

Ohio Turf Show

(from page 30)

using a home made golf shaft plugger. He lifts a sample of the mat without soil, then a surface sample. Next he takes sample chips at succeeding half-inch depths. Each sample is saturated with Reagent #2 from the Purdue University soil test lab. Color changes are matched on the color chart to determine the alkalinity or acidity of each zone and lime is applied accordingly.

If only the mat is highly acid, Lyons suggests applying only 2 pounds of hydrated lime per green or per 1000 square feet. When both mat and surface area are acid, he applies 25 pounds of superfine dolomite lime per 1000 square feet. In eastern Ohio, Lyons said, it is safe to apply 25 pounds of superfine lime of heavier applications of agri-slag per 1000 square feet every spring.

Dr. Edward W. Strouble, Ohio State University agronomist, presented an in-depth paper on weed control in turf. He said that a dense, healthy stand of turfgrass is the best method of controlling weeds. But, he also stressed that herbicides must be used to develop completely weed-free turf.

Dr. Strouble emphasized that the important facet in weed control is to get uniform distribution of the correct amounts of chemical. There are many formulations of herbicides, and many types of equipment with which to apply them. When the proper active ingredient is present in the herbicide and it is applied properly it will help produce desirable, weed-free turfgrass.

Dr. Strouble said the simplest way to apply the desired amount of material as a spray is to add the amount required for a given area to a relatively large quantity of water. He suggested one gallon of water for each 200 to 300 square feet of area. Then the measured lawn area can be covered repeatedly until all the solution is used. After the first coverage, he believes it is best

to go crosswise to the previous spray pattern each time.

When applying granular herbicides, Dr. Strouble said that the setting with one of the smallest openings is often required. To be sure the setting is correct, he suggests applying a given amount of granules to a small measured area before treating an entire turf area.

Dr. Robert W. Miller, executive-secretary of the Foundation, was awarded the first "Man of the Year" honor. Harry Murray, Jr., president of the group, in presenting the award pointed out that among Dr. Miller's accomplishments this past year were helping organize this first Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show, advising and teaching Ohio turfgrass students, and developing a new field research area at Ohio State for evaluation of grass species and varieties, fertility studies, ecology research, and weed control tests.

Officers elected for 1968 are as follows: Charles Tadge, Mayfield Country Club, South Euclid, O., president; Robert Riegan, Ohio Lime Co., Woodville, O., 1st vice-president; Richard Craig, Chemargo Country Club, Cincinnati, O., 2nd vice-president; Gene Probasco, Lakeshore Equipment & Supply Co., Columbus, O., treasurer; and Dr. Robert W. Miller, Ohio State University extension agronomist, Columbus, O., executive-secretary.

Thiodan Registered For Spruce Gall Aphid Control

Spruce gall aphid infestations can now be combatted with Thiodan. This chemical has recently been granted registration by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Produced by the Niagara Chemical Division, FMC Corporation, Middleport, N. Y., Thiodan is an insecticide especially valuable for use on spruce trees.

For 100 gallons of water, the label calls for 0.5 lb. of actual Thiodan in emulsifiable concentrate form. Application, according to Niagara, needs to be made in late April or early May when aphids are present, but before galls are formed.

Trimmings

Insist On Seeing the Label. Turf specialist Dr. Elwyn Deal at the University of Maryland tells of a homeowner caller who related that he had purchased 5 pounds of "Kentucky bluegrass" seed at 95¢ per pound. His first-class soil preparation and seeding job netted him a good stand in just 6 days. But a check with the state seed lab showed he had actually received annual ryegrass for his 95¢ per pound price. He admitted that he had bought the seed in bulk without seeing either the label or the container from which it came. We have bought seed like this ourselves but we are sure that professional turfmen wouldn't buy seed from an open barrel without seeing the label, even if it looked good.

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Trees Can Be Hurt By Winter Drought. Long periods of freezing weather without snow cover can lead to winter drought damage on trees. President of Bartlett Tree Experts, Robert A. Bartlett, says even though frozen soils contain some moisture it may be locked up. He suggests watching for winter injury early in the spring. If it exists, feed trees amply and give continuous care by pruning, spraying, and watering. Winter damaged trees usually put forth only half the normal foliage, fruit heavily, then die during the growing season. Street trees are particularly susceptible.

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Giant Red Pine Located. A 120-foot Red Pine has been located in Itasca State Park, Minn., by University foresters. They estimate the tree is 300 years old. It shows evidence of fire scars from at least 6 forest fires. The tree is 37 inches in diameter, 115 inches in circumference, and has a crown spread of 36 feet. Officials are particularly happy with the find since this is Minnesota's official state tree. Also, the previously largest known Red Pine was a 98-footer in Wisconsin. Certification of the new record has been registered with the American Forestry Association which records American "Big Trees."

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Industries Need Spray Service. More spraymen to do custom weed control work are needed by industry. Many factories and warehouse areas are troubled by weed problems, especially in little used areas. Plant managers don't have the personnel or know-how and are not aware that such service is available, even to a limited extent. We discussed this with John Veatch, Veatch Chemical Company, at St. Louis this past week. He feels as we do, that Pest Control Operators can easily move into this area. They have the equipment and the personnel who know how to handle chemicals. Training should be minimal. Tree care companies are also doing some of this type work but the word isn't general among industries needing the service, Veatch says.