



Weed-free aisles last three to four months at Cypress Creek Nursery, reports Colburn. Note the controls near the left hand. Metal bumpers at the bottom of the rig permit spraying to the edge of the cans.

mented with 8-10 chemicals for about a year and with various proportions before arriving at his present mixture, which he said turned out to be one of the least expensive.

He uses 16 ounces of paraquat, 16 ounces of simazine wettable powder and two ounces of X-77 spreader sticker, mixed in the 20-gallon tank. This mixture costs \$48 an acre.

Colburn specifically stayed away from types of weed killers that would sterilize the soil and cause harm to roots protruding from the bottom of cans.

The machine is also used in roadways and in grassy patches of land being cleared for nursery plantings. Colburn estimates parts and wood used to build the rig cost \$50-60.

Almost all the nursery stock is canned materials set on four mil black poly plastic which holds down the weed population. Potting soil is steamed.

William Colburn is president of the Florida Turf Grass Association, a former golf course superintendent at Bay Hill Country Club, a former assistant county agent and is a registered landscape architect.

launched this January.

To qualify for certification, candidates must have had at least one year's work experience in a CAN-member retail nursery. There is a \$25 testing fee, and certification must be renewed every three years. A \$15 renewal fee is involved.

A Nurserymen's Training Manual was published, and serves as the study text for an examination. Copies of the manual are available through the CAN office, Suite 303, 1005 8th St., Sacramento 95814. Cost to CAN members is \$5; \$7.50

to non-members.

The next scheduled certification examination is set for the morning of June 9, prior to the opening of the Nurserymen's Refresher Course at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Advance registration for the examination is required, and the \$25 testing fee must accompany the application.

The three-hour exam has a written portion based on the manual; a portion on use of plants in the landscape; and an identification test on 100 plants.

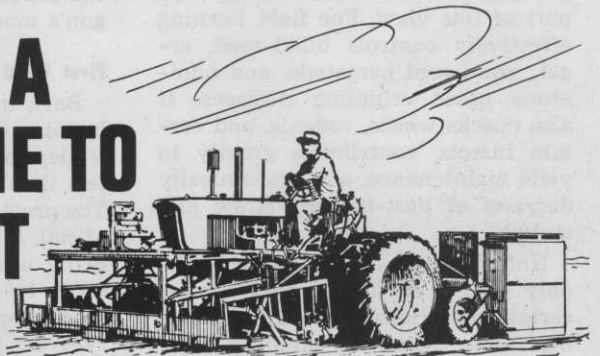
Certified Nurseryman Program Under Way in California

More than 100 candidates have taken the examination to qualify as "California Certified Nurseryman," according to Norman A. Springer, chairman of the Nurserymen's Certification Board.

"Of those who passed the test, about half have completed the additional requirements and have been certified," Springer said. The board administers the program sponsored by the California Association of Nurserymen.

Three years of planning went into CAN's certification program. It was

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