

Northwest Pesticide Group Testing Federal DDT Noose

SPRAYMEN SUE

MEMBERS OF THE Pacific Northwest Pesticide Applicators Association have made theirs an action group. At their recent Spray-O-Rama '70 they decided to challenge the federal government on its latest DDT-use restriction.

Formally the group is filing a petition for review through a label registrant (in this case, Crop King) which is a petition against deletion from federal registration. The action followed the new federal order deleting all ornamental uses of DDT and most other chlorinated hydrocarbons. In effect, the group is filing suit against the federal government.

Their action as a group has made this the personal challenge of every custom pesticide member business in the states of Washington and Oregon. As is true in every case where a petition for review is filed, each petition must be accompanied with \$2,500

earnest money to cover the hearing costs. (This money is retrievable only if the petition is granted). As the money is utilized by hearing expenditures, additional funds must be tendered. The approximately 100-member custom pesticide business in the Pacific northwest group agreed to pay \$25 each at this time and subsequent funds as needed. Each employee of the group is personally paying \$2.50. The individual feeling of the group appeared to be that the emotionally packed pesticide question must be resolved and that it is the problem of everyone within the industry.

The Spray-O-Rama, held alternately at Seattle and Portland, was this year hosted by the Oregon group. Featured was Keith Davey, president of Davey Tree Surgery, Ltd. San Francisco, Calif. Davey stressed the need for pesticide organ-



Charles Seibold, left, Major Spray Service, Portland, Association vice-president, talks with newly elected president George Harrison of Tacoma, Wash.

ization. He explained the interest of the International Shade Tree Conference of which he was formerly president, in getting the Pacific Northwest Pesticide Applicators Association as a member or separate division of the ISTC. Davey stated that the ISTC is worldwide in scope and has great potential for more organization in Europe. He pointed out that regional meetings in addition to the regular annual meeting are valuable to members. Davey said that many of the present P.N.P.A. members are already members of the shade tree group.

Davey further stated that a number of very viable organizations work within the ISTC. He named the public utilities and the municipal utilities groups, the latter of which is now in process of organization. Others named were the Consulting Arborists and the National Arborists.

General Spray Service operations today include tree pruning, fertilizing and all types of pesticide spraying. Most work is pesticide application, much of it for lawns and ornamentals. Trucks, either one-ton or 1½-ton, have 600-gal. tanks. Herbicides are in a separate trailer-mounted tank.

William Owen's wife, his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Sams, and his mother, Mrs. Kenneth Owen, work with him. The company averages about eight employees year-around.





Sprayman Ben Holst, Salem, Ore., left, visits with Lew Sefton, center, outgoing president, and Keith Davey, president of Davey Tree Surgery, Ltd., San Francisco.

From the left, Lawrence Potter, McGrath Spray Service of Portland; Bob Skanes, Carothers Spray Service, Tacoma, Wash.; and Darrell L. Behounek, also of Carothers.

Davey believes that an alliance could strengthen both groups.

Arthur Edwards, editorial director of WEEDS TREES AND TURF magazine, discussed current pesticide restrictive legislation and the need for a national organization and/or effort. The P.N.P.A. members continue to express interest in expanding their group and in helping establish other state groups. A guest at the Spray-O-Rama '70 was Bob Huntwork, owner of J Spray Corporation of Orinda, Calif. He and Mrs. Huntwork attended both the first day tour and the following two days of the formal program. Huntwork hopes to get an organization established similar in nature to the northwest association. The P.N.P.A. board formally voted to extend whatever help is possible.

Frank B. Stewart, president of Miller Products at Portland and a member of the board of directors of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association, presented a formulator's view of today's pesticide picture.

Stewart said that "Despite the political and regulatory activity in

every state of the nation and by the federal government, I am optimistic for the future of pesticides in our country." He pointed out that unnecessary loss of registration and outright bans of certain materials makes research and development plus registration of new chemicals such a gamble and a burden in costs that it is forcing management of companies to withdraw from the field of chemical development.

He further said that we as formulators and applicators must not be guilty of half-truths to serve any selfish interests or to further our own positions or business activities. Chemical tools, Stewart said, must be saved for all segments of society. He called for true scientific research and reason so that research, development, and use programs may be properly continued, skillfully modified, and vigorously pursued.

Officers for the coming year are: George Harrison, president; Charles Seibold, vice-president; and Howard Lufkin, secretary-treasurer. Directors are John Behyt, Stan Raplee,

Don Mock, Steve Fisher, Jim Cole, and Ted Glass. Ken Thorpe, Don Rasmussen, Jack Daniels are alternates.

Registration at the '70 annual session was 143, a new record.

Committee appointments as a result of the first board meeting are: Annual Conference — John Behyt; Membership and Expansion — Bill Owen and Stan Raplee; Bylaws Review — Lew Sefton and Don Mock; Audit and Finance — Chuck Seibold, Jim Overton and Steve Fisher; Federal Suite — Lew Vaughn and Bud Johnson.

Don Rasmussen, president and owner of Rasmussen Spray Service, right, and Phil Jackson explain system that will fill a 200-gal. tank in 90 seconds. Four hoses, serviced by a city water system supplying 70 psi water pressure are mounted overhead. Rasmussen spray units are all self-contained and are lifted off pick-up trucks with overhead crane in the service building.



A retired fire truck was remodeled and converted for pesticide application by Lew Sefton. His operation was the final tour stop. Dinner was served in his new service building.

