Wisconsin To Hold Arborist Training Seminars

Two separate one day seminars designed to train arborists in Wisconsin on the use of a newly registered systemic fungicide are slated for Thursday and Friday, April 20-21, respectiviely.

According to Dr. Gale Worf, plant pathologist, University of Wisconsin, the seminars are to provide additional exposure to arborists in terms of how work in Dutch Elm Disease control is accomplished. "We want arborists to understand the meaning and limitations of the Federal label for (Benlate) benomyl fungicide," he said.

Topics discussed during the training will include application of Benlate as a foliar spray and also trunk injection. The April 20 seminar will be held at Tyrolian House, Milwaukee. The Quality Motel in Madison is the site of the April 21 meeting.

Although the seminars are primarily for Wisconsin arborists, Dr. Worf says that arborists from out of state are welcome.

Benlate benomyl fungicide was accepted for Federal registration by the Environmental Protection Agency in early March. The label specifies that Benlate is to be used by trained arborists in conjuction with sanitation and insect control programs. The product has been considered by researchers as a positive step in the control of Dutch Elm Disease.

Dr. Worf says that the April seminars will be the first step in training arborists. Additional field activity is scheduled for mid-May. Here arborists can view spray demonstrations and injection methods. A final day is slated for early July.

Persons interested in attending the seminar should write to Maurice White, Short Course Office, Agricultural Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisc. A $7.50 registration fee which includes course material and lunch will be charged.

Canadians Reduce Spray Drift on Ontario Highways

Spray drift during the application of herbicides could be a thing of the past, according to G. R. Stephenson, department of environmental biology, University of Guelp, Canada. He has conducted tests over a three-year period, in cooperation with the Ontario Department of Transportation and Communications.

Two types of chemical processes have proved effective in reducing drift. The first involves a particulating agent. A gel powder is injected into the spray tank. This powder absorbs the spray solution and swells to a defined particle size. With uniform particle size there is less chance of lighter particles drifting.

The second process is invert emulsion, the suspension of water in oil. The spray has a paste-like consistency. The number of fine droplets produced during the spraying process are reduced.

Under actual conditions, the new process can be carried out at a higher vehicle speed and lower spray volumes than with the old method, thus making roadside spraying more efficient. For example, a 500-mile median strip on Highway 401 was sprayed for weed control in three weeks using two vehicles. The job normally takes eight vehicles nearly two months using a standard spray.

The major drawback to such a new system is cost, says Stephenson. Modification of equipment may not be economically feasible except for larger operations such as that of the Department of Transportation and Communications. However, reduction of damage claims may pay for modifications in many instances, he

Three turf students at Purdue University shared in the $1450 scholarships awarded by the Golf Course Superintendents Association. They are: (l-r) William C. Brazeau, West Lafayette; James W. Uptgraft, Keystone; and Lyle R. Heath, Windfall, all from Indiana. Presentation was made during Midwest Regional Turf Conference at Purdue.

Purdue Turf Students Receive Scholarships

A total of $1450 in scholarships were awarded to three Purdue University students with turf study specialties at the Midwest Regional Turf Conference in March.

Recipients of the Golf Course Superintendents' Association scholarships were William C. Brazeau, 181 Linda Lane, West Lafayette, and James W. Uptgraft, Route 1, Keystone, both seniors, and Lyle R. Heath, Route 1, Windfall, a junior.

Brazeau and Uptgraft each received $500 scholarships and Heath $450.

Elected officers of the Foundation for 1972-73 were Paul Morgan, Brown's Run Country Club, Middletown, Ohio, president; Dudley Smith, Silver Lake Country Club, Orland Park, Ill., vice-president, and W. H. Daniel, Purdue turf specialist, executive secretary (re-elected).

New directors are Walter Wilkie, Muskegon, Mich.; Terry Pfotenhauer, Indianapolis, and William Story, Carmi, Ill.

More than 600 attend the conference, co-sponsored by the Foundation and Purdue's agronomy department.