraton-Eastland Hotel, Portland, Maine, Mar. 30-31.

Nebraska Program on Selection and Handling of Pesticides, University of Nebraska, East Campus, Lincoln, Apr. 3-4.

Western Aerial Applicators Short Course, Landis Auditorium, Riverside City College, Riverside, Calif. Apr. 3-4.

Western Aerial Applicators Short Course, Caravan Inn, Sacramento, Calif., Apr. 5-6.

Canadian Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference, Annual Convention, Holiday Inn, Ottawa, Ontario, Apr. 27-28.

Florida Turfgrass Trade Show, Diplomat Hotel, Hollywood By The Sea, Fla., Apr. 27-29.

Western Chapter, International Shade Tree Conference, Annual Meeting, Hotel Coronado, San Diego, Calif., Apr. 30-May 3.

Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association, Annual Convention, Robert Meyer Motor Inn, Orlando, May 25-27.

The Hyacinth Control Society, Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, Fort Myers, Fla., June 18-20.

American Association of Nurserymen, Annual Convention, Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour, Fla., July 8-13.

International Shade Tree Conference, 43rd Annual Convention, Marriott Motor Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 27-31.



Newly elected officers of the New York State Arborists Association gather for a group portrait. Edward Johnson (seated center), of Parr and Hanson, Inc., Hicksville, N.Y., was elected 1967 president. Directors and officers standing are (left to right) Dr. A. M. S. Pridham, Cornell University, Ithaca; Frederick R. Micha, Monroe Tree Surgeons, Inc., Ontario; Fred Donovan, Donovan Tree Service, Inc., Mechanicville; Jack Schultz, Schultz Nurseries, Merrick; George Callaway, secretary-treasurer, of Lenroc Tree Experts, Inc., Argyle; and Walter Sturmer, ABC Tree Service, Inc., Yorktown Heights. Flanking president Johnson at the table are directors Carl Lundborg (left), Bartlett Tree Experts, Westbury; and Peter Bartholomew (right), Parks Department, Lockport.

"Bulldozer Blight" Countered by Arborist Activities, N.Y. Treemen Hear at Concord

Ways to counter "bulldozer blight," the transformation of rural areas into urban areas practically overnight, were described for a record attendance of 170 arborists, wives, and exhibitors at the recent 1967 annual meeting of the New York State Arborists Association, which took place at the Concord Hotel, Monticello, N.Y.

Paul A. Lutz, Cooperative Extension Agent for Rockland County, described the change from rural, historic Hudson River country into an urban area in a single year, an experience already felt in Nassau and other New York counties. Only by creating public awareness has an informed citizenry been able to effectively moderate the change brought on by construction of three major thruways and numerous housing units within county limits.

Concern over the loss of shade trees led to Arbor Day plantings around the Rockland County Court House and other locations in the city. With editorials in local papers adding to public interest, some 20,000 trees have been planted in four years of cooperative effort. Many communi-

ties in the county have followed up by appointing shade tree commissions to function as advisors on community tree resources. Lutz also cited the "Priceless Heritage" project, in which large trees of different species have been located and reported by citizens to provide an inventory of historic trees in the county.

Also emphasizing Rockland County's drive to save and enhance its natural resources was Joseph St. Lawrence, county assemblyman, who addressed the association's annual banquet. Bulldozer blight and suburban sprawl have been curtailed and channeled into planned activities, St. Lawrence said. Rockland County's Conference on Natural Beauty, organized a year ago, has been instrumental in getting many citizen organizations to highlight the importance of trees and park woodlands, as well as water resources and open land for public activity. Congratulating arborists on their participation in these activities, the assemblyman concluded that such necessary and timely measures will promote a healthy environment for modern living.

Technical Problems Reviewed

Professor Carl Gortzig, extension leader in Cornell University's ornamental horticulture department, chaired a second-day discussion session on updated tree care. Problems raised by attending arborists covered various phases of pest control, including the possibility of periodic population counts as a basis for predicting insect peaks and pesticide needs. It was emphasized that reports from arborists in the field could help follow pest developments in order to establish correct timing for optimum control measures.

Other problems broached included the decline of shade trees during long periods of drought, a matter now under investigation. Conferees were also cautioned that study of new cultivar plantings is needed to establish performance records.

Moving on to urban tree plantings, Dr. Robert Mower, of Cornell University, Ithaca, recounted his experience with newly planted shade trees under city conditions of Buffalo and Long Island. Yearly records are kept on new plantings along city streets and highways, Mower explained. Using Buffalo as an example, he added that, though public interest is keen, records show that new plants are often mistreated.

Improvement of tree vigor through watering and fertilizing was another point raised by arborists during the discussion sessions. Attention was drawn to the fact that root action continues through late October and November into December, and that fall fertilizers are taken up to improve twig and bud growth during the short period of early spring, when most growth for the year actually occurs.

A midwinter tree planting ceremony and exhibits of specialized equipment for treemen also marked the '67 meeting, which was hosted by Hudson Valley arborists. Honored at the New Yorkers' banquet was Cornell Professor A. M. S. Pridham, who will soon be retiring after 42 years of service. Site of the '68 annual meeting has been designated as Ithaca.

Know Your Species

CHEAT (*Bromus secalinus*)



Among the more than 40 species of brome grass found in the United States are some of our most important forage grasses and also some of the most bothersome weeds. This particular species, cheat or chess, is described as being nearly typical of the entire group. If the plants were more palatable to farm animals during the entire growing season, instead of during only spring and late fall, they would be considerably more important as feed crops.

Cheat was introduced into the U.S. as an impurity in seed, and is widespread throughout the country. Plants are found in grain fields, grasses, along roadsides, and in various waste places. Cheat is widely regarded as a noxious weed, and its seed often appears in large-seeded grasses, such as tall fescue.

An annual or winter annual, cheat spreads by seed. Young plants often appear in the fall, produce some growth before winter, and resume in the spring. Leaf blades are typically flat, with edges of the sheath growing together to form a tube. Smooth, erect, unbranched stems grow up to 4 ft. tall (1 shows the lower stem). Seed heads are usually open, forming panicles (2).

Each spikelet (3) contains 6 to 10 seeds (4), which are deeply grooved, rather canoe-shaped, and of dark orange-brown color. Seeds may bear a short bristle, $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ in. long.

With a long growing season, plants are able to withstand periods of drought. Since reproduction is by seed, regular mowing of grasses offers little chance for continued survival of the species. Cheat is resistant to 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T and silvex. It has been suggested that chemical control may be obtained from applying Betasan (selective, preemergence herbicide) in the fall when seeds germinate, using normal crabgrass rates of the chemical.

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