

Ohio State Gets \$51,000 For Elm Disease Research

The Forest Service, USDA, has awarded a \$51,000 research grant to Ohio State University, hoping to find an effective control of the elm bark beetle carrier of deadly Dutch Elm Disease.

DED, the Forest Service says, is killing 400,000 elms each year.

Forest Service Chief Edward P. Cliff describes the new grant as a logical follow-up to earlier findings by the principal investigator, Dr. Raymond W. Duskotch, associate professor of natural products chemistry in the University's College of Pharmacy.

The earlier study led to the identification of two stimulants which whet the appetite of the smaller European elm bark beetle to feed on the elm bark. This suggested a means by which this vector of the elm disease may be controlled.

Dr. Duskotch plans to synthesize chemically a variety of the feeding stimulants. These are being tested on the beetles at the Forest Service's Delaware, Ohio, laboratory to determine properties which either



Midwest Turfgrass Growers Association has taken in an honorary member with a long name—the University of Missouri-Columbia College of Agriculture. Charles W. Lobenstein, center, associate professor of horticulture, receives the plaque. Making the presentation for the Association are Elmer R. Kiehl, right, College of Agriculture dean and Schell H. Bodenhamer, College of Agriculture associate dean for Extension.

stimulate or inhibit the appetite of the beetle. The results could lead to development of an effective feeding repellent, Chief Cliff said.

In addition to these tests, the research will involve the screening of other plant materials which might be used as feeding deterrents.

The study will also involve a search for factors in the elm extract that step up the feeding responses of the beetle. Chief Cliff said work with fractions and combinations of fractions from the extract already have shown that certain combinations intensify feeding stimulation.

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