

## Florida School Considers Beautification Project

An innovative project in beautification, termed the "campus-park concept," is being considered at Lake City Junior College and Forest Ranger School, Lake City, Fla., that would involve botany, biology, forest ranger, turf and park management and timber harvesting students.

The project, still in preliminary planning stages, would hope to: beautify the buildings and grounds; establish recreation and service areas for the college and community; and supply training sites and facilities for students, it is reported.

For example, the creation of a "green" biology pool behind the science building would not only enhance appearance of the area but would provide at-hand material for students in botany and biology classes.

## Air Pollutants Damage Plant Life, Says Darley

"We can't grow plants in dirty air," Dr. Ellis Darley, who is from the Air Pollution Center, University of California at Riverside, warned attendants of the combined conference of turfmen, arborists and nurserymen held recently at Colorado State University.

Odorless, invisible air pollution—mainly from automobiles—is damaging to plant life, Darley reports. Sun shining on the gases, such as sulfur dioxide and fluorine, given off by cars forms photochemical air pollutants, and these damage plants, he contends.

Although some plant varieties appear to be resistant to this pollution, many are not, he says. Vegetables develop brown-spotted leaves and become unsalable. Pine trees turn brown, their needles falling off. In the San Bernardino Valley alone, Darley cites, 25,000 acres of pine trees

have been affected in this manner by photochemical air pollutants.

Flowers—especially petunias—are also susceptible; 40-60 percent of Los Angeles' roses, carnations and orchids are affected, he reveals.

"We can't solve this problem until we realize that we breathe community air," Darley concludes. "We can't point to industry, for this is a community problem—we all drive cars."

## Balchem Process Retards Migration of Herbicides

New York's Balchem Corporation has recently developed an encapsulation process designed to prevent or retard migration of herbicides in the soil.

Balchem contends its new process, soon to be patented, prolongs effectiveness of herbicides that exhibit mobility through soil leeching or volatilization. It's economical, too, as less herbicides are required when the process is utilized, according to Balchem.

For details write the company, Box 175, Slate Hill, N.Y. 10973.

## Safe Pesticide Practices Stressed in UC Manual

The much-discussed combination of safety and pesticides is the main topic of "Pesticide Information and Safety Manual" put out by the University of California's Agricultural Extension Service.

Write for a copy to J. Blair Bailey, Pesticide Safety Specialist, Agricultural Extension Service, University of California, Berkeley, Calif. 94720. Cost of each manual is \$2.50; checks should be made payable to the Regents of the University of California.

## California Program Saves Valuable Roadside Trees

A new program already underway in the Sacramento area for saving trees along freeway routes was recently announced by the California State Department of Public Works.

Trees on land purchased as rights-of-way for freeway construction will be examined, and those considered compatible with highway conditions will be preserved either through local care or highway maintenance work, it was reported. Many of these trees have died in the past due to lack of care.

In addition to preserving trees in their natural setting, the new policy also calls for the uprooting of palm, olive and certain evergreens capable of being stored in a tree "bank." Therefore valuable trees, even those in the direct path of construction, will be salvaged.

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