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2,4-D/2,4,5-T showed only 5% control with the Dacthal giving 85%.

A similar test was made on the state capital lawn at Olympia, Washington. On July 14th, 9, 12, and 15 pounds per acre of Dacthal were applied as a wettable powder, 12 pounds active Dacthal as a 5% granule, and several rates of picloram, picloram + 2,4-D, DSMA, and MSMA. All treatments were replicated four times on 100-square-foot plots. On September 6th visual evaluations showed the following:

None of the other chemicals gave adequate control. The best of these showed an average of only 42.5% effectiveness, which really only suppressed the Veronica, rather than killing it.

According to Neidlinger, Diamond Shamrock plans further tests in 1968 to determine exactly how Dacthal affects the Veronica plant physiologically. Field tests will also be made to establish the proper rate and time of application for optimum control under a variety of conditions.

Although Veronica is not presently on the Dacthal label, it is hoped this data will be sufficient to add Veronica to the label in the near future.

Chemicals Control Weeds In Bermudagrass Stands

Herbicides can give control of weeds in new bermudagrass stands. Dr. Elwyn Deal, agronomist, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., reports no evident damage to the new grass.

Winter survival the first year after sprigging (planting small sections of the plant) proved excellent. Grass was sprayed with DMPA (Zytron). Where DCPA (Dacthal) was used, Deal reports winter survival was almost as good, but weed control was slightly poorer.

Deal said that Simazine, in

the Maryland tests, severely injured sprigs, and almost all grass died out during the winter. However, this chemical did give excellent weed control. Another chemical, bensulide (Betasan or Pre-San) caused no visible damage to the plants during the first few weeks, but stolon (runner) development suffered even during the second season.

Plots fumigated with methylbromide, before sprigging showed good weed control and the bermudagrass survived well through the winter. Trifluralin (Treflan) worked lightly into the soil with a rototiller after planting gave good weed control but caused some stunting and retarded grass root growth.

Deal says that all the chemicals except methylbromide and trifluralin were applied to Tufcote bermudagrass plots seven days after planting.

Quality of Water Important In Irrigation

Turf specialists in greater numbers are beginning to check the quality of water used on turf areas. This can help eliminate many of the so-called grass problems, according to Dr. Robert W. Miller, agronomist at the Ohio State University, Columbus, O.

Miller says that excessive concentrations of inorganic salts, boron which is toxic to plant growth in many instances, organic toxic compounds, and high sodium concentrations may prove troublesome.

All water used for irrigation contains inorganic salts derived from rock, soil, or other solid phase materials through which water percolates, according to Miller. The concentration of these will determine the suitability of any water supply for irrigation purposes on turf. Thus, the need for a laboratory check is evident before turf problems arise.