



Government News / Business

Gypsy Moth Sex Lure The Federal government is putting up \$370,000 in a joint venture with Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station to test potential of the new synthetic sex lure for gypsy moth. Penn State is contributing \$22,000 for the planned 2-1/2 year study. Agriculture Research Service researchers reported discovery of the chemical identity of the lure last November, then synthesized the natural attractant, named disparlure.

Puerto Rico's Proposal Introduced in the Puerto Rico legislature and almost certain to pass its first test in the Puerto Rico House is a bill banning almost every chemical commonly used for control of weeds, insects and disease. In addition, there are heavy restrictions in the measure on aerial spraying, use of aerosols, etc.

New Insecticides Tested The USDA has reported experimental tests on 24 materials which they report equal to or better than DDT for face fly control. Five of the insecticides proved equal to or better than malathion which was used for comparison in tests with DDT-resistant house flies. Results are available in Production Research Report 132, Laboratory Evaluations of Candidate Insecticide Residues Against Face Flies and DDT--Resistant House Flies, 1961-69, from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Price is 40 cents.

Dow Files Objection Dow Chemical Company has charged the Environmental Protection Agency with failure to issue a definitive order relative to cancellation of certain restrictions for 2,4,5-T as required by law. Dow's action follows EPA announcement August 10 that final determination in the 2,4,5-T case would be delayed until after a fall public hearing. Dow claims cancellation action was improper and deprives the company of due process and its right to a prompt decision. Dow's director of government regulatory relations, G.E. Lynn, says no evidence has yet been introduced indicating hazards to health or environment resulting from normal use of the chemical in agriculture or industrial applications.

EPA Begins New Review William D. Ruckelshaus, EPA administrator, has initiated a review of all pesticides containing either chlordane or heptachlor... "to determine if any are endangering the environment." He said that, "If we find that any of the registered products raise substantial questions of contamination of the environment, I will take action to cancel the registration of the product." Cancellation, of course, could ban the product from interstate shipment, although the initial notice simply sets in motion the review mechanism when there is an appeal. Products of particular concern are those which include soil insect control, household insect control, termite control, foliage insect control, and lawn management.