

## Safety "Do's and Don'ts" For Pesticide Storage

Any pesticide — insecticide, herbicide, fungicide, etc. — left over from last year should be carefully disposed of, says the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Dispose of any container that has lost its label, the Dept. recommends. Don't save or reuse empty pesticide containers. Read and follow directions and precautions on labels every time you use pesticides. Don't rely on your memory.

Always remember that many pesticides can be harmful to both people and pets if they are not handled, applied and stored with care and caution.

## "Up, Up and Away" Spraying Method A Winner

The war against Michigan crop diseases will be won in the air, contends Dr. Howard S. Potter, MSU plant pathologist. Aerial spraying is proving faster, better and more economical than ground methods, says Potter.

In many cases, aerial spraying provides a savings of both money and the amount of water required, according to Potter, whose figures show that aerial spraying costs average \$2.50 per acre, often less than ground spraying costs. Ground sprays often require 100 or more gallons of water per acre, while aerial spraying requires much less, says Potter.

Other advantages of aerial spraying cited by Potter are: ability to be applied to wet soil, elimination of plant damage and soil compaction, and better plant protection because concentrated fungicide residues on leaves are readily distributed by dew deposits and are less likely to be washed away by heavy rain.

Potter says aerial spraying is also easily adaptable to close row spacing and solid block

plantings that are difficult to spray with ground equipment.

A disadvantage of aerial spraying, Potter admits, is the inability to control fungicide drift that may endanger humans, livestock and nearby crops. Better trained pilots, improvements in spraying equipment and better chemical formulations are helping to solve these problems, he concludes.

## Use Hot Bath Method to Kill Nematodes

A good, hot bath will free shipment of Bermuda grass turf from at least 3 types of nematodes, according to USDA scientists.

Nematodes cause considerable damage to turf and can be spread to many locations through turf shipments unless certain precautions are taken.

Test results indicate that cores of sod (1" x 3") should be held in water at 122° F. to greatly reduce—but not completely wipe out—nematodes in turf shipments. The most favorable time-and-temperature combination is 15 minutes at 130° F. This treatment kills all nematodes but causes no damage to the turf.

When sod cores are held for 15 minutes at 140° F., both nematodes and grass are killed, so caution must be taken.

## Personnel Changes

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staff as Trona Chemicals sales representatives. They are William J. Crummer, Cleveland, O., sales office; and Douglas H. Downing, Shreveport, La., office.

Rain Bird Sprinkler Mfg. Corp., Glendora, Calif., reports Ed Shoemaker has been selected as sales manager of its new marketing division, Eastern Rain Bird Sales, Inc., Peoria, Ill.

## Trimmings

**We need competition.** That's the thinking of Jim Ousley, Sr., who heads up one of the country's top sod producing companies. During an enjoyable visit with Jim this past month at Pompano Beach, Fla., he stated that competitive bidding on some varieties stimulates sales. Ousley faces all the problems of fellow sod growers including labor supply and high costs, plus some which are uniquely Floridian. Among these latter are expensive chemical treatments for chinch bug and billbug control.

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**Air-Boats Vs. Jets.** A bigger thrill than the usual jet plane flight is that first, wild ride in, on, or about an air-boat. It's something different as I found out while picking up this month's cover picture in Florida's Everglades west of Ft. Lauderdale. C. Elroy Timmer, technician for ARS, USDA, was my pilot during a tour to see test spraying on water hyacinths at the Loxahatchee research area at Delray Beach, Fla. The boat sways, dips, and literally flies over the water and swamp vegetation. Besides producing a thrilling ride, it's also the only practical way to travel Everglades country.

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**Membership Goal For ASPA.** Sod producers are joining their new national association at a record rate. Latest word is that 101 are dues payers. Goal for the group according to Executive Secretary George Hammond at Columbus, O., is 150 by their July 30 meeting at Purdue, and 200 by the January '69 annual meeting.

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**Uncle's Dirty Laundry.** *Plaudits to the California Association of Nurserymen and their stand against tax-supported plant production nurseries. Research, yes, but production for competitive sales, no! The association recognizes the need for public nurseries as holding yards, but as far back as 1965 passed a resolution calling for a 10-year phase out of local, county, and state tax-supported nurseries. A number have been closed since then but progress is not what it should be. The California group has again voiced its opposition and re-affirmed its stand.*

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**Northwest Association Spraymen Active.** Had a nice visit with James Overton, of Miller Products and the Northwest Spraymen's Association, Portland, Ore. Jim reports the association is active and interested in some coordinated reporting with WEEDS TREES AND TURF. We've always enjoyed working with this forward looking group. They are aware of their public image and constantly work to improve the stature of the sprayman.