

their natural state contain weed seeds, fungi, nematodes and other soil borne pests. Fumigation before planting is about the only way to clean them up, he said. But it is often a questionable practice because of costs and the waiting period of 2 to 3 weeks before planting. Herbicides will kill most weeds and may be more practical. Yet, he suggested that spraymen weigh the disadvantages of using a herbicide at a time when young grass seedlings are also susceptible. Waiting until grass is established to kill weeds means that the weeds have already crowded out some desirable turf.

If soil is fumigated, Dr. Goss reported an easy method for determining the time when it becomes safe to plant grass seed. He suggested placing radish seeds at the regular planting depth at random spots over the area. Keep the area moist. If the radish seeds germinate in the normal time, it is safe to proceed with planting. If not, allow a few more days.

Entomologist Dr. Joseph L. Saunders of the Western Washington Research and Extension Center, Puyallup, Wash., stirred the group with the statement that he could guarantee control of the elm leaf beetle with one application of Systex-R. This chemical, Dr. Saunders said, will protect large trees, those 10 to 15 inches in diameter, for two months. Within 2 hours after application, he said, beetles leave the trees. He has been field testing the J. J. Mauget Company's injector, using the Birdin systemic injector capsule. Dr. Saunders also demonstrated an ultra low volume applicator with 12 cc tank. Smaller tanks of 1 or 2 cc's, he said, have also been used as a research tool. The spray unit he demonstrated was designed and built by Chemagro Corporation for specially formulated chemicals.

Elected to offices for the coming year were: James Overton, Miller Products, Portland, Ore., president; Stanley Rapple, Washington Tree Service, Seattle, Wash., vice-president; Charles Seibold, Major Spray Service, Portland, Ore., secretary-treas-

urer; and board members, Lew Seflon, Lew Seflon Spray Company, Portland, Ore., and Jack Daniels, Greenup Spray Service, Seattle, Wash.

Fusarium Blight Bluegrass Investigation Scheduled

Symptoms similar to those of Fusarium blight have been spotted on Merion bluegrass in Michigan for the past 2 years. As

a result, Dr. Robert P. Scheffer, plant pathologist, and Dr. Nicky A. Smith, Extension plant pathologist, both of Michigan State University, have started an investigation to determine if Fusarium blight is present. If so, they will survey sod growers, landscapers, golf course superintendents, and others to pin down extent and prevalence of the disease.

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