

to Prevent This



then Dutch Elm disease paid its ugly visit, leaving this scene on Feb. 25, 1969.

cure, control, or arrest of DED—that the product proved to have arrestment capability. Now that federal registration has been granted in four states, he expects similar registration in other states soon.

Freers has formed a corporation in Iowa known as The Freers Company of Muscatine. His firm will be involved in manufacturing the chemical, selecting franchised applicators, training such applicators, and administering the entire field franchise operation.

Hercules Predicts Growth In 'Visko-Rhap' Usage

Because "Visko-Rhap" herbicides provide effective control plus low drift, their already wide-spread use will expand even more in 1969, says Hercules, Inc., Wilmington, Del.

Developed by Hercules' Agricultural Chemicals Division, Visko-Rhap herbicides are special formulations of 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T, combinations of these, and silvex. They deliver a thick, regulated spray that resists wash-off and evaporation, according to Hercules, and not only clings to but penetrates leaf surfaces. Because of their mayonnaise-like thickness, Visko-Rhap formulations don't drift off target when applied, Hercules says.

The herbicides, applied by ground, air or aquatic equipment, can be used on county roadsides, utility rights-of-way, in drainage control districts and on various crops.

Pennsylvania Group Elects Grau Executive Director

Dr. Fred V. Grau, long active in the turfgrass industry, has been appointed Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, according to Council President Don Krigger.

His many achievements in the turf industry include helping to develop Merion bluegrass, Meyer Zoysia and U-3 bermuda and discovering and developing—with the aid of his late wife—Penngift crown-vetch.

Grau's turfgrass career includes work at Penn State as Extension Agronomist, where he worked closely with the late Professor Emeritus H. B. Musser—pioneer in turfgrass research and education and formerly the Council's Executive Director. Grau was also consultant to West Point Products, to Nitroform Agricultural Chemicals, and to Hercules, Inc. Since 1965 he has devoted his full-time effort to Grasslyn, Inc., the firm he and his wife established.

Grau is a life member of the American Society of Agronomy and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He holds honorary memberships to several golf course superintendent associa-

tions and in 1954 was awarded the Distinguished Service Tribute by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Last January he won the U.S.G.A. Green Section Award.

Neeley Reveals Pros, Cons Of Fertilizing Trees

Dr. Dan Neeley, Illinois Natural History Survey plant pathologist, pointed out both the benefits and drawbacks of fertilizing trees at the University of Maryland's Arborists' Day held in College Park.

Tree fertilizers serve four functions, he said: (1) spurring rapid growth; (2) improving tree's appearance; (3) retaining vigor and safeguarding against diseases; and (4) regaining vigor after damage by disease, drought, insect pests, mechanical equipment.

On the other hand, Neeley explained, fertilizing trees may have drawbacks.

"You will have to mow your lawn more often," he said. "You may need to prune more frequently. And you may actually decrease the amount of flowering or fall color. Some plants may develop a weepy appearance."

To decide whether or not to fertilize, Neeley suggests checking the growth rate of your trees and examining the condition of your soil.

Twig growth, he said, can be determined by comparing the amount of space between the first and second—or last two—sets of bud scale scars. Growth can also be checked by removing a plug from the trunk to see if the latest ring is wider or narrower than the previous one.

Soil should be examined for depth (the deeper, the better), texture, structure and sub-soil, Neeley explained.

If fertilization is in order, Neeley recommends an annual application of nitrogen in April or May at the rate of 6 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. of ground. Phosphorus and potassium need to be added only at 3- to 5-year intervals at the rates of 3.6 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. and 6 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft., respectively, he said.

For a free publication entitled "Fertilizing and Watering Trees," write Dr. Neeley at the Survey, Urbana, Ill. 61807.

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*J. R. Watson tells about
the science of mowing grass*