



# HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY WEED CONTROL

**R**IGHTS-OF-WAY spraying utilizes a big share of chemicals, equipment, and manpower in non-crop pesticide application today.

Typical of contract applicators who handle this job nationwide is Don Mock, owner of Shamrock Spray Service at Seattle, Wash. Mock owns two custom spray trucks and is equipped for all types of ground spray service.

One truck has three tanks, ranging from 800 gallons to 300 gallons in capacity. Each tank is used for one specific type of chemical to facilitate cleaning and eliminate contamination when switching from herbicides to insecticides. On his 3-tank truck, one tank is used only for a bare ground type herbicide, one for insecticides, and one for a selective herbicide. Each tank has its own pump and hose accessories.

The truck being used for highway rights-of-way spraying and pictured on this month's WTT cover is equipped with a modified Royal Bean dual side contourmatic 24' boom. Mock gets a full 55 feet of swath by using a broadcast tip.

Mock has also purchased a Cushman Truckster now equipped with tank, pump and booms for use on large turf areas and off highway use. He thus has

both the largest to the smallest equipment commonly in use today.

Until four years ago, Mock worked for another area applicator, doing ornamental and general pesticide application. He went into business for himself, and began specializing in contract work, primarily weed control in ornamental plantings on area highways. He uses four employees during the busy season and after only a few years in business, finds it difficult to keep up with the demand for service.

One of his summer employees is his 18-year-old son, Randy. Randy will graduate from high

school this June and plans a college career to better prepare himself to become a permanent part of the business.

Besides running a spray business, Mock also serves as a chemical distributor for Crop King Chemicals, serving commercial contract applicators in the Puget Sound area. Crop King specializes in custom packaging of custom mixes of pesticides.

He is also active in the Northwest Spraymen Association, being a past secretary-treasurer. Right now, Mock is serving as president of the Washington Association of Ground Sprayers, Inc.

Don Mock, left, always an active participant in the Pacific Northwest Spraymen Association and past secretary-treasurer, discusses industry with T. P. Strand, Weaver Exterminating Co., Yakima, Wash., center, and Thomas E. Cowan, Uniroyal technical representative, Los Angeles, Calif., at an association annual meeting.

